



*“Preparing Professional Educators Who Are Culturally Responsive, Effective Practitioners”*

## **ELEMENTARY POSTBACCALAUREATE LICENSURE PROGRAM**

### **OVERVIEW**

The Elementary Licensure Program is a post baccalaureate, yearlong elementary licensure program for students who have previously completed a BA or BS degree. The program meets the standards of two national associations (the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/NCATE and the Association for Childhood Education International/ACEI), and all program completers must demonstrate the ability to meet the UAF/Alaska Teacher Standards. Coursework and internship requirements are tightly integrated and are guided by a recognition and respect for the unique cultural, linguistic and geographic factors that are specific to the Alaska context. This is a classroom-based program that is built upon a close working partnership among interns, mentor teachers and university faculty. Students complete course and fieldwork requirements while serving as interns in an Alaska school, and they are able to apply up to 13 of the 26 program credits to the requirements necessary for a M.Ed. at UAF.

Students who have adequate content area preparation and who meet all program and UAF admission requirements enter the program in May and complete three graduate-level courses, for a total of nine credits. (Students who have completed the approved UAF 13 credit Summer Course Substitution can use this undergraduate level course sequence to fulfill the requirements of the 9 credits of summer coursework in the Licensure Program.) During the academic year—which follows the school district’s, not the university’s calendar—students are required to complete 30 additional credits while completing a year-long internship in a school. University courses usually take place during the school day; if the intern is not in the classroom they are at their university courses and vice versa. Upon successful completion of all of the Elementary Post-baccalaureate program requirements, students will be eligible to apply for a Tier One Initial Certificate, which is good for 2 years. In order to apply for a Second Tier Alaska Professional Teaching Certificate, students will also need to complete one approved course in the area of Alaska Studies as required by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, as well as providing evidence of meeting additional requirements as outlined on the department’s website at <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/TeacherCertification/>.

The central components of the Elementary Licensure Program are the following:

- the use of the UAF/Alaska Teacher Standards, the Guidelines for Preparing Culturally Responsive Teachers for Alaska’s Schools, the Alaska K-12 Student Content, Performance and Grade Level Standards to guide curricula, pedagogy and assessment processes and policies;
- a year-long internship for all students—based on the public school calendars, not the UAF calendar—with a fully integrated set of coursework and fieldwork/practica experiences and with daily opportunities for interns to learn from and with mentor teachers;
- a partnership and collaboration with mentor teachers supported through on-going mentor/intern/faculty seminars over the course of the school year with a tuition waiver provided to all mentor teachers for their participation in a mentor/intern/faculty 3 credit, 500-level course;
- the use of multiple types of assessment tools relative to the UAF/Alaska Teacher Standards as described in the Elementary Summative Standards-Based Assessment Plan (ESSAP). (The document is posted in the Elementary Section on School of Education)



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*Elementary Licensure Program, School of Education, UAF*

## ANNUAL SCHEDULE

### Summer Session

The intent of the May-July coursework is to: (1) provide students with the opportunity to learn about, understand, and appreciate the history and current reform efforts in the United States by using the multicultural Alaska educational context as an example of national past and current educational policies and practices; (2) provide students with the opportunities to understand the complex issues related to assessment of student learning; (3) provide students with a child development and exceptional learner framework that allows them to understand and respect issues related to diversity, learning styles, and special needs in a national and Alaska context; (4) provide opportunities for an in-depth examination of issues related to the teaching of reading, writing and language arts.

\*Students who have previously completed the approved 19 credit *Summer Course Substitution Option* can use this to fulfill the summer requirements listed below.

*ED 624(3 credits) Foundations of Education in Alaska: From Segregation to Standards*  
(fulfills the AK Dept. of Education and Early Development's requirement for a multicultural course)

*ED 625 (3 credits) Exceptional Learners and Child Development: Individual and Cultural Characteristics*

*ED 626 (3 credits) Teaching Reading, Writing and Language Arts*

### Fall and Spring Semesters

The intent of the fall coursework and field experiences is to provide interns with opportunities to study curriculum, pedagogy and context while they are immersed in real school settings. Interns spend approximately four full days each week in the classroom. All mentor teachers participate in a yearlong three-credit class during the school year with interns and university faculty partners. Tuition for mentors is paid for by UAF. Interns increase their participation in classrooms by doing "Collaborative Student Teaching" with their mentor teachers during November and December. The intent of the spring semester is to continue to provide interns with the coursework and internship experiences necessary to meet the UAF/Alaska Teacher Standards, according to the Elementary Summative Standards-Based Assessment Plan (ESSAP). Interns spend three weeks during the spring in a second classroom and/or different school; complete a minimum of three weeks of full-time student teaching, and—when funding permits—spend a short period of time in a rural school and community setting. Mentor teachers continue to participate in seminars with interns and university faculty and participate in the assessment process throughout the spring semester.

*ED 411(3 credits) Reading, Writing, Language Arts: Methods and Curriculum Development*

*ED 412W (3 credits) Integrated Social Studies and Language Arts: Methods and Curriculum Development*

*ED 414 (3 credits) Art, Music and Drama in the Elementary Classroom*

*ED 417 (3 credits) Physical Education and Health Education for Elementary Teachers*

*ED 466 (3 credits) Internship and Collaborative Student Teaching*

*ED 467 (2 credit) Synthesizing the Standards I*

*ED 468O (4 credits) Internship and Student Teaching*

*ED 469 (2 credits) Synthesizing the Standards II*

*ED 476 (1 credit) Literacy Development Profiles*

*ED 478/678 (3 credits) Math Methods and Curriculum Development*

*ED 479/688 (3 credits) Science Methods and Curriculum Development*

## ADMISSION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

The deadline for applying is February 15<sup>th</sup> of each application year. (For example, February 15, 2016 is the deadline for application to 2016-17 year). It is ***strongly recommended*** that students contact the School of Education for individual assistance with the application process several months prior to the deadline. It may be necessary to complete prerequisites in content area courses during the fall and spring semester prior to the beginning of the internship year. Applications will be reviewed as submitted. Admission to the program includes meeting requirements of: (1) the UAF Graduate School, and (2) the School of Education. ***Please arrange to meet with, or have a phone conversation with one of the faculty long before submitting your***

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**application.** Contact the Elementary Licensure program coordinators to make arrangements at (907) 474-7981 or email Kelly Mendez [ksmendez@alaska.edu](mailto:ksmendez@alaska.edu).

Please refer to our website ([http://www.uaf.edu/educ/elementary/postbac\\_admission.html](http://www.uaf.edu/educ/elementary/postbac_admission.html)) for more details about our program and application requirements.

#### **A. Items Required for the Graduate School**

Please submit Items #2– 6 to Elementary Coordinators and we will forward them to Graduate School on your behalf, or you may send items directly to Office of Admissions, and provide a copy of application materials to us.

1. **Graduate School Application** (Education M.Ed Elementary or Education Elementary Licensure)  
Please apply for the Summer Term of the Application Year using UA Online, <https://uaonline.alaska.edu>. You do not need to submit this application item to Elementary Coordinators.
2. **Three Professional Letters of Recommendation**  
Letters must address qualifications and potential as a graduate student and as an elementary teacher and be submitted on letterhead paper if possible. We accept e-mails from the letter-writer with letters attached.
3. **Goals and Objectives Essay** (4-5 pgs.)  
Essay should describe applicant's reasons for becoming a teacher; include the applicant's academic and personal strengths relative to teaching; provide evidence applicant feels ready for admission to a graduate-level program; and include the applicant's future plans and reasons for selecting this program.
4. **Resume**  
Please include a chronological listing of your employment history and explain any gaps if there are times when you were not working or attending school. Please submit this electronically to coordinators as an attachment to an email.
5. **Official Transcripts of All Universities Attended**  
This item should be mailed directly from your institution to: Office of Admissions / PO Box 757480 / Fairbanks, AK 99775. Official copies must be in its original sealed envelope. Please give copies ("unofficial" copies are fine) to Elementary Coordinators. We do not need copies of your transcripts if you received your undergraduate degree from UAF and did not complete any other coursework after receiving your undergraduate degree.
6. **GRE scores** are required only if undergraduate GPA is less than 3.0

#### **B. Items Required for the School of Education**

7. **Academic Analysis and Life/Work Experiences form**  
This form organizes your experiences into ten categories to provide information on breadth and depth of prior coursework and/or documented life/work experiences relative to ten Alaska Student Content Standard areas.  
Please download and read carefully ALL "content standards" of the Alaska Standards: Content and Performance Standards for Alaska Students pdf document (p.9-37) from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development's website (<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/standards/>). This document will help you determine which category to put your coursework and life/work experiences into.  
If additional coursework is required, it must be completed prior to beginning the program—it is especially critical that applicant's undergraduate degree work includes sufficient preparation in English, mathematics, science and social sciences.
8. **Meeting with Elementary Chair and Director of Fieldwork Experiences**  
Elementary Coordinators will help arrange this meeting (face-to-face or audio) after you have submitted your resume, transcripts, and Academic Analysis form.
9. **Autobiography** (1-2 pgs)  
This autobiographical sketch is for distribution to potential mentor teachers and principals. Please submit this requirement electronically, as an attachment to an email.
10. **Extemporaneous Writing Sample**  
A 1-hour timed essay in response to a prompt. Sign up with Elementary Coordinators to complete this essay.
11. **School of Education Math quiz**  
An untimed, 80 question quiz. Sign up with Elementary Coordinators to take this quiz.
12. **Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators exam**  
A national exam of Reading, Writing and Math that is offered by UAF testing services and in various test sites across the state. Applicants must receive Alaska passing scores in each category.
13. **Praxis II Elementary Education Content Knowledge exam (#5018)**  
A 150 minute exam divided into 140 selected response and numeric entry questions in Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science. Applicants must receive the State of Alaska's required cut score of 163 or higher. See SOE handout for more information.

#### 14. Cross Cultural Experience Form

This form is part of the Academic Analysis and Life/Work Experiences Form. If applicant needs additional experience, the Director of Office of Fieldwork Experiences will arrange for this opportunity.

#### 15. Teaching / Learning Experience in an Elementary Classroom

This form is part of the Academic Analysis and Life/Work Experiences Form. Applicants must document that they have spent a significant amount of time in an elementary classroom, as a volunteer or as a paid participant. If it is determined the applicant needs time in an elementary classroom, the Director of the Office of Fieldwork Experiences will arrange this opportunity. Afterwards, the applicant needs to submit a 1-page log of their experience, and reflect how it has influenced their decision to become a teacher.

#### 16. ED 237 Technology Tools for Teachers Course or Signed Waiver Form

This 2-credit course can be taken as a UAF course (must be successfully completed by the end of spring semester in May) or you can study the online modules and sign the waiver form if you are confident you can perform all of the tasks in the course. It is arranged into four ½ credit modules to ensure that students possess computer skills in four areas: Collaborate/Hangouts, Blackboard, Google Drive, and Office. See SOE handout for more information.

#### 17. Protection of Minors Training

This online training module takes about an hour. Instructions on how to access it can be obtained from Kelly or Julie.

#### 18. ACT/SAT or GRE official score report

#### 19. Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Packet

Applicants who have been admitted to our program will need to complete this packet including fingerprint cards, \$66 processing fee, and criminal background check. This packet is available from SOE.

**Laptop Computer Requirement:** In order to better prepare pre-service teachers for the professional communities they will enter, the School of Education supports and encourages teaching and learning with laptop computers and iPads. All interns for elementary licensure are required to own or to have full time access to a laptop computer and to an iPad prior to beginning their courses in May. Please read about the software and hardware requirements for laptops and purchasing options on the SOE webpage <http://www.uaf.edu/educ/technology/index.html> iPads are also available for students to borrow from the SOE for use during the program.

### SUMMER COURSE SUBSTITUTION FOR THE ELEMENTARY LICENSURE PROGRAM

This *Summer Course Substitution Option* is designed for students who intend to pursue a license in elementary education. Students who complete the courses with a grade of B or better will be allowed to substitute these courses for ED 624/625/626 in the post baccalaureate Elementary Licensure Program. These courses, however, cannot be used to meet master's degree requirements. Students who complete the Summer Course Substitution and the year-long internship will be eligible for *Tier One Initial Certificate*. They will have to complete an approved three credit multicultural course and a three-credit Alaska studies course to be eligible for the Second tier Alaska Professional Teaching Certificate.

1. Complete the following:

ED 110 – Becoming a Teacher in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century.....	1
ED 201 -- Introduction to Education.....	3
ED 204 - Literature for Children.....	3
EDSE 316 – Introduction to Special Education for Elementary Classroom Teachers .....	3
ED 330 - Assessment of Learning.....	3
ED 344 - Foundations of Literacy Development.....	3
ANS/ED 420 – Alaska Native Education.....	3
2. Minimum credits required (19 credits)

**MASTERS DEGREE OPTIONS: M.Ed.** Following completion of the yearlong licensure program, students can pursue a M.Ed. in Elementary Education if they choose to do so. Fifteen specified graduate credits from the Elementary Licensure Program could be used to meet the M.Ed. Elementary Education requirements. Courses are available through UAF by distance-delivery and on the Fairbanks Campus. Students can enroll in courses during summers and academic years. Program requirements must be met within seven years.

#### M.Ed in Elementary Education

- a. Complete all post baccalaureate elementary licensure program requirements which include the following:

ED 624– Foundations of Education in Alaska: From Segregation to Standards	(3)
ED 625—Exceptional Learners and Child Development: Individual and Cultural Characteristics	(3)
ED 626 – Teaching Reading, Writing and Language Arts	(3)
ED 678- Math Methods and Curriculum Development	(3)
ED 688- Science Methods and Curriculum Development	(3)
- b. Complete ED/CCS 601(3 credits) and ED/CCS 603 (3 credits) and ED 698 or 699 (6 credits) .
- c. Complete one graduate level elective course approved by candidate's graduate committee.
- d. Complete graduate project or thesis (this is completed in ED 698 or 699).



**5<sup>th</sup> Year Elementary Licensure Program  
School of Education—University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Course Descriptions**

**Summer Session**

**ED 624 (3 credits)**

**Foundations of Education in Alaska: From Segregation to Standards**

Review of major Alaska educational reform efforts as a means of understanding historical and current state, national and international policies and practices related to development of curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment that respond to the needs and interests of culturally and linguistically diverse populations. Examination of Alaska Quality Schools Initiative reform effort with focus on use of Alaska Standards for Culturally Responsive Schools.

**ED 625 (3 credits)**

**Exceptional Learners and Child Development: Individual and Cultural Characteristics**

Foundation for understanding, identifying and teaching to developmental abilities of children and early adolescents. Human development examined in context of cognition, personality, social behavior, language and physical development with focus on understanding and utilizing cross-cultural influences specific to Alaska. Emphasis on development of children with exceptional abilities. Design, develop and modify curriculum and instruction to developmentally and culturally appropriate approaches. Theory is applied to practice in practicum. Concurrent internship required.

**ED 626 (3 credits)**

**Teaching Reading, Writing and Language Arts**

Examination of the nature and process of reading and writing for elementary students and focus on process of developing a language arts program. Includes acquisition and role of language in this process. Examination and evaluation of materials and methods of teaching language arts, including those used in some Alaska districts. Examination and evaluation of children's literature. Practicum with application of language arts concepts. Concurrent internship required.

**Fall and Spring Semesters**

**ED 411 (3 credits)**

**Reading, Writing, Language Arts: Methods and Curriculum Development**

Study and application in the classroom of best practices from research-based strategies for the teaching and learning of reading, writing and language arts concepts. Includes content and methods for students in elementary classrooms with diverse populations. Requires development and classroom implementation of integrated reading and writing unit. Concurrent internship required.

**ED 412W (3 credits)**

**Integrated Social Studies and Language Arts: Methods and Curriculum Development**

Study and application in the classroom of best practices from research-based strategies for the teaching and learning of social studies concepts, content, and methods integrated with language arts for students in elementary classrooms with diverse populations. Requires development and classroom implementation of integrated social studies and language arts unit. Concurrent internship required.

**ED 414 (3 credits)**

**Art, Music and Drama in Elementary Classrooms**

Exploration and application, in the classroom, of theory, practice, methods and materials used in teaching in and through visual art, music and drama. Concurrent internship required.

**ED 417 (3 credits)**

**Physical Education and Health Education for Elementary Teachers**

Introduction and application of the relationship between physical fitness and good health in a school setting. Includes introducing students to fundamental movement activities and games. Includes incorporating health curriculum and first aid procedures into practices and policies, and issues specific to the Alaska context. Concurrent internship required.

**ED 466 (3 credits)**

**Internship and Collaborative Student Teaching**

Supervised internship for students in the first half of a year-long professional internship in elementary teacher education. Includes immersion in planning and teaching. Coursework is integrated into the internship experience. Interns are assessed in relationship to UAF /Alaska State and National Standards. Candidates serving internships are charged a \$150 fee per semester. (Graded pass/fail.) Concurrent internship required.

## **Fall and Spring Semesters**

### **ED 467 (2 credit)**

#### **Synthesizing the Standards I**

For student interns participating in the first half of the professional internship year. Interns use the UAF/Alaska teacher Standards as the basis for examining field- and course-based experiences and activities during the internship year. Includes collection and analysis of selected artifacts to document and provide evidence of professional development and achievement relative to educational standards. Interns present portfolio for mid-year assessment. Concurrent internship required.

### **ED 468O (4 credits)**

#### **Internship and Student Teaching**

For student interns participating in the second half of the year-long professional elementary teacher education internship. Interns must spend at least four days per week in the classroom, one month full-time in the classroom including at least three weeks of full responsibility for the classroom. Builds on ED 466 requirements with continued assessment based on UAF/Alaska State and National Standards. Candidates serving internships are charged a \$150 fee per semester.

### **ED 469 (2 credit)**

#### **Synthesizing the Standards II**

For student interns participating in the second half of the professional internship year. Interns use the UAF/Alaska teacher Standards as a basis for examining field- and course-based experiences and activities during the internship year. Includes collection and analysis of selected artifacts to document and provide evidence of professional development and achievement relative to educational standards. Interns formally present completed portfolios for reviews and evaluations. Concurrent internship required.

### **ED 476 (1 credit)**

#### **Literacy Development Profiles**

ED476 Interns will review, evaluate and create assessments to document elementary student literacy development. Interns will analyze results of literacy assessments and develop plans for instruction for each elementary student. Assessments may include teacher-made quizzes or tests, anecdotal records based on observing children, student reading and writing samples, and spelling assessments. Interns will identify important characteristics of each student including, but not limited to, student interests and goals for literacy development.

### **ED 478/678 (3 credits)**

#### **Math Methods and Curriculum Development**

Study and application in the classroom of best practices from research-based strategies for the teaching and learning of mathematics concepts, content and methods for students in elementary classrooms with diverse populations. Requires development and classroom implementation of integrated mathematics and science unit. Concurrent internship required.

### **ED 479/688 (3 credits) Science Methods and Curriculum Development**

Study and application in the classroom of the best practices from research-based strategies for the teaching and learning of science concepts, content and methods for students in elementary classrooms with diverse populations. Requires development and classroom implementation of science unit. Classroom internship required.

The School of Education at the University of Alaska Fairbanks is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), 2010 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036; phone (202) 466-7496. This accreditation covers [initial teacher preparation programs and/or advanced educator] preparation programs. NCATE is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation to accredit programs for the preparation of teachers and other professional school personnel.

**NCATE**

The Standard of Excellence  
in Teacher Preparation