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PROGRAM/DEGREE REQUIREMENT CHANGE (MAJOR/MINOR)

SUBMITTED BY:

Department	Education	College/School	School of Education
Prepared by	Joanne Healy	Phone	474-1557
Email Contact	Jhealy7@alaska.edu	Faculty Contact	Joanne Healy

See <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty/cd> for a complete description of the rules governing curriculum & course changes.

PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:

**DEGREE
PROGRAM**

Master of Education In Special Education

A. CHANGE IN DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: (Brief statement of program/degree changes and objectives)

To make Special Education State of Alaska certification available to Post-Baccalaureate candidates by providing initial teacher certification in special education.

Additional prerequisites for those candidates who do not have a teaching certificate are listed. These candidates will also have to do an additional 3 credits of clinical practice for a total of 6 credits.

Credit requirements changed from 36 to 36 + 3 credits prerequisite (EDSE 482)

Some course numbers and names changed.

B. CURRENT REQUIREMENTS AS IT APPEARS IN THE CATALOG:

Master of Education in Special Education

Prepares K-12 special education teachers who can effectively understand state and national education issues and respond appropriately to those that are specific to Alaska, and who are culturally responsive, effective practitioners. The primary purpose of this program is to prepare special educators at the graduate level with specific training in the areas of disabilities, assessment, interventions strategies, current law and the implementation of programs including development of legally defensible federal IDEA documents. Graduates will have mastery of the Council for Exceptional Children standards for special education teachers: foundations in special education, development and characteristics of learners, individual learning differences, instructional strategies, learning environments and social interactions, communication, instructional planning, assessment, and professional and ethical practice.

The program, which shares a strong common core with the special education MEd programs at UAA and UAS, provides development in collaboration/consultation models and program development in multicultural settings. Completion of this program meets requirements for Alaska licensure as a special education teacher.

Program Requirements

- Complete the following admission requirements:
 - Admission requirements for the master of education degree.
 - Current teaching certificate and eligibility for a current Alaska teaching certificate.
- Complete the [general university requirements](#).
- Complete the [M.Ed. degree requirements](#).
- Complete the following:
 - EDSE F605--Early Childhood Special Education--3 credits
 - EDSE F610--Assessment of Students with Disabilities--3 credits
 - EDSE F612--Curriculum and Strategies I: Low Incidence--3 credits
 - EDSE F622--Curriculum and Strategies II: High Incidence--3 credits
 - EDSE F632--Special Education Law: Principles and Practices--3 credits
 - EDSE F677--Reading Assessment, Curriculum and Strategies--3 credits
- Complete one of the following:

- EDSE F625--Teaching Mathematics to Special Learners (3)
or EDSE F640--Collaboration and Consultative Methods (3)--3 credits
6. Complete one of the following:
EDSE F624--Social/Emotional Development, Assessment and Intervention (3)
or EDSE F633--Autism: Communication and Social Disorders (3)
or EDSE F642--Autism and Asperger Syndrome: Social and Behavioral Issues (3)-
-3 credits
 7. Complete the following field study and research courses:
ED F601--Introduction to Applied Social Science Research--3 credits
ED F603--Field Study Research Methods--3 credits
EDSE F694--Special Education Practicum*--3 credits
EDSE F696--Special Education Portfolio*--3 credits
 8. Minimum credits required--36 credits
- * Must complete a practicum and portfolio in a school setting

C. PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS AS IT WILL APPEAR IN THE CATALOG WITH THESE CHANGES:
(Underline new wording ~~strike through old wording~~ and use complete catalog format)

Master of Education in Special Education

Prepares K-12 special educators at the graduate level with specific training in the areas of disabilities, assessment, interventions strategies, current law and the implementation of programs including development of legally defensible federal IDEA documents.

Graduates will have mastery of the Council for Exceptional Children standards for special education teachers: foundations in special education, development and characteristics of learners, individual learning differences, instructional strategies, learning environments and social interactions, communication, instructional planning, assessment, and professional and ethical practice. The program will provide individuals who already possess, or are eligible for, a current Alaska teaching certificate or a Bachelor's degree with the necessary prerequisites with specific training in the area of special education. The program prepares K-12 special education teachers who can effectively understand state and national education issues and respond appropriately to those that are specific to Alaska. Special education candidates will progress through a series of developmentally sequenced field experiences for all ages, types and levels of abilities and collaborative opportunities. All program completers will provide evidence of being able to meet the standards of the national Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) content standards at a beginning Special Education teacher level.

The program, which shares a strong common core and has the same credit requirements with the special education master of education programs at UAA and UAS, provides development in collaboration/consultation models and program development in multicultural settings. Completion of this program meets requirements for Alaska licensure as a K-12 special education teacher.

Program Requirements

1. Complete the following admission requirements:

1. Admission requirements for the Master of Education Degree.

Current teaching certificate and eligibility for a current Alaska ~~teacher teaching~~ certificate or a Baccalaureate Degree with the following prerequisites:

- Current or recent experience (minimum of 12 hours) in an educational setting with children experiencing disabilities with a recommendation from their supervisor.

Applicants must have these courses or comparable transfer courses to the following within the last 5 years:

- ED F245 3 credits Child Development
- ED F201 3 credits Introduction to Education
- OR
- EDSC F205 3 credits Introduction to Secondary Education
- OR
- EDSC F 415 3 credits Foundations of Modern Educational Practice

OR

- ED 624 3 credits Foundations of Education in Alaska: From Segregation to Standards
- An Alaska studies course approved by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development office of Teacher Education and Certification.
- A multicultural education/cross-cultural communication course approved by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development office of Teacher Education and Certification.
- Passing scores on the Praxis I or another test acceptable to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) before or during the first semester of classes.

Praxis I: Writing 174; Reading 175; Math 173

Or an average score of 174 with no one test being less than 172

CBEST: 123, no individual score less than 37

WEST-B: Writing 240, Reading 240, Math 240

Passing scores on the following Praxis II before or during the first semester of classes.

0014 Elementary Content Knowledge: Minimum score 143 AND

0041 English Content Knowledge: Minimum score 158

and/or

0061 Math Content Knowledge: Minimum score 116

All prerequisite courses must be completed with a minimum final grade of “B” in order to progress to the 600 level graduate certification courses.

Once the prerequisite courses and testing requirements have been met, and the applicants complete the requirements of graduate school admission, applicants will be formally admitted to the special education graduate certification program and can begin taking 600 level classes.

All students not possessing a current Alaska teacher certificate are required to take six credits of clinical practice. Clinical practice courses are taken the last one or two semesters of the program. To enter the clinical practice, students must apply for authorization from the state of Alaska. This includes fingerprinting and a background check. Fingerprint clearance may take up to six months to complete. Submit the clinical practice application two semesters prior to the desired placement. Failure to comply with the requirement, falsification of information, or evidence of a criminal conviction that is named in the law or the Professional Teaching Practices Commission (PTPC) is considered an ethics violation. This will result in denied access to field placement in Alaska school districts. Authorization is required before clinical practice can begin.

All applicants (certified and non-certified) must complete the following prerequisite:

- EDSE F482 3 credits Inclusive Classroom for All Children
Or have a comparable transfer course from another institution in the last 5 years.

2. Complete the [general university requirements](#).

3. Complete the M.Ed. degree requirements.
4. Complete the following course requirements:
~~EDSE F605--Early Childhood Special Education--3 credits~~
 EDSE F610--Assessment of Students with Disabilities--3 credits
 EDSE F612--Curriculum and Strategies I: Low Incidence--3 credits
 EDSE F622--Curriculum and Strategies II: High Incidence--3 credits
 EDSE F632--Special Education Law: Principles and Practices--3 credits
~~EDSE F677--Reading Assessment, Curriculum and Strategies--3 credits~~
5. Complete ~~one~~ two of the following:
 EDSE F625--Teaching Mathematics to Special Learners (3)
 —or ~~EDSE F640--Collaboration and Consultative Methods (3)--3 credits~~
 Or EDSE F677 Reading Assessment, Curriculum, and Strategies (3 credits)
OR
EDSE F605 Early Childhood Special Education (3 credits)
6. Complete ~~one~~ two of the following:
 EDSE F624--Social/Emotional Development, Assessment and Intervention(3)
 or EDSE F633--Autism: Communication and Social Disorders (3)
 or EDSE F642--Autism and Asperger Syndrome: Social and Behavioral Issues (3)-
 -3 credits
Or EDSE 640 Collaboration and Consultative Methods (3 credits)
7. Complete the following courses:
~~EDSE F694 F680 Special Education Practicum~~ Clinical Practice (3 credits AK
Certified, 6 credits uncertified)*+
 EDSE ~~F696~~ F681 Special Education Portfolio (3 credits) +
 ED F601 Introduction to Applied Social Science Research (3 credits)
 ED F603 Field Study Research Methods (3 credits)

*Additional fee required. Charges are added to fee statements each semester.

+ Students pursuing a K-12 Special Education certificate must complete a Clinical Practice and Portfolio in a public school setting.

8. Minimum credits required--36 credits

Note: DEED also requires that the Praxis II elementary or Content Knowledge #0014 or the Praxis II in the content area for secondary candidates be passed before they will issue a professional teaching certificate. We recommend having 0041 English Content Knowledge or 0061 Math Content Knowledge as a prerequisite completed by the first semester of enrollment. Districts would prefer candidates have both 0041 & 0061 for teaching core classes for students who qualify for special education at the secondary level.

D. ESTIMATED IMPACT

WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, WILL THIS HAVE ON BUDGET, FACILITIES/SPACE, FACULTY, ETC.

This may improve budget with more students taking the undergraduate ED, EDSE, and EDSC courses. This will also have a slight impact on space and faculty with increased enrollment. It is uncertain at this time how many students will take advantage of this program so impact is difficult to judge. Estimate of 2-3 per semester as that is how many students from Fairbanks have enrolled in UAA or UAS program during the last year to get their initial teaching certificate in special education.

E. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS:

*What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?
Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)*

Elementary and Secondary Education

F. IF MAJOR CHANGE - ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRAM:

Description of the student learning outcomes assessment process.)

N/A

JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED

The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize program/degree change applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. If you drop a course, is it because the material is covered elsewhere? Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed change and explain what has been done to ensure that the quality of the program is not compromised as a result.

This program change is a collaborative effort of UAF, UAA, and UAS to maintain MAU program compatibility of special education programs and address the problem of the statewide shortage of special education teachers. It creates a more fiscally responsible and easily accessible program for students. It will expand their elective options and allow for concentration of study and expertise in the field. This will help address the need for special educators statewide by allowing any student with a BA or BS degree that meets UAF Graduate School and UAF School of Education criteria will have the option to pursue initial special education certification even though they do not hold an Alaska teaching license.

APPROVALS:

	Date	
Signature, Chair, Program/Department of:		
	Date	
Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for:		
	Date	
Signature, Dean, College/School of:		

ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE OFFICE

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Date

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Signature, Chair, UAF Faculty Senate Curriculum Review Committee