



TO: UAS Graduate Committee

FROM: Larry B. Harris, Dean of Education
School of Education

DATE: October 25, 2006

SUBJECT: Graduate certificates

Attached please find copies of five (5) requests for the creation of graduate certificates in the School of Education. These areas are Elementary Education, Reading, Early Childhood Education, Mathematics Education and Educational Technology. Each of these certificates has been designed to provide an opportunity for students to earn an academic award at the same time they complete the DEED requirements for an endorsement in one of the fields.

The creation of the certificates will effectively change pages 121–124 in the current UAS catalog. Rather than listing these programs as leading to an endorsement, the same programs will lead to earning the graduate certificate and should be labeled as such.

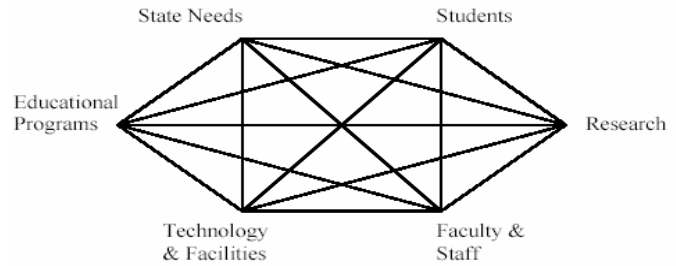
At present, when a student completes the requirements for an endorsement that is the only thing a student receives, an endorsement on the teaching certificate issued by DEED. The creation of the graduate certificates allows the university to provide academic recognition of this accomplishment. The creation of these graduate certificates will enable the university to count these persons as program completers in high demand fields. That is presently not the case.

As can be seen from the previous endorsements and the proposed certificates, no curricular changes are being proposed. The credit hours required for the certificate vary based upon the requirements for the endorsement; however, no graduate certificate will be issues for less than 21 graduate credits.

**University of Alaska Board of Regents
Program Approval Summary Form**

**MAU: University of Alaska Southeast
School of Education
Title: Graduate Certificate in K-8 Education**

Target admission date: Immediately



How does the program relate to the Education mission of the University of Alaska and the MAU?

The UAS Strategic Plan, “The Next Decade, 2000-2010” Goal 3 Educational Quality, Teacher Education, states that UAS will provide initial teacher preparation through a Master of Arts in Elementary Education and extend instructive programs to additional sites in the region and state, including rural sites (p.15). The School of Education Conceptual Framework further states that we will prepare informed, reflective and responsive teachers who make sustained contributions to the education profession and to students within diverse classroom, school and community contexts in Alaska and beyond (p. 6).

The Elementary Credential program, distance-delivered, is an existing program that meets the above mission statements. The outcome of the Elementary Credential program is an institutional recommendation from the Dean of Education to the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) for the Type A teaching credential with a K-8 endorsement.

The graduate certificate program in K-8 Education is an acknowledgement that this recommendation for certification is the outcome of a rigorous graduate program that meets the academic standards required by UAS and the professional standards of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Association for Childhood Education International.

What state needs are met by this program?

The program in K-8 Education meets the ongoing need in Alaska for highly qualified teachers for Alaska’s public schools. The distance delivery of this program ensures that candidates for teacher preparation who live at a distance from the education hubs of residence teacher preparation programs have equal access. Candidates in this program receive professional education in the context (rural or urban) in which they will most likely be teaching in Alaska.

With the graduate certificate in K-8 Education the University of Alaska, UAS and the School of Education can actually identify UAS K-8 Credential students in Banner and other Statewide metrics, as well as have the ability to track and count participants as completers of that program.

What are the student opportunities and outcomes?

Student outcomes for the current Elementary Credential program, distance-delivered, can be found on pages 121-122 of the UAS academic catalog for 2006-07. The program consists of 18 credits of undergraduate prerequisites and 27 credits at the graduate level.

Undergraduate Prerequisites

ED 230	Introduction to Educational Technology (3) prerequisite
ALST 300	Alaska Studies (3)
ED 304	Literature for Children and Young Adults (3)
ED 320A	Art in the K-8 Curriculum (1)
ED 320B	Physical Education in the K-8 Curriculum (1)
ED 320C	Music in the K-8 Curriculum (1)
ED 333	The Learner and the Learning Process (3)

Graduate Requirements

ED 615	Literacy in the Intermediate and Middle School Grades (3)
ED 616	Math Methods in the K-8 Classroom (3)
ED 617	Science Methods in the K-8 Classroom (3)
ED 618	Social Studies in the K-8 Classroom (3)
ED 619	Classroom Management and Discipline (3)
ED 680	Advanced Multicultural Education (3)
ED 688	Student Teaching (6)
EDSE 482	Inclusive Classrooms for All Children

What are the enrollment projections?

The current number of candidates in the Elementary Credential program is 52. Fifteen to eighteen of these person will complete the program during the 2006-07 academic year. Enrollment trends are anticipated to remain steady or increase in the coming years.

Describe research opportunities

This is a professional program, not a research program.

Describe fiscal plan for development and implementation

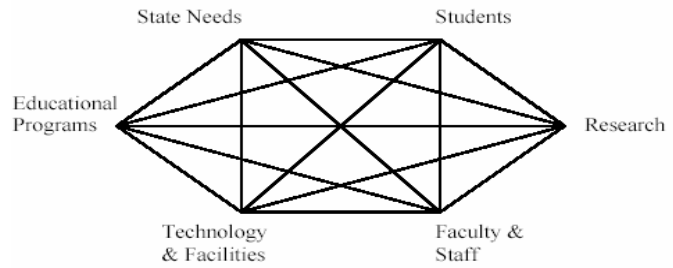
No change is needed in fiscal requirements for this certificate because it is an existing program.

References

- *Conceptual framework of the Center for Teacher Education, UAS, 2004.*
- *UAS Academic Catalog, 2006-07. UAS, 2006.*
- *UAS strategic plan: the next decade, 2000-2001. UAS, 2000.*

**University of Alaska Board of Regents
Program Approval Summary Form**

**MAU: University of Alaska Southeast
School of Education
Title: Graduate Certificate Program in
Education, Reading**



Target admission date: Summer 2007

How does the program relate to the Education mission of the University of Alaska and the MAU?

The graduate certificate program in Education, Reading at UAS is an enhancement of the current Endorsement in Reading, a program designed to prepare advanced teacher-leaders who are informed, responsive and reflective practitioners who positively affect the achievement of their students in reading. The Reading Endorsement program has supported the educational mission of the University of Alaska and our unit by providing a rigorous, advanced program aligned with state standards (Alaska Teacher Standards and Alaska Standards for Culturally Responsive Schools) and national program standards (International Reading Association, 2003, National Educational Technology Standards) and informed by the National Board of Professional Teaching Practices.

The graduate certificate program in Education, Reading courses and outcomes take the learner through the two of three assessment gates of the M.Ed. Reading program. The International Reading Association reviewed the content and outcomes of the M.Ed. Reading (through the NCATE review process) and awarded the School of Education national recognition for the M.Ed. Reading program in 2003.

What state needs are met by this program?

The School of Education currently provides an institutional recommendation to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) to endorse a candidate's current certificate in reading after successfully completing the 24 graduate credits in reading content. With the graduate certificate program in Education, Reading, we would actually identify a UAS Reading certificate program and have the ability to track and count participants as completers of that program.

What are the student opportunities and outcomes? Enrollment projections?

Many school districts in Alaska struggle to meet the requirements of the NCLB law and regulations with regard to reading. Educators who earn a UAS Reading certificate have the advanced knowledge, skills and dispositions to provide important leadership, enhance student learning and address the intent of the law. Candidates demonstrate pedagogical competence and leadership in the following areas: a) development of engaging and supportive learning environments; b) instruction, monitoring and communication of student progress in fluent reading, vocabulary and language development, comprehension of text and written expression; and, c) effective integration of technology in instruction and student outcomes.

Current courses in the M.Ed. Reading/Reading Endorsement program provide the content of the graduate certificate program in Education, Reading:

- ED671 Language, Reading and Culture (3)
- ED674 Developing Reading ECE-12 (3)
- ED675 Reading and Cognition (3)
- ED676 Reading Instruction and Assessment I (3)
- ED677 Reading Instruction and Assessment II (3)
- ED678 Literature and Reading: Supporting Readers at All Levels (3)
- ED679 Reading and Literacy in the Content Areas (3)
- ED696 Reading Teacher as Leader (3)

Total: 24 Credits

Projected Enrollment:

2007	12
2008	15

Describe Research Opportunities

Faculty and candidates will have to opportunity to conduct research relative to effective practices in the teaching of reading.

Describe fiscal plan for development and implementation

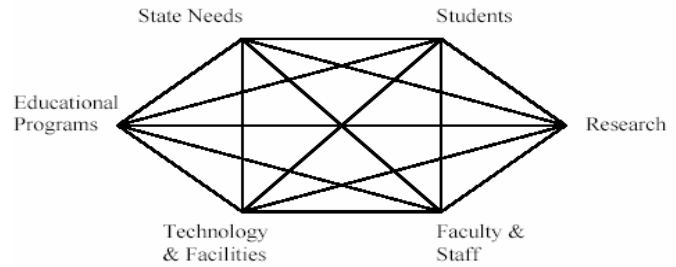
There would be no change needed to implement the graduate certificate program in Education, Reading, other than assessing the students at Gate Two and awarding the certificate.

**University of Alaska Board of Regents
Program Approval Summary Form**

**MAU: University of Alaska Southeast
School of Education**

**Title: Graduate Certificate in Early Childhood
Education**

Target admission date: Summer 2007



How does the program relate to the Education mission of the University of Alaska and the MAU?

The M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education (ECE) at UAS is proposing a graduate certificate be awarded at the completion of the 21-credit Early Childhood Endorsement. The ECE endorsement supports the educational mission of the University of Alaska and the School of Education by providing rigorous post-graduate coursework aligned with the Alaska Teacher Standards and Alaska Standards for Culturally Responsive Schools, as well as the Standards for the National Association of Educators for Young Children (NAEYC).

The ECE endorsement is an existing, distance-delivered, post-graduate program that is designed to prepare teacher-leaders who are informed, responsive and reflective practitioners. Upon completion of the ECE coursework, the School of Education makes an endorsement recommendation to the Department of Education and Early Development. Students then advance to candidacy for completion of the M.Ed. in Early Childhood. The proposed ECE graduate certificate will be formal recognition for completion of the ECE graduate endorsement program. Earning the graduate certificate will be recognized on individuals' official transcripts.

What state needs are met by this program?

The graduate certificate program in ECE meets the ongoing need in Alaska for highly qualified teachers. Teachers in early childhood education must provide high quality, culturally competent and developmentally appropriate programs for young children. The graduate certificate in Early Childhood will acknowledge the professional development achievements of Alaska's early childhood leaders.

The distance delivery of the ECE proposed graduate certificate ensures that candidates who live in rural and remote areas of Alaska will have equal access. Candidates in this program receive professional education within the cultural and community contexts in which they are teaching. Some early childhood educators in Alaska are employed by programs that do not require a M. Ed. The proposed graduate certificate will recognize the high quality, intensive graduate work completed by these professional early childhood leaders.

What are the student opportunities and outcomes? Enrollment projections?

Educators who earn an Early Childhood graduate certificate will possess advanced knowledge, skills and dispositions to provide important leadership to parents and community members. Graduate certificate recipients will view their role in early childhood education as a sophisticated one, requiring personal pedagogical (educational and instructive) reflection leading to analysis of their current classroom beliefs and practices.

Candidates will demonstrate pedagogical competence and leadership in the following areas: a) theory, learning and practice relevant to early childhood; b) appropriate instruction, observation and communication of student development in the areas of cognitive, physical, social/emotional and language development; and c) creating environments and communications that are real, relevant and meaningful to students, families and communities.

The following courses in the Early Childhood Education endorsement program will provide the requirements for the graduate certificate in Early Childhood:

ED S465	Math and Science for Young Children	3
ED S605	Early Childhood Education Principles and Practices	3
ED S610	Guidance and Discipline in Early Childhood Education	3
ED S652	Understanding and Teaching Young Children I: Social and Emotional Development	3
ED S653	Understanding and Teaching Young Children II: Creative, Physical and Healthy Development	3
ED S661	Literacy and Young Children	3
ED S664	Young Child and Classroom Management	3

Total: 21 Credits

Projected Enrollment:

2007 15

2008 18

Describe Research Opportunities

The program encourages collaboration between candidates and their colleagues. Students are encouraged to become involved in issues important to Alaska and their communities. The ECE endorsement coursework leading to the graduate certificate provides in-depth knowledge of developmentally appropriate practices and leads graduates to evaluate their own learning environments.

Describe fiscal plan for development and implementation

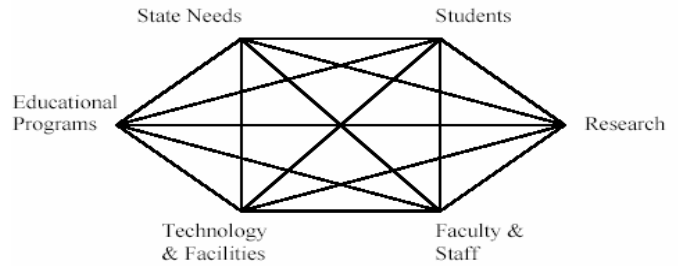
There would be little or no change needed to implement the graduate certificate in Early Childhood Education.

**University of Alaska Board of Regents
Program Approval Summary Form**

**MAU: University of Alaska southeast
School of Education**

**Title: Graduate Certificate Program in
Mathematics Education**

Target admission date: Summer 2007



How does the program relate to the education mission of the University of Alaska?

The graduate certificate in Mathematics Education program is a logical extension of the Mathematics Education Endorsement (MEE) Program. The proposed graduate certificate is a culturally responsive program designed to provide Alaska’s K-8 teachers with a deeper understanding of mathematical content and pedagogy. The courses in the proposed graduate certificate emphasize non-traditional, hands-on methods and approaches, but also provide rigor with pedagogy. The goals and objectives are aligned to the Content and Performance Standards for Alaska Students, the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Grade Level Expectations and the Alaska Standards for Culturally Responsive Schools.

The proposed graduate certificate supports the School of Education mission of the University of Alaska Southeast by providing K-8 teachers in Alaska the content and pedagogy to become leaders in the teaching of mathematics. It advances and disseminates knowledge through teaching and research, addresses the state need for highly qualified mathematics teachers and emphasizes the application of mathematics to the cultures and communities of Alaska.

The topics addressed in the proposed graduate certificate include problem solving, numeration and operations, algebra and functions, geometry and measurement, data analysis, statistics and probability, trigonometry and the concepts underlying calculus. Because of this emphasis on content and understanding, these courses are acceptable for use toward HOUSSE points for establishing a teacher as highly qualified. While this is reason enough to complete the proposed graduate certificate, recognition of achievement through the awarding of a graduate certificate would also strengthen the credentials of those who complete the program.

What state needs are met by this program?

The proposed graduate certificate meets the needs of the state by providing a course of study that deepens the mathematical understanding of those certified K-8 teachers of Alaska who complete it. It also helps them strengthen their pedagogical practices related to the teaching of mathematics.

The proposed graduate certificate also helps fill the state of Alaska’s need for highly qualified mathematics teachers to meet the Federal No Child Left Behind guidelines. The topics addressed in the MEE program are rigorous and emphasize understanding of mathematics. Because of this rigor and emphasis on content, these courses are acceptable for use toward HOUSSE points for establishing a teacher as highly qualified.

The proposed graduate certificate also emphasizes the application of mathematics to the cultures and communities of Alaska through connections to local, real-life problems and situations.

What are the student opportunities and outcomes and enrollment projections?

The Mathematics Education endorsement program currently has seven students actively pursuing the endorsement. These seven are expected to complete the program by the summer of 2007. Because of the number of inquiries and the interest expressed by other teachers, the number of applicants and candidates is expected to increase each summer. Currently entry into the program occurs primarily during summer school, but options are being pursued to offer the first two courses in the program during the academic year to provide teachers better scheduling opportunities.

A total of 21 credits are required for the proposed graduate certificate. These include:

ED S608	Mathematical Problem Solving
ED S614	Numerations and Operations
ED S654	Algebra and Functions
ED S655	Geometry and Measurement
ED S656	Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability
ED S657	Concepts of Calculus and Trigonometry
ED S698	Master's Research Project or Portfolio

Describe Research Opportunities

The proposed graduate certificate will help create and establish K-8 mathematics teacher-leaders who will be able to help their colleagues become better math teachers. These teacher-leaders may pursue research to provide their peers assistance in the development and teaching of mathematics lessons that are tied to their local communities through real-life problems and applications. A strong national interest in the sharing of such research and lessons provides many opportunities to those who obtain the Mathematics Education endorsement. The awarding of a graduate certificate in Mathematics Education would also strengthen the credentials of those who complete the program.

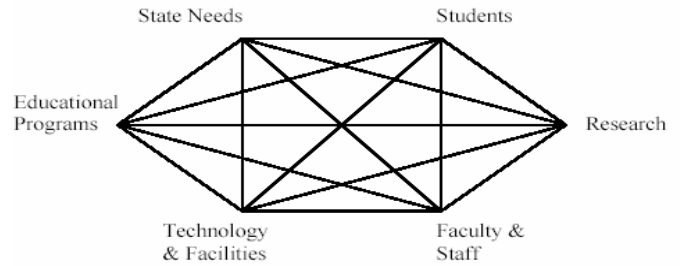
Describe fiscal plan for development and implementation

No additional costs for awarding graduate certificates in Mathematics Education are expected since this is a logical extension to the current Mathematics Education Endorsement program and the only change is the institutional recommendation of program completion.

**University of Alaska Board of Regents
Program Approval Summary Form**

**MAU: University of Alaska Southeast
School of Education**
**Title: Graduate Certificate Program in Educational
Technology**

Target admission date: Summer 2007



How does the program relate to the education mission of the University of Alaska?

The graduate certificate program in Educational Technology at UAS is an enhancement of the current Endorsement in Educational Technology program at UAS. The Ed Technology endorsement program has supported the educational mission of the University of Alaska by providing an academically rigorous program that revolves around standards-based learning with course topics clearly related to state, regional and national standards (including the Alaska Standards for Culturally Responsive Schools), integration of current technologies in both instruction and student learning outcomes, opportunities for collaboration with Alaskan educators and leaders throughout the state and a focus on improving student learning through effective and creative use of technology.

The Educational Technology endorsement has prepared outstanding leaders in educational technology who work and serve throughout the state of Alaska. The quality of the Educational Technology program at UAS has been nationally recognized by the International Society for Technology in Education, a specialized professional association for NCATE, for meeting the ISTE Technology Leadership standards and providing a quality program for its candidates. Candidates who successfully complete the course requirements for the Educational Technology endorsement are recommended for the state endorsement, but do not receive recognition on their transcripts of having completed the program. By awarding a graduate certificate, the School of Education will be able to formally recognize the candidates' academic success in meeting their professional goals.

What state needs are met by this program?

The ED Technology endorsement program provides an opportunity for classroom teachers, administrators and technology coordinators to pursue additional expertise and knowledge as leaders in educational technology in Alaska. Candidates must have a current teaching certificate in order to be admitted to the program. Many of our candidates work in isolated villages and have become the technology coordinator in their school by default, with little or no formal training. Other candidates work in a variety of positions that range from director of technology for large school districts, curriculum specialists, school principals, distance educators, classroom teachers, media specialists and reading specialists. The ED Tech program at UAS provides a technology-rich experience by which candidates can increase their knowledge while gaining experience as leaders in their field. All courses except for one are offered by distance, providing an opportunity for professional development in educational technology to educators throughout Alaska.

Candidates admitted to the Educational Technology endorsement program are required to complete 21 credit hours of coursework that address instructional design, classroom Internet integration, design and development of multimedia, ethical and legal issues related to educational technology and designing and maintaining school networks. Several students in the Educational Technology program have already earned a master's degree and are seeking increased professional knowledge and understanding. A few other students are seeking the increased knowledge but are not planning to apply for an Alaska Teaching Certificate. Currently, those students who have professional goals not related to state endorsement receive no recognition of their achievement until, and if, they complete the master's degree in educational technology. By awarding the graduate certificate, all candidates who complete the required courses and successfully pass the performance assessments will receive formal recognition that documents their professional development in this field. The graduate certificate will provide an incentive for candidates to continue their professional development as well as providing recognition of their success once they complete the requirements.

Required Coursework

ED S628	Technology in Instructional Design
ED S632	Classroom Internet Integration
ED S633	Classroom Integration of Multi-Media
ED S634	Classroom Integration of Audio-Video Technology
ED S635	Thinking About Technology
ED S673	Educational Applications of Networking
ED S697	Advisor approved Independent Study or elective course

What are the student opportunities and outcomes and enrollment projections?

The Educational Technology Endorsement Program has been a successful program with 26 candidates earning the School of Education’s institutional recommendation to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development for Endorsement in Educational Technology between 2004 and 2006. The program currently has 33 active candidates seeking the Educational Technology endorsement who would earn the graduate certificate at the completion of the required 21 credit hours. We anticipate 14 candidates will complete the requirements for the ED Tech endorsement by Summer 2007.

Approval of the graduate certificate in Educational Technology would provide all candidates seeking either state endorsement, professional development or a master’s degree recognition of their academic success in successfully meeting the requirements already established for the Endorsement Program. It is important to separate the state endorsement from academic credentials. UAS only recommends students for an endorsement, we do not grant the endorsement. By establishing a graduate certificate, UAS will be able to provide students with an academic incentive and reward for meeting the same requirements already established for the endorsement.

Describe Research Opportunities

The program encourages collaboration between candidates and their colleagues and engages students in issues important to educators in Alaska. The online discussions and group projects offer a rich environment for ongoing research in the field of educational technology for both the candidates and the faculty.

Describe fiscal plan for development and implementation

There will be no additional cost for awarding graduate certificates since this is an enhancement to the current Educational Technology endorsement program.