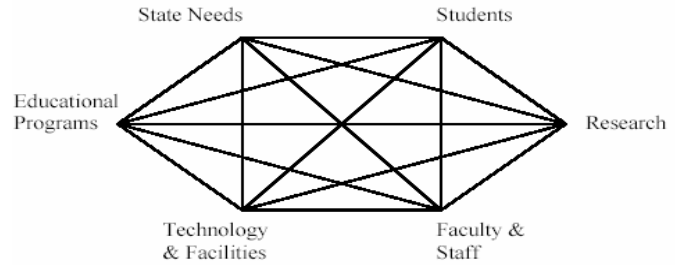


University of Alaska Board of Regents
Program Approval Summary Form

MAU: University of Alaska Fairbanks
Title and Brief Description:
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate for Secondary Education



Create a new Regents awarded, university certificate for students who already hold a baccalaureate degree.

Target date: Spring 2006

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

There is a well-documented and critical need for teachers in Alaska, and throughout the United States. The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate for Secondary Education provides the option for students in rural areas, as well as those on the Fairbanks campus, to seek post-baccalaureate teaching licensure at the undergraduate or graduate level. There are many programs throughout the UA system that are designed to help students attain professional standing or meet established standards after the award of the first baccalaureate degree. The proposed Post-Baccalaureate certificates will provide a valuable university award to students who complete a well defined and approved program. The proposed certificate will become a valuable addition to the portfolio of Alaskan professionals who now have only a series of courses listed on their transcripts. The certificate will verify the completion of a coherent set of courses covering a defined body of knowledge that has been established by a knowledgeable faculty. It will be useful for job seekers, those seeking professional advancement, and for employers who will have better documentation of the capabilities of their applicant or employees. In addition, the School of Education, UAF, and UA Statewide will be able to gather and analyze data on post-baccalaureate licensure candidates in a far more accurate manner than is currently possible.

As a public institution, and as the state's land-, sea- and space-grant institution, the University of Alaska responds to the interests and needs of the people of Alaska. Close working relationships between the K-12 public education system and the state's higher education system are essential for the social and economic well-being of our state. The secondary post-baccalaureate licensure teacher preparation program is a direct response to the stated mission of the University of Alaska which is to "address the needs of the North and its diverse peoples." There most certainly is a "need" in Alaska for teachers—and for teacher preparation programs that prepare people to professionally and respectfully work in our unique Northern context with Alaska's diverse peoples—i.e., with students and families from *all* ethnic, cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

In addition to supporting the Mission of the University of Alaska, the post-baccalaureate certificate for secondary education program at UAF directly responds to, and supports many of the primary goals of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Strategic Plan. This is accomplished through the following: (1) academic content requirements and the necessary collaboration across UAF departments; (2) requirements for on-going fieldwork in schools and communities; and (3) the built-in professional development for cooperating teachers and administrators and the required formal partnerships with schools and districts in rural and urban areas.

The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate for Secondary Education speaks to the following components of the University Strategic Plan;

- Provide high quality education for traditional and non-traditional students
- Form active collaborations with communities, organizations, businesses and government to meet identified state, national and global needs
- Be an educational center for Alaska Natives
- Be a model that demonstrates how gender, racial, and cultural diversity strengthen a university and society

What State Needs met by this program.

In a recent Report to the Governor and State Board of Education & Early Development prepared by the State's "Education Funding Task Force," the statement is made that:

Alaska's college and universities supply about 30% of our state's annual demand for new teachers. More than two-thirds of new teachers come from out-of-state. A national shortage of teachers and administrators forces Alaska to compete with other states for an ever-shrinking pool of applicants. Other states are offering teachers signing bonuses, down payment on homes, mortgage subsidies, and student loan repayment plans. With attractive salaries and incentives in their home states, far fewer out-of-state teachers are applying for available Alaska teaching positions, some of which go vacant for a year or more (page 10).

Supporting data is available from each of the 52 Alaska School Districts, the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, and the Alaska Teacher Placement Service's annual comprehensive report Statewide Educator Supply and Demand.

What are the Student opportunities and outcomes? Enrollment projections?

Nearly eighty percent of last years secondary job seekers are currently working in the field of education. Those who are not employed are likely to be place bound and unable to seek employment outside local areas. In addition, the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate for Secondary Education serves a number of teacher interns working under Alaska statute 14.20.022 which allows teacher candidates who are completing an accredited licensure program to teach with Subject-matter expert limited teacher certificates. As long as there are sufficient numbers of faculty and field site placements, the program can accommodate anticipated enrollments.

Describe Research opportunities:

The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate for Secondary Education assures the continued involvement of UAF faculty in P-12 public education throughout the state. The full-year internship is dependent upon close working partnerships with schools, districts and communities.

Describe Fiscal Plan for development and implementation:

The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate for Secondary Education anticipates no additional funding for continuation of program or to add the certificate of completion.