

#### UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

Office of Academic Affairs 3211 Providence Drive Anchorage, AK 99508-4614

Date: May 7, 2014

To: Dana Thomas, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Statewide Academic Council Chair

From: Elisha Baker, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Broke W

Through: Thomas Case, Chancellor TCan-

Subject: Proposed Speech-Language Pathology Post-Baccalaureate Certificate

The College of Education is proposing a post-baccalaureate certificate in Speech-Language Pathology. The program proposal has been approved by the faculty, dean, and appropriate UAA curriculum committees. It is now being submitted to the Statewide Academic Council for consideration of placement on the Board of Regents agenda.

The program development was informed by a healthcare workforce vacancy study and feedback from administrators from Alaska's three largest school districts and the state Department of Education and Early Development.

Since 2004, UAA has had an affiliation agreement with East Carolina University to provide an Alaska Cohort in ECU's distance Communication Sciences and Disorders master's degree. The proposed certificate builds on the prerequisite courses UAA offers for the ECU master's degree, and provides a transcripted credential for students completing this coursework.

The certificate will provide a pathway to graduate study in speech-language pathology, and prepare individuals in related fields to better understand, teach, and/or interact with individuals with speech, language, and/or hearing impairment. As all of the courses will be available by e-learning, the certificate will meet the needs of the entire state.

Since the courses are already being offered, the financial needs of this program will be met through existing investments, increased tuition and fee revenue, and internal college reallocations.

A minor with similar content and shared resources has been submitted to the NWCCU for the final stage of approval, since minors do not require approval by the Regents.

Attachments: BOR Program Action Request Form, Program Executive Summary and Prospectus CC: Vice Provost Kalina, Assistant Vice Provost Carlson, Dean Ryan, Professor Brigham



#### Board of Regents Program Action Request University of Alaska

Proposal to Add, Change, or Delete a Program of Study

1a. Major Academic Unit (choose one) UAA	_		1c. Department or Program Special Education			
2. Complete Program Title Speech-Language Pathology Post-Baccalaureate Certificate						
3. Type of Program						
Undergraduate Certificate AA/AAS Baccalaureate Spost-Baccalaureate Certificate				icate		
Master's Graduat	Graduate Certificate Doctorate					
1. Type of Action 5. Implementation date (semester, year)						
✓ Add ☐ Change ☐ Delete		l '	pring Year 2014			
6. Projected Revenue and Expenditure Summary. Not Required if the requested action is deletion. (Provide information for the 5 <sup>th</sup> year after program or program change approval if a baccalaureate or doctoral degree program; for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> year after program approval if a master's or associate degree program; and for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year after program approval if a graduate or undergraduate certificate. If information is provided for another year, specify (1st) and explain in the program summary attached). Note that Revenues and Expenditures are not always entirely new; some may be current (see 7d.)						
Projected Annual Revenues in FY 15		Projected An	nual Expenditures in FY 15	Expenditures in FY 15		
Unrestricted		Salaries & be	enefits (faculty and staff)	\$52,561		
General Fund	\$24,713		nodities, services, etc.)	\$		
Student Tuition & Fees	\$27,848	TOTAL EXPE		\$52,561		
Indirect Cost Recovery	\$	One-time Ex	penditures to Initiate Progran	n (if >\$250,000)		
TVEP or Other (specify):	\$	(These are co	osts in addition to the annual	in addition to the annual costs, above.)		
Restricted		Year 1	Year 1 \$			
Federal Receipts	\$	Year 2		\$		
TVEP or Other (specify):	\$	Year 3		\$		
TOTAL REVENUES	\$52,561	Year 4		\$		
Page # of attached summary where the budget is discussed, including initial phase-in: 3. The projected budget indicates the financial support the college has committed to the program, which will be accomplished entirely from tuition and reallocations within the college. Revenues and expenditures will be shared with a minor with similar requirements. Financial projections are based on personnel requirements.  7. Budget Status. Items a., b., and c. indicate the source(s) of the General Fund revenue specified in item 6. If any grants or						
contracts will supply revenue needed by the program, indicate amount anticipated and expiration date, if applicable.						
Revenue source			Continuing	One-time		
a. In current legislative budget request			\$	\$		
b. Additional appropriation required			\$	\$		
c. Funded through new internal MAU redistribution			\$	\$		
d. Funds already committed to the program by the MAU <sup>1</sup>			\$52,561	\$		
e. Funded all or in part by external funds, expiration date			\$	\$		
f. Other funding source Specify Type:			\$	\$		
8. Facilities: New or substantially (>\$25,000 co	•		· —	⊠No ctions 6 and 7 above.		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Sometimes the courses required by a new degree or certificate program are already being taught by an MAU, e.g., as a minor requirement. Similarly, other program needs like equipment may already be owned. 100% of the value is indicated even though the course or other resource may be shared.

9. Projected enrollme	ents (headc	ount of majors). If	this is a program del	etion	request, project the teach out enrollments.		
Year 1: 8		Year 2: 16	Year 3: 18				
Page number of attached summary where demand for this program is discussed: 3							
10. Number* of new TA or faculty hires anticipated (or number of positions eliminated if a			11. Number* of TAs or faculty to be reassigned:				
program deletion):		Graduate TA (					
		Adjunct					
Graduate TA	0		Term				
Adjunct	0		Tenure track				
Term	.5		Former assignment of an		u vanasianad facultus		
Tenure track	0		Former assignment of any reassigned faculty:  For more information see page 3 of the attached summary.				
12. Other programs a	ffected by t	he proposed action	n, including those at	other	MAUs (please list):		
Program Affec	ted			Antici	pated Effect		
See note.		The program is no	ot expected to affect	other	programs because it is in an area not currently		
					program's home department.		
					y. It also enables individuals in related fields to		
				service	e delivery for individuals with speech, language,		
		and/or hearing in	npairment.				
Page number of attack	hed summa	ry where effects o	n other programs are	discu	ussed: 2		
13. Specialized accreditation or other external program certification needed or anticipated. List all that apply or 'none': Planned submission to AK Professional Licensing Board for consideration as one avenue to satisfy educational requirement for licensure as an SLP Assistant.			14. Aligns with University or campus mission, goals, core themes, and objectives (list):UAA 2017 Strategic Priority A (education and training for workforce development and high demand careers) and C (increased educational opportunity and student success), Academic Master Plan Goal 4 (develop and enhance programs in response to state needs in education and healthcare)				
			Page in attached sur	mmar	ary where alignment is discussed: 1		
15. State needs met by this program (list): Currently there is undergraduate program in speech-language pathology in Ala provide a pathway to graduate study. A 2012 Health Workfo Study, the Health Workforce Development Plan, and support Director of Special Education and administrators from Anchorand Fairbanks school districts all demonstrate the needs this meet.  Page in the attached summary where the state needs to be rediscussed: 2			ogy in Alaska. This win Workforce Vacancy disupport from AK om Anchorage, Mat-Seeds this program with the seeds this program with the seeds the se	iu,	16. Program is initially planned to be: (check all the apply)  Available to students attending classes at Anchorage campus(es).  Available to students via e-learning.  Partially available students via e-learning.  Page # in attached summary where e-learning is discussed: 3		
Submitted by the University of Alaska Anchorage with the concurrence of its Faculty Senate.							
Prov	rost	1	Date		Thomas Cen 17 May 2, Date		
			Ma L		18/15/2014		
Recommend Appro		UA Vice	President for Acade	mic A	ffairs on behalf of Date		
necommend pisab	Piovai	OA VICE	the Statewide Acad				

\*Net FTE (full-time equivalents). For example, if a faculty member will be reassigned from another program, but his/her original program will hire a replacement, there is one net new faculty member. Use fractions if appropriate. Graduate TAs are normally 0.5 FTE. The numbers should be consistent with the revenue/expenditure information provided.

Attachments:  $\square$  Summary of Degree or Certificate Program Proposal

Revised: 10/10/2012

☑ Other (optional) Letters of Support



### New Program Proposal

# **Executive Summary**

(See University Regulation R10.04.020.C)

This is a summary of a full prospectus. The full prospectus is available upon request.

#### Degree/Certificate Title & Responsible Program

Major Academic Unit	School or Colle	ege	Department		
University of Alaska Anchorage	College of Education		Special Education		
Complete Program Title Speech-Language Pathology Post-Baccalaureate Certificate					
Type of Program Ur	dergrad Certificate	AA/AAS	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate		
☐ Ma	isters	Graduate Certificate	Doctoral		

# 1. Relationship of the proposed program relative to the educational mission of the University of Alaska and the MAU.

The proposed Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) Post-Baccalaureate Certificate is designed to provide education and training for workforce development and high demand careers, aligning with UAA's 2017 Strategic Plan Priority A. UAA, in conjunction with the UA Office of Health Programs Development, has assessed Alaska's workforce needs and identified a significant need for speech-language pathologists in healthcare. Letters from the State of Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) Special Education Administrator and administrators from Anchorage, Matanuska-Susitna, and Fairbanks North Star Borough School Districts also identify a significant shortage of speech-language pathologists to meet the needs of public school children in Alaska. The proposed program supports the UA Academic Master Plan Goal 4 to develop and enhance programs in response to state needs in education and healthcare.

The SLP Post-Baccalaureate Certificate also aligns with the goals in UAA 2017 Strategic Plan Priority C that relate to increased educational opportunity and student success. Students completing the program will be highly qualified candidates to apply to graduate programs in speech-language pathology.

#### 2. History of the development of the proposed program.

Since 2004 the UAA College of Education has had an affiliation agreement with East Carolina University's (ECU) Communication Sciences and Disorders Department distance Master's Degree program. An Alaska Cohort was established in the ECU Distance Education program to enable Alaska to "Grow our own speech-language pathologists." UAA provides the required prerequisite courses via distance delivery and graduate level internship courses for students accepted to the affiliated program. ECU provides the graduate academic program via distance delivery. To date, 90% of the graduates of the Alaska Cohort have accepted positions in Alaska. The prerequisite courses have been available as non-degree seeking professional level courses. Course enrollees were individuals who had just completed a Bachelor's degree and needed the required prerequisites prior to applying to graduate school as well as the second career students returning to school to become speech-language pathologists.

The Alaska Speech-Language Hearing Association, the UAA Office of Health Programs Development, and the UA Allied Health Alliance support development of educational programs to train speech-language pathologists. The SLP Post-Baccalaureate Certificate will allow students who already have a baccalaureate degree in another field to obtain required coursework in preparation for graduate study in Speech-Language Pathology. It will also enable individuals in related fields to obtain information that will help an educator or health professional to better understand, teach and/or interact with individuals with speech, language, and/or hearing impairment.

- 3. Impact of the proposed program on existing UA programs, including the GER.
  - There is no impact on the GERs because they are not required for the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate nor is there a negative impact on other academic units. The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate is a pathway to graduate study in speech-language pathology for those who choose to become fully certified speech-language pathologists. There is no other program in Alaska that provides coursework to achieve this goal. The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate also enables individuals in related fields to obtain information that will facilitate service delivery for individuals with speech, language, and/or hearing impairment. As the courses will be available by distance delivery the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate meets the needs of the entire state.
- 4. State needs met by the proposed program (citing manpower studies or similar statistics), relation to State of Alaska long-range development, relation to other programs in the University of Alaska that may depend on or interact with the proposed program.

Currently there is no undergraduate program in speech-language pathology in Alaska. Providing an SLP Post-Baccalaureate Certificate program will meet the need for qualified speech-language pathologists in Alaska by providing a pathway to graduate study in speech-language pathology. The 2012 Alaska Health Workforce Vacancy Study<sup>1</sup> and letters from the State of Alaska Director of Special Education and special education administrators from Anchorage, Matanuska-Susitna, and Fairbanks North Star Borough school districts document the need for speech-language pathology education programs in Alaska.<sup>2</sup>

The Alaska Health Workforce Development Plan (May 2010) assessed occupational priorities for Alaska. <sup>3</sup> Three priority groups were established with Priority 1 representing those occupations "Most critical; requires immediate attention." Speech-Language Pathology was rated priority 1.

Having an SLP Post-Baccalaureate Certificate program in Alaska will make it possible for a greater number of Speech-Language Pathology jobs to be filled by Alaskans rather than by outside contractors who are not likely to become permanent residents of Alaska. This program will allow Alaskans who are changing careers, to obtain the education required to apply to graduate study in speech-language pathology without leaving Alaska.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://app.box.com/s/xqh4aj46ooc46e62r6q9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Attachment for letters of support.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://labor.state.ak.us/awib/forms/Healthcare\_Workforce\_Plan.pdf

The courses that comprise the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Speech-Language Pathology may serve as potential electives for students in a variety of UAA College of Education programs. Courses at the 200-400 level could be used as electives for the B.A. in Early Childhood. Several of the 400 level courses may serve as electives for the M.Ed. in Teaching and Learning, the M.Ed. in Special Education, and the M.Ed. in Early Childhood Special Education. Outcomes of meetings with the College of Health indicate that this may be the case for majors in that college as well.

#### 5. Student opportunities, outcomes, and enrollment projections.

Completion of the SLP Post-Baccalaureate Certificate program is a pathway to graduate study in speech-language pathology for those who choose to become fully certified speech-language pathologists. It will also enable individuals in related professions to obtain information that will facilitate service delivery for individuals with speech, language, and/or hearing impairment.

Table 5
Enrollment Projections

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
FTE Enrollment	8	8	10	10	10
Enrollment Headcount	8	16	18	20	20
Graduates	0	8	8	10	10

#### 6. Program availability.

Courses will be offered using a variety of delivery modes. Distance delivery will be available for all courses to enable students from around the state to participate in this program. Distance delivery is considered essential for statewide access as this is the only speech-language pathology program in Alaska that prepares post bachelors students for graduate study in speech-language pathology.

#### 7. Faculty and staff workload implications.

The program requires a minimum of a full time and a .5 term faculty position as well as sufficient adjunct faculty to meet program needs. Ellen Brigham is the ongoing Program Coordinator who currently serves as a bipartite term faculty Assistant Professor. A .5 term assistant professor will be hired effective fall 2014. A new prerequisite course was added (EDSL A410) as required for application to the affiliated graduate program with East Carolina University. All courses except EDSL A410 and EDSL A411 are also requirements for the SLP Minor that is being proposed concurrently with the SLP Post-Baccalaureate Certificate. Advising will be done jointly by the advisors in the College of Education Office of Student Engagement and by the faculty advisor in the Speech-Language Pathology Program. No additional advisors will be needed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Since minors do not require approval by the Board of Regents, the SLP minor has been separately submitted to the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities for final approval.

#### 8. Fiscal Plan for the proposed program.

The projected budget below indicates the financial support College of Education has committed to the Speech-Language Pathology Post-Baccalaureate Certificate. Funding at the level shown will be accomplished from reallocations with the college with a portion offset by tuition and fee revenue. The salary for the ongoing bipartite term Assistant Professor, Ellen Brigham, is currently covered by COE and will be ongoing. Please note, the projected .51 faculty and adjunct cost is shared with SLP Minor. Incremental increases are due to projected yearly salary increases.

Table ES8
Incremental Expenses, Revenues, and Balances

Year	New Expenses	New Revenue	Balance
Yr 1	52,561	27,848	24,713
Yr 2	53,876	27,848	24,713
Yr 3	55,222	34,810	20,412
Yr 4	56,602	34,810	31,792
Yr 5	58,017	34,810	31,792



# **Anchorage School District**

# Special Education Department

5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd. • Anchorage, AK 99504 • 907-742-6021 • www.asdk12.org/sped/

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

Subject: University of Alaska Speech Program Support

Dear Ms. Brigham,

It is my understanding that the University of Alaska- Anchorage is currently working on a proposal for a minor or post-baccalaureate certificate in speech-language pathology.

Anchorage School District continues to find it extremely difficult to recruit and hire Speech and Language Pathologists. As a result, we would value any preparatory education that the University of Alaska can do to support the needs of Anchorage School District with Speech and Language Pathologists.

Additionally, Alaska school districts have a significant demand for the services of Speech and Language Pathologists. As the Secretary of the Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) of the Alaska Counsel of Exceptional Children (CEC), the shortage of Speech and Language Pathologists is frequently brought up in our meetings. We have worked together to discuss the recruitment and retention strategies, salary scales, and service delivery models.

Anchorage School District is in full support of the programs proposed. As a direct benefit of the University of Alaska's program, Anchorage School District will be able to employee trained and skilled staff. This in turn provides the best support for students at-risk and/or receiving special education services under IDEA.

Cordially,

Shawn A. Bernard

Special Education Coordinator: Related Service

email: Bernard\_shawn@asdk12.org

office: 907.742.6019



# FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

520 Fifth Avenue Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4756 (907) 452-2000 www.kl2northstar.org



October 29, 2013

Dear Ellen,

Year after year the FNSBSD is put in the position of hiring Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) from contracting companies as well as hiring retired SLPs, who may only work a few hours per week in order to continue receiving their pension, in order to fill vacancies. We are always in need of SLPs who would like to become vested as school district employees. I would love to see a Communicative Disorders program (both an undergraduate and graduate) available in the state.

Thank you for addressing this very important need.

Kathie Kenaston, SLP – MS-CCC Special Education Coordinator FNSB School District (T) 907-452-2000 Ext. 11416 (F) 907-451-6005 kathie.kenaston@k12northstar.org



#### OFFICE OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Lucy Hope - Director ◆ Dale Sweetser - Assistant Director

Mission: Mat-Su Borough School District prepares students for success

10/30/13

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing a letter of support for your proposal to offer a minor and post-bac certificate in speech-language pathology. Alaska has a significant demand for the services of SLPs and anything that you and UAA can do to meet the needs of Alaskan school students will be greatly appreciated in our professional community.

The Matanuska Susitna Borough School District in Palmer Alaska places considerable time recruiting related service staff each year, including Speech Language Pathologists. Over the past three years, we have yet to reach our optimal number of qualified Speech Language Pathologists resulting in the need to hire contracted staff versus district employees. Our goal would be to only hire employees in order to have consistency and longevity, as well as reduce costs in our staffing budget. We have had anywhere from 2 to 8 contracted Speech Language Pathologists each year for the past four years.

Dale Sweetser Assistant Director Student Support Services

Ph: 907.746.9221 Fax: 907.761.4089

# STATE OF ALASKA

## **Department of Education & Early Development**

Division of Teaching & Learning Support Special Education Goldbelt Place 801 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 P.O. Box 110500 Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500 Donald Enoch (907) 465-2972 Phone (907) 465- 2806 Fax Donald.Enoch@alaska.gov

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

November 4, 2013

Ellen Brigham M.S., CCC-SLP Assistant Professor Speech-Language Program Coordinator Special Education Department 3211 Providence Drive, PSB 220D Anchorage, AK 99508-4614

This is a letter of support for the University of Alaska, Anchorage (UAA) to consider a proposal for a minor in speech-language pathology. It is my understanding that this action, if approved, would give undergraduates at UAA the opportunity to be ready to apply to the graduate program two years earlier than they can currently. In addition to this proposal, I support consideration of a change to providing a post BAC certificate in support of career changers taking prerequisite courses and applying to the graduate program.

I am aware that thirty two students have completed the graduate program with 90% accepting positions in Alaska. Of this percentage, 72% accepted positions in public schools. While this is a positive note, a severe shortage of Speech Language Pathologists continues. The 2012 Alaska Health Workforce Vacancy Study included data from a number of Alaska School Districts. This study identified a 20% statewide vacancy rate for Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs). Letters from the school districts in Fairbanks, Mat-Su and Anchorage indicate that strategies used to address the shortage include hiring contractors and retired SLPs willing to work a couple of days a week. The other practices to meet this growing challenge include increasing caseloads and supports. These temporary solutions do not sufficiently address the problem that exists and is growing as more SLPs retire.

This is an important issue and critical for Alaskan students receiving these services. If there is anything I can do to assist in this work, please do not hesitate to contact me personally. Thank you for your support in these efforts.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Enoch Jr.

Special Education Administrator