

4 May 2023

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Amy Lubitow, Chair, Graduate Council

RE: Graduate Certificate in Special Education Added Endorsement

The following proposal has been approved by the Graduate Council and is recommended for approval by the Faculty Senate.

You may read the full text of the program proposal, as well as Budget Committee comments, at the [Online Curriculum Management System \(OCMS\) Curriculum Dashboard](#).

## **PROPOSAL SUMMARY FOR College of Education**

### **Graduate Certificate in Special Education Added Endorsement**

#### **Certificate Type**

Graduate certificate: Admission to graduate status required

#### **Effective Term**

Fall 2023

#### **Overview of the Program**

The Special Education Added Endorsement (AddSPED) program is designed especially for Oregon teachers with general education licenses at the elementary and/or middle/secondary grade levels that want to add a special education endorsement to their current non-provisional license. AddSPED is a six-term part time program offered using a hybrid format that is designed with working teachers in mind. This proposal would make the current Special Education Added Endorsement (AddSPED) licensure-only program into a licensure + graduate certificate program.

#### **Evidence of Need**

To illustrate the market demand for this graduate certificate, the list below shows the number of program inquiries, applicants, and total enrollment in the Special Education Endorsement program for the past three academic years. As can be seen in the list, the numbers have increased every year but the number of applications does not match the number of inquiries. One reason for this is that students in licensure-only programs are not eligible for financial aid. Therefore, potential inquiries often decide to not enroll in the licensure only program or enroll in the master's degree version of the program in order to qualify for financial aid, and then leave the program once they have met the added endorsement requirements. This means that these students do not receive a qualification from PSU and we do not receive credit from HECC for their endorsement completion. One goal of adding a

graduate certificate to this existing licensure program is to rectify this issue by accurately awarding completer status and supporting program applicants.

- Year: 2020-2021
  - Program Inquiries: 8
  - Program Applications: 1
  - Total Enrollment: 10
- Year: 2021-2022
  - Program Inquiries: 15
  - Program Applications: 8
  - Total Enrollment: 11
- Year: 2022-2023
  - Program Inquiries: 41
  - Program Applications: 14
  - Total Enrollment: 12

There is a pressing need for Special Education teachers in the state of Oregon and nationwide. In fact, all of our local districts expressed a pressing need for more licensed teachers in Special Education, and this program allows already licensed teachers to add this endorsement to their license which has the possibility of increasing the number of Special Education teachers in the field.

### **Course of Study**

- SpEd 509 Professional Practices Seminar 1 (3 credits)
- SpEd 509 Practicum II (3 credits)
- SpEd 512 Diagnostic Assessment (4 credits)
- SpEd 514 Legal and Ethical Foundations of Special Education (3 credits)
- SpEd 516 Classroom Assessment, Instruction, and Behavior Management (Secondary) (4 credits)
- SpEd 522 Comprehensive Individualized Assessment and Curriculum 1 (3 credits)
- SpEd 523 Comprehensive Individualized Assessment and Curriculum II (3 credits)
- SpEd 526 IEP and Collaborative Teaming (4 credits)
- SpEd 530 Families and Advocacy (3 credits)
- SpEd 532 Inclusive Practices (2 credits)
- SpEd 537 Reading Assessment & Instruction (Elementary) (4 credits)
- SpEd 548 Positive Behavior Support in the Classroom (3 credits)

Total Credits: 39