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**PROGRAM/DEGREE REQUIREMENT CHANGE (MAJOR/MINOR)**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Department	Education	College/School	School of Education
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**PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:**

<b>DEGREE PROGRAM</b>	<b>Master of Education In Special Education</b>
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**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,



OR

- x ED 624 3 credits Foundations of Education in Alaska: From Segregation to Standards
- x An Alaska studies course approved by the Alaska Department of Education

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***

**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:**

Elementary and Secondary Education

**F. IF MAJOR CHANGE - ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRAM:**

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.

<p><b>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.</b></p>
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**APPROVALS:**

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

