

PROPOSAL: Create the Master of Arts in Early Childhood General and Special Education: Birth through Kindergarten

Background

The Graduate Studies Council of the Faculty Senate has approved the creation of the Master of Arts in Early Childhood General and Special Education: Birth through Kindergarten to offered by the College of Education and Human Development - Interdisciplinary Program.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) recently moved to six certification grade bands. One of these bands is ***Early Childhood General and Special Education: Birth through Kindergarten (BK)*** with a new set of standards. Thus, in response to the new Michigan Department of Education (MDE) *Standards for the Preparation of Teachers of Early Childhood General and Special Education (Birth through Kindergarten)*, the three departments (Family & Consumer Science; Special Education & Literacy Studies; and Teaching, Learning & Educational Studies) propose an interdisciplinary BK master's graduate program that aligns with MDE's new standards that recognize the importance of integrating early childhood education and special education teacher preparation into a unified program emphasizing content knowledge of the whole child; relationships between children, families, and care providers; socio-emotional development; and culturally responsive practices for children from birth through kindergarten.

Recommended Action

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