

REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

Brief History of Issue - why the issue is being considered:

The Department of Special Education and Inclusive Practices (SEIP) is proposing a credit bearing certificate in Interprofessional Early Intervention. The 12-credit certificate is designed to provide students majoring in SEIP with additional training and experience that would qualify them for licensure in Early Childhood-Special Education. Changes to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction licensure for teachers have eliminated the need for a comprehensive major in early childhood education, and instead, students can meet the new licensure requirements through this certificate. The department will be suspending the comprehensive major in Unified Early Childhood (UEC), making the certificate necessary to serve students with interest in the early childhood population.

Points Discussed by Committee:

1. Licensure eligibility – education vs special education
2. Impact on students under old catalogs

Pros of Recommendation:

Students in the SEIP major who have interest in working with children from birth to age three, under Part C of IDEA, can add this certificate to be eligible for licensure in early childhood-special education. The coursework will build upon the SEIP major and provide the necessary interprofessional perspective required for providing early intervention services. Over the past several years, SEIP has been updating curriculum to match the new standards set forth by DPI. Any students who are seeking licensure would need to meet those new criteria and those who started their program prior to the curricular changes would be advised appropriately by the department on how to best accomplish that, whether through the certificate or another pathway.

Cons of Recommendation:

There is a potential for this coursework to increase student time to degree. However, students in SEIP who are likely to add this certificate often complete some of the courses anyway so they should be able to stay on track for graduation while adding this certificate. Students who started in SEIP prior to the 2023-24 academic year may wish to add the certificate but may not be eligible, depending on their prior coursework and criteria met toward licensure. The department has an advising process to manage this.

Technology/Human Resource Impact:

None; with the upcoming suspension of the UEC comprehensive major, the staffing and resources are available to support the certificate.

Committee Recommendation:

The committee recommends approval of the credit bearing certificate in: Interdisciplinary Early Intervention to be administered by the Department of Special Education and Inclusive Practices.

MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

by a vote of 8 for to 0 against on February 7, 2023 (Date)

Recommends that:

The Department of Special Education and Inclusive Practices will offer a credit bearing certificate: Certificate in Interprofessional Early Intervention (Code XXX-XXX) starting with the 2023/24 AY.

Implementation Date: 23/24 catalog

Signed: _____

Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office