BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

SHAWNEE STATE UNIVERSITY
Early Childhood Generalist Endorsement (grades 4-5), Graduate Program

RECOMMENDATION

The proposed endorsement program meets the Chancellor's requirements for academic programs and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for an Early Childhood Generalist Endorsement. There were no major concerns identified in the review. Approval is recommended for a three-year period, until 2013. In addition, it should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio licensure continue to be met.

Request: Shawnee State University requests approval for a program of study leading to an Early Childhood Generalist Endorsement (grades 4-5).

Accreditation/Authorization: The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) regionally accredits the institution. Shawnee State University is HLC accredited until its next scheduled review in 2012. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredits Shawnee State University's educator preparation programs until the next review in 2014.

Background: Shawnee State University (SSU) is a public university established in 1986 along the Ohio River in Portsmouth, Ohio. The University has more than 4200 full and part-time students in 80 baccalaureate and associate degree programs and a growing number of students in two graduate programs: occupational therapy and curriculum and instruction. Shawnee State University offers programs leading to early childhood, middle childhood and intervention specialist licenses as well as adolescent to young adult licenses and multi-age visual arts licenses. Shawnee State University has two endorsements: reading and middle childhood 4-6. The proposed endorsement will provide an additional option for students.

The Early Childhood Generalist endorsement is valid for teaching all core academic content areas in grades four and five. The endorsement may be added to an Early Childhood P-3 teaching license upon evidence of completion of a minimum of nine additional semester hours of study aligned with the Ohio Academic Content Standards for grades four and five and including preparation in pedagogy and child/adolescent development. Shawnee State University's program is aligned with these standards and exceeds the number of required credit hours. Shawnee State University's program builds on the knowledge and skills that students typically master during any early childhood preparation program, with a specific focus on child and adolescent issues for the grade 4 or 5 student.

Curriculum: The proposed Early Childhood Generalist Endorsement (Grades 4-5) will provide an opportunity for licensed teachers to build upon their early childhood education knowledge, skills, and dispositions to serve students in Grades 4-5. An additional (above the Early Childhood (P-3) Licensure Program) ten semester hours, will be required to gain this endorsement. These 10 semester hours will be focused on study aligned with the Ohio academic content standards

for grades four and five, including preparation in pedagogy and field experience for these grades.

Recommendation: This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for an Early Childhood Generalist Endorsement for grades 4 and 5. There were no major concerns identified in the review and approval is recommended for a three-year period, until 2013. In addition, it should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio licensure continue to be met.

End of Comment Period: September 9, 2010
No comments received, recommend approval

APPROVED

9/15/10 mlc

Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor **Date**