

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

Pre-Kindergarten Special Needs Endorsement

RECOMMENDATION

This endorsement meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a pre-kindergarten special needs endorsement. There were no concerns identified in the review. Approval is recommended for a three-year period of time, until 2013.

Profile: Wright State University is a public, non-profit university established in 1968 and located in Dayton, Ohio.

Accreditation/Authorization: The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) regionally accredits the institution. Wright State University is HLC accredited until its next scheduled review in 2016. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredits Wright State University's educator preparation programs at the initial and advanced level until 2015.

Request: Wright State University (WSU) requests continued approval for a Pre-Kindergarten Special Needs Endorsement.

Background: WSU offers more than 50 majors in preK-12 education leading to provisional licensure in Ohio and graduate programs in many areas of specialization as well as an education specialist program in school administration, a school counseling program and post-baccalaureate programs in teacher education. Wright State University is submitting its request to ensure alignment of the current program with national and Ohio standards and requirements. The total enrollment in the College of Health and Human Services at WSU is nearly 2400 students with 46% of students enrolled in graduate programs.

The Pre-Kindergarten Special Needs Endorsement program is designed for the current teacher interested in adding skills and knowledge regarding the young child with special needs. The endorsement is available to current teachers with a license in pre-kindergarten or K-12 intervention specialist or an early childhood pk-3 license. The program provides a theoretical background on the nature and needs of young children with special needs. The program is 25 quarter-hours, including a 5 quarter-hour practicum.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a program leading to the pre-kindergarten special needs endorsement. Continued approval is recommended for three years, until the next scheduled review in 2013.