

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY

#### Middle Childhood Generalist Endorsement (grades 4-6)

#### RECOMMENDATION

This continuing endorsement program meets the Chancellor's requirements for academic programs and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a Middle Childhood Generalist Endorsement (grades 4-6). 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:** Wittenberg University requests approval for an undergraduate program of study leading to a Middle Childhood Generalist Endorsement (grades 4-6).

**Accreditation/Authorization:** The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) regionally accredits the institution. Wittenberg University is HLC accredited until its next scheduled review in 2017. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredits Wittenberg University's educator preparation programs until the next review in 2015.

**Background:** Wittenberg University is a four-year, private liberal arts university founded in 1845 and affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Located in Springfield Ohio, the University has an enrollment of approximately 1950 students. Wittenberg attracts and admits academically strong students with approximately 65% of the entering students graduating in the top fifth of their high school classes. The university provides a strong liberal arts curriculum. Wittenberg University offers undergraduate programs leading to early childhood, middle childhood and intervention specialist licenses.

The Middle Childhood Generalist Endorsement is valid for teaching all core academic content areas in grades four, five, and six; may be added to a middle childhood license with two concentration areas upon evidence of completion of an additional six semester hours of study in each of the content areas to be added, aligned with the state academic content standards; evidence of preparation in pedagogy in each of the additional content areas; and successful completion of the prescribed examination.

Wittenberg University's program is aligned with these standards. Wittenberg University's program builds on the knowledge and skills of the middle childhood licensure program and provides the student an opportunity to add additional content areas for grades 4-6.

**Curriculum:** The proposed Middle Childhood Generalist Endorsement (Grades 4-5) will provide an opportunity for undergraduate students to complete an additional 8 semester hours (six hours of content preparation and two focused on pedagogy appropriate for the grade level and content) in order to add content areas to their middle childhood license.

**Recommendation:** This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a Middle 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.