

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

ASHLAND UNIVERSITY Middle Childhood Endorsement

RECOMMENDATION

This endorsement meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a program leading to the Middle Childhood Generalist Endorsement (4-6 grades) at the undergraduate and post-baccalaureate level. No major concerns were identified in the review. Approval is recommended for Ashland University, the Elyria Regional Program Site and Columbus site until the next national accreditation review. 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.

Profile: Ashland University is a private, non-profit institution located in Ashland, Ohio with satellite locations in Columbus, Cleveland, Elyria and Massillon. Ashland University has more than 2200 undergraduate students and 3800 graduate students pursuing study at the associate, baccalaureate, masters and doctoral level.

Accreditation/Authorization: The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredits Ashland University's educator preparation programs at the initial and advanced level until the next review in 2016. The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) regionally accredits the institution until its next scheduled review in 2018.

Request: Ashland University requests continued approval for undergraduate and post-baccalaureate level Middle Childhood Generalist Endorsement (4-6 grades).

Background: Ashland University offers multiple majors in preK-12 education leading to provisional licensure in Ohio and graduate programs in many areas of specialization, including graduate study leading to various administrative educator licenses. Ashland University is submitting its request to ensure alignment of the current program with national ELCC standards and Ohio standards and requirements.

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. Ashland University requires credits in math, science and English beyond the state minimum in order to ensure mastery of the content. The endorsement requires six hours in social studies. General education courses without sufficient content are not counted toward the endorsement requirements.

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 of

study leading to the Middle Childhood Generalist Endorsement (grades 4-6) at the undergraduate and post-baccalaureate level. There were no major concerns identified in the review. Approval is recommended until the institution's next national accreditation review. 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.