



Oregon State University seeks the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission's approval to offer an instructional program leading to a BS in Elementary Education.

1. *Describe the purpose and relationship of the proposed program to the institution's mission and strategic plan.*

Oregon State University is proposing to offer a new BS in Elementary Education degree program beginning Fall Term 2018. The program will be located in the College of Education and offered at the OSU-Cascades branch campus in Bend.

The proposed BS in Elementary Education will result in licensure from the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC). The proposed program will complement the existing Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree program that is offered at OSU's branch campus. The MAT offers the following options: Elementary-Multiple Subjects (grades K-8); Language Arts (grades 5-12); Mathematics (grades 5-12); Science (grades 5-12); and Social Science (grades 5-12).

The proposed program is designed to recruit a diverse teacher workforce from Central Oregon while addressing the anticipated teacher shortage in Oregon. Students will select one of three emphasis areas: English as a Second Language; Special Education; or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The program will incorporate nine credit hours that can support future endorsement completion and/or job placement.

The Elementary Education degree program will support the land grant mission of affordability and access to students throughout the state of Oregon and helps diversify the teacher workforce. The Elementary Education program falls within OSU's signature area of Human Health and Wellness. It supports the strategic priorities of 1) providing a transformative educational experience for all learners, and 2) creating a program that integrates disciplinary knowledge and skill with professional practice. The program is designed to create a highly skilled and diverse teacher workforce in Central Oregon; one that more closely matches the student population.

2. *What evidence of need does the institution have for the program?*

The proposed program meets two needs: producing qualified teachers to meet the upcoming teacher shortage, and a mechanism to increase the diversity of the teacher workforce.

Central Oregon has experienced the fastest population growth in the State over the last two decades. Coupled with a need for additional qualified teachers, within the next five years it is anticipated that more than 30% of current teachers will retire. This confluence of events will result in a teacher shortage. In addition, there is a current mismatch between Central Oregon teacher demographics and the students they serve. The Latino population doubled from 2010 to 2014 and now represents nearly 10% of the Deschutes County population. That growth is anticipated to continue to grow to 2028 when 24% of all Oregon high school graduates will be

Latino. At the same time, only 5% of the teachers in Central Oregon represent an ethnic minority.

3. *Are there similar programs in the state? If so, how does the proposed program supplement, complement, or collaborate with those programs?*

OSU-Cascades, the only brick and mortar 4-year campus in Central Oregon, has established a strong partnership with Central Oregon Community College (COCC). Both institutions collaboratively designed the lower division courses for this program to ensure a smooth transition for students who may elect to start their education at COCC.

Of the twenty 4-year institutions of higher education in Oregon, 17 offer elementary education licensure programs. Based on the distance of other universities from Central Oregon, and based on the tendency of Central Oregon students to stay in Central Oregon, the impact of the proposed Elementary Education program on enrollments at other institutions will be negligible. The one exception may be the small satellite MAT teacher licensure program offered by George Fox University at one of the Redmond high schools.

OSU-Cascades has two majors that will be impacted by the Elementary Education program. The existing MAT program anticipates a potential decrease in applicants since students will have an option to completing Elementary Education licensure at the undergraduate level. The other program is the BS in Human Development and Family Sciences program. This program has traditionally been an undergraduate pathway that leads to the MAT degree program.

4. *What new resources will be needed initially and on a recurring basis to implement the program? How will the institution provide these resources? What efficiencies or revenue enhancements are achieved with this program, including consolidation or elimination of programs over time, if any?*

[Note: OSU-Cascades budgets are supported by E&G funds allocated by the Legislature directly to OSU-Cascades.]

The current staff is sufficient to meet enrollments of 25 to 30 students in a cohort. One Assistant Professor (tenure track) will be hired in Year 2, one instructor will be hired in Year 3, along with the need to hire part-time faculty to teach four sections of courses.

Existing classroom facilities are adequate to support the Elementary Education program in addition to the existing MAT degree program. The existing library resources were judged to be satisfactory.

All appropriate University committees and councils, Faculty Senate, the OSU Board of Trustees, and the Statewide Provosts' Council have positively reviewed the proposed program.

Recommendation to the Commission

The Statewide Provosts' Council recommends that the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission authorize Oregon State University to establish an instructional program leading to a BS in Elementary Education, effective Fall Term 2018.