Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, Emma Eccles
Jones College of Education and Human Services, July 17, 2019

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# Changes to Existing Academic Program Proposal
## Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Submitting Request:</th>
<th>Utah State University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Program Title:** | K-6;  
Dual K-6/Special Education  
Birth to 5;  
Dual K-6/Special Education  
Mild/Moderate;  
Dual K-6/Special Education  
Severe |
| **Sponsoring School, College, or Division:** | Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services |
| **Sponsoring Academic Department(s) or Unit(s):** | School of Teacher Education and Leadership |
| **Classification of Instruction Program Code:** | 13.1202; 13.1015; 13.1017  
13.1017 applies to Mild/Moderate |
| **Min/Max Credit Hours for Full Program Required:** | Min Cr Hr / Max Cr Hr  
Min Cr Hr / Max Cr Hr |
| **Proposed Effective Term for Program Change:** | Spring 2020 |
| **Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:** | |
| **Award Type:** | BS |
| **Program Change Type (check all that apply):** | |

- [ ] Name Change of Existing Program
- [ ] Program Restructure with or without Consolidation
- [ ] Program Transfer to a new academic department or unit
- [ ] Program Suspension
- [ ] Program Discontinuation
- [ ] Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
- [ ] Out of Service Area Delivery Program

**Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:**

I, the Chief Academic Officer or Designee, certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Please type your first and last name ________________ Date: ________________

I understand that checking this box constitutes my legal signature.

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2 “Proposed Effective Term” refers to term when change to program is published. For Suspensions and Discontinuations, “effective term” refers to the term the program will suspend admissions.
Program Change Description - Abbreviated Template

Section I: The Request

Utah State University requests approval to discontinue K-6;
Dual K-6/Special Education Birth to 5;
Dual K-6/Special Education Mild/Moderate;
Dual K-6/Special Education Severe effective Spring 2020. This action was approved by the institutional Board of Trustees on .

Section II: Program Proposal

Program Change Description/Rationale

Present a brief program change description. Describe the institutional procedures used to arrive at a decision for the change. Briefly indicate why such a change should be initiated. State how the institution and the USHE benefit by the change.

All K-6 degree programs leading to teacher licensure are to be discontinued. The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) revised its rules concerning teacher licensure. This new rule becomes effective in January 2020. Faculty of the School of Teacher Education and Leadership discussed the rule change and determined that it would be necessary to discontinue the four K-6 options to comply with the new rule.

1. K-6 - This program resulted in licensure to teach kindergarten through grade six.
2. Dual K-6/Special Education - Birth to 5 - This program resulted in licensure to teach regular education grades kindergarten through grade six and to teach special education birth through age five.
3. Dual K-6/Special Education - Mild/Moderate Specialization - This program resulted in licensure to teach regular education grades kindergarten through grade six and special education K-12 mild/moderate.
4. Dual K-6/Special Education - Significant Cognitive Disabilities Specialization - This program resulted in licensure to teach regular education grades kindergarten through grade six and special education K-12 severe.

Licensure options in the new rule include early childhood education and elementary education, as well as the special education categories such as Birth to 5, Mild/Moderate, and Severe. Degree options at Utah State University already exist for these licensure areas singly and in combination. For example, students will still be able to earn a license in Elementary Education or Elementary Education/Mild/Moderate. Only the K-6 option is being discontinued.

Utah State University (USU) benefits by bringing its degree options in line with the rule. This also streamlines the offerings for a Bachelor's degree within the School of Teacher Education and Leadership (TEAL), which simplifies the decision for students as to what their licensure choice will be.

Consistency with Institutional Mission/Institutional Impact

Explain how the action is consistent with the institution's Regent-approved mission, roles, and goals. Institutional mission and roles may be found at higheredutah.org/policies/policyr312/. Indicate if the program will be delivered outside of designated service area; provide justification. Service areas are defined in higheredutah.org/policies/policyr315/. Will faculty or staff structures be impacted by the proposed change?

This action is consistent with USU's mission of "serving the public." USBE changed its rule to streamline the licensure process specifically in response to the current teacher shortage. By aligning with the rule, TEAL better serves its students when they complete their programs and apply for teacher licensure. Faculty and staff structures will not be impacted by this change as other licensure options in elementary education, early childhood education, and dual or composite degrees with special education and deaf education will continue.
**Impact of Discontinuation**

*Indicate the statewide impact of discontinuing this program. Explain how currently admitted students may complete the program within a reasonable period of time compatible with accreditation standards either through either (1) enrollment of students at other institutions of higher education; or (2) courses being taught for a maximum of two years after discontinuation of the program or until no admitted students remain who are entitled to complete the program, whichever comes first.*

USBE hopes that streamlining the licensure rule will lead to more individuals being able to take advantage of various routes to licensure, thus ameliorating the current teacher shortage. TEAL faculty support this change and will continue to be active in providing multiple options to students on the Logan campus and at regional campuses and centers to achieve teacher licensure. Students currently completing K-6 majors will be able to finish under their current program of study as all courses needed for these majors will continue to be offered because they are also required in the remaining licensure options.

**Finances**

*What costs or savings are anticipated from this change? If new funds are required to implement the change, indicate expected sources of funds. Describe any budgetary impact on other programs or units within the institution.*

No new costs or savings are anticipated as new students will be directed to other majors that remain. Enrollment levels will be maintained and, potentially, increased.