**Pittsburg State University**

**Early Childhood Unified: Birth - Kindergarten**

**Program Approval**

**I. General Information**

**A. Institution** Pittsburg State University

**B*.* Program Identification**

Degree Level: Bachelor’s

Program Title: Family & Consumer Sciences

Degree to be Offered: B.S.E. - Early Childhood Unified: Birth - Kindergarten

Responsible Department or Unit: College of Arts & Sciences, Family & Consumer Sciences

CIP Code: 13.1209

Modality: Face-to-Face

Proposed Implementation Date: Fall 2020

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours for the Degree: 120

**II. Clinical Sites:** Does this program require the use of Clinical Sites? No

The university has memorandums of understanding with public schools in the Southeast Kansas area and two connecting states for the placement of students for field experiences. We use accredited early education and care facilities including the on-campus PSU Early Childhood Preschool Laboratory on campus which will serve as the primary location for students’ clinical hours. Additional field experience hours are located in area Kindergarten programs through working with the PSU College of Education Teacher Education program.

**III. Justification**

This program will replace an existing program. Pittsburg State University has offered the Early Childhood Unified: Birth through Third Grade degree and teaching license since 2007. It has been a collaborative program offered by the Department of Teaching and Learning and the Family & Consumer Sciences – Child Development program. The PSU College of Education Teaching and Learning department has, with the introduction of the new Elementary Unified degree, selected to no longer offer the ECU: Birth – Third Grade degree. It has been the intention for many years for the Family and Consumer Sciences department to offer the Early Childhood Unified: Birth through Kindergarten degree. With the discontinuation of the Birth – Third Grade degree and the support of the College of Education, the time is right to begin this program.

The ECU: Birth – Kindergarten program will fill the hole created by the ending of the ECU: Birth – Third Grade program. It will capitalize on the strengths of our existing Child Development program and continue the collaboration between the two departments, but with the primary leadership shifting now to Family & Consumer Sciences. This program will run parallel to the Child Development program which is a concentration under the Family & Consumer Sciences major. The graduates of the child development program are employed in programs such as Head Start and community early childhood programs which do not require licensure.

The ECU: Birth – Kindergarten program will include courses from the Child Development program that currently exist and the courses in the existing Early Childhood Special Education minor. We also include Teacher Education courses needed for the license. This degree will now open the full range of employment options to our students including four-year-old at-risk preschool programs.

**IV. Program Demand:** Select one or both of the following to address student demand:

**A. Survey of Student Interest**

Number of surveys administered: ……………… \_\_40\_\_

Number of completed surveys returned: ………. \_\_36\_\_

Percentage of students interested in program: … \_\_50%\_\_

Over the past five years we have surveyed our students regularly about their interest in the department pursuing the Early Childhood Unified: Birth – Kindergarten program. Overall the results have been consistent with the results above in that about 50% have indicated an interest in the program. We have also surveyed those students in the old Early Childhood Unified: Birth – Third Grade program and the results indicated that about 50% would have an interest in the ECU: Birth – Kindergarten program if it were offered. Additionally, about 50% of our Child Development graduates have indicated an interest in the ECU: Birth – Kindergarten program to add to their credentialing.

**B. Market Analysis**

With the discontinuation of the ECU: Birth – Third Grade there is a gap in licensure programs in southeast Kansas for preparing these professionals. This program will address that need. The Occupational Outlook Handbook identifies that the early childhood professional job outlook is growing faster than average with an increase of jobs at 7%. That does not even consider that more school districts are expanding their early childhood programming as the P – 20 (public education covering preschool through college with attention to smoothing out transitions) philosophy of education is seeing more adoption. Because this is a unified degree (meaning that it includes Early Childhood Special Education) there is a greater demand for individuals with this educational preparation. Early childhood experiences lay the foundation for a child’s future academic success. The three markers of high-quality early childhood programs are a high level of educational preparation by the teachers, low staff turnover and high levels of teacher pay. Providing teachers with this level of preparation to teach significantly impacts the growth of high-quality early childhood programs in the state.

The programs currently approved by the Kansas State Department of Education to offer the Early Childhood Unified: Birth – Kindergarten license are Kansas State University and the University of Kansas. Emporia State University offers this license but only at the graduate level. Pittsburg State’s program has been approved but it is awaiting final Board of Regents’ approval. The program at Pittsburg State University also serves the region including Southwest Missouri, Northwest Arkansas and Northeast Oklahoma. There are no other comparable programs in those areas.

**V. Projected Enrollment for the Initial Three Years of the Program**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | Headcount Per Year | | Sem Credit Hours Per Year | |
|  | Full- Time | Part- Time | Full- Time | Part- Time |
| Implementation | 10 | 0 | 310 | 0 |
| Year 2 | 10 | 0 | 620 | 0 |
| Year 3 | 10 | 0 | 930 | 0 |

**VI. Employment**

This program prepares professionals to meet the learning and developmental needs of all infant, toddler, preschool and kindergarten-age children, including those at-risk for and with disabilities. This is done through an interdisciplinary approach that integrates developmentally appropriate child development, early education and early childhood special education strategies for young children and their families.

The program content knowledge and performance goals are aligned with the Kansas Teacher Licensure Standards for the ECU: Birth though Kindergarten (age 6) content area and the professional education standards. The proposed program was submitted to the Kansas State Department of Education for review and was approved as a program during the Spring 2019 review.

Students graduating with this degree will be able to work in programs serving infants through kindergarten that require a teaching license. From the KSDE document “Who Can I Hire as a Teacher/Early Interventionist?” (March 2015) those with the ECU: Birth – K degree can be hired in Parents-As-Teachers, State Pre-K (4 year old at risk) classroom teachers, Kansas Preschool Program classroom teachers, Early Childhood Special Education, and Kindergarten classroom teachers. They will also be able to work in programs that do not require licensure.

**VII. Admission and Curriculum**

1. **Admission Criteria**

Admittance to Teacher Education by applying and having met the following academic standards.

1. Cumulative GPA = 2.80
2. In-Major GPA = 3.00 with no grade below a “C”
3. Completion of All courses listed under Family & Consumer Sciences, Education, Psychology & Lab Experiences.
4. Completion of a minimum of 100 credit hours.
5. A grade of “C” or higher in 1. FCS 285: Lifespan Human Development; 2. PSYCH 357: Educational Psychology; 3. FCS 390: Interacting with Children & FCS 391: Practicum (preschool lab)
6. At least 6 hours of resident credit at Pittsburg State University.
7. **Curriculum**

**Year 1: Fall SCH = Semester Credit Hours**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course #** | **Course Name** | **SCH….** |
| UGS 150 | Gorilla Gateway | 2 |
| FCS 100 | Career Management in FCS | 1 |
| ENGL 101 | English Composition | 3 |
| WGS 200 | Introduction to Women’s Studies | 3 |
| MATH 204 | Math for Education I | 3 |
| PSYCH 155 | General Psychology | 3 |
|  |  | 15 |

**Year 1: Spring**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course #** | **Course Name** | **SCH….** |
| SOC 100 | Intro to Sociology | 3 |
| COMM 207 | Speech Communication | 3 |
| FCS 285 | Lifespan Human Development | 3 |
| ART 311 | Art Education | 3 |
| HHP 150 | Lifetime Fitness | 1 |
| MUSIC 140 | Children’s Music or EDUC 321 Methods of Creative Expression | 3 |
|  |  | 16 |

**Year 2: Fall**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course #** | **Course Name** | **SCH….** |
| FCS 290 | Introduction and Overview of Childhood Programs | 3 |
| BIO 113 | Environmental Life Science | 4 |
| FCS 230 | Consumer Education and Personal Finance | 3 |
| ENGL 299 | Introduction to Research Writing | 3 |
|  | Elective | 3 |
|  |  | 16 |

**Year 2: Spring**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course #** | **Course Name** | **SCH….** |
| EDUC 261 | Explorations in Education | 3 |
| FCS 203 | Nutrition & Health | 3 |
| FCS 390 | Interacting with Children | 3 |
| FCS 391 | Practicum (preschool lab) | 1 |
| HHP 260 | First Aid/CPR | 2 |
|  | Elective | 3 |
|  |  | 15 |

**Year 3: Fall**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course #** | **Course Name** | **SCH….** |
| EDTH 3300 | Technology for the Classroom | 3 |
| FCS 490 | Developmental Planning | 3 |
| FCS 491 | Preschool Lab | 1 |
| FCS 590 | Development of the Child: Birth – Age 8 | 3 |
| SPED 450 | Methods Preschoolers with Disabilities | 2 |
|  | Elective | 3 |
|  |  | 15 |

**Year 3: Spring**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course #** | **Course Name** | **SCH….** |
| EDUC 322 | Early Literature/Language Development | 2 |
| EDUC 323 | Literature for Young Children | 1 |
| FCS 392 | Infant/Toddler Development | 3 |
| FCS 591 | Supervised Student teaching - Preschool | 5 |
| SPED 350 | Methods Infant/Toddlers with Disabilities | 2 |
| SPED 511 | Overview of SPED, Birth – 6th Grade | 3 |
|  |  | 16 |

**Year 4: Fall**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course #** | **Course Name** | **SCH….** |
| EDUC 307 | Clinical Experience | 1 |
| FCS 470 | Professional & Social Skills | 3 |
| EDUC 366 | Primary English Lang Arts W/Practicum | 4 |
| FCS 480 | Dynamics of Family Relationships | 3 |
| PSYC 357 | Educational Psychology | 3 |
|  |  | 14 |

**Year 4: Spring**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course #** | **Course Name** | **SCH….** |
| SPED 560 | Assessment of Young Children | 3 |
| EDUC 464 | Foundations of Measurement & Evaluation | 3 |
| FCS 690 | Parent/Professional Relationships | 3 |
| EDUC 345 | TP: Internship-Kindergarten | 3 |
| FCS 572 | Senior Seminar | 1 |
|  |  | 13 |

**Total Number of Semester Credit Hours ………………………………………………………. 120**

**VIII. Core Faculty**

Note: \* Next to Faculty Name Denotes Director of the Program, if applicable

FTE: 1.0 FTE = Full-Time Equivalency Devoted to Program

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Faculty Name** | **Rank** | **Highest Degree** | **Tenure Track Y/N** | **Academic Area of Specialization** | **FTE to Proposed Program** |
| \*Amber Tankersley | Associate Professor | Ph.D. | Y | Early Childhood Education | .25 |
| Duane Whitbeck | Professor | Ed.D | Y | Child Development/ Early Education | .1 |
| Kari Cronister | Instructor | M.S. | N | Child Development | .25 |
| Shawnee Hendershot | Assistant Professor | Ph.D | Y | Child Development | .25 |
| Marti York | Associate Professor | Ed.D | Y | Early Childhood Special Education | .25 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

Number of graduate assistants assigned to this program  **…………………………………………. 0**

**IX. Expenditure and Funding Sources** *(List amounts in dollars. Provide explanations as necessary.)*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A. EXPENDITURES** | First FY | Second FY | Third FY |
| **Personnel – Reassigned or Existing Positions** |  | | |
| Faculty | $52,221 | $53,264 | $54,331 |
| Administrators *(other than instruction time)* | $10,800 | $11,124 | $11,457 |
| Graduate Assistants | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Support Staff for Administration (*e.g., secretarial*) | $3,584 | $3,691 | $3,802 |
| Fringe Benefits *(total for all groups)* | $12,282 | $12,554 | $12,834 |
| Other Personnel Costs |  |  |  |
| ***Total Existing Personnel Costs – Reassigned or Existing*** | $78,887 | $80,633 | $82,424 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Personnel – New Positions** |  | | |
| Faculty |  |  |  |
| Administrators *(other than instruction time)* |  |  |  |
| Graduate Assistants |  |  |  |
| Support Staff for Administration (*e.g., secretarial*) |  |  |  |
| Fringe Benefits *(total for all groups)* |  |  |  |
| Other Personnel Costs |  |  |  |
| ***Total Existing Personnel Costs – New Positions*** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Start-up Costs - One-Time Expenses** |  |  |  |
| Library/learning resources |  |  |  |
| Equipment/Technology |  |  |  |
| Physical Facilities: Construction or Renovation |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |
| ***Total Start-up Costs*** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Operating Costs – Recurring Expenses** |  |  |  |
| Supplies/Expenses | $500 | $500 | $500 |
| Library/learning resources |  |  |  |
| Equipment/Technology |  |  |  |
| Travel | $1,000 | $1,000 | $1,000 |
| Other |  |  |  |
| ***Total Operating Costs*** | $1,500 | $1,500 | $1,500 |
|  |  |  |  |
| ***GRAND TOTAL COSTS*** | $80,387 | $82,133 | $83,924 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **B. FUNDING SOURCES**  *(projected as appropriate)* | Current | First FY  (New) | Second FY  (New) | Third FY  (New) |
| Tuition / State Funds |  | $73,380 | $150,440 | $231,300 |
| Student Fees |  |  |  |  |
| Other Sources |  |  |  |  |
| ***GRAND TOTAL FUNDING*** |  | $73,380 | $150,440 | $231,300 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. **Projected Surplus/Deficit (+/-)**   (Grand Total Funding *minus* Grand Total Costs) |  | -$7,007 | $68,307 | $147,376 |

**X. Expenditures and Funding Sources Explanations**

**A. Expenditures**

**Personnel – Reassigned or Existing Positions**

All faculty are currently employed by the department of Family & Consumer Sciences or the department of Teaching and Learning at Pittsburg State University. Because all of the courses are currently being taught and they are taken by students in other programs, by including these students in the courses, it will replace those lost through the discontinuation of the ECU: Birth – Third Grade programs and will maximize the current capacity of each course. Therefore, there is not an increased percent of faculty time other than the increase in students enrolled in the courses.

**Personnel – New Positions**

None

**Start-up Costs – One-Time Expenses**

None

**Operating Costs – Recurring Expenses**

None

**B. Revenue:** **Funding Sources**

Funding for the program will be through tuition and student fees. Calculations were made by multiplying credit hours by tuition.

Calculations

Student Credit Hours

YR1: 10 students x 31 credit hours= 310 credit hours

YR2: 10 students x 31 credit hours= 310 credit hours

10 students x 31 credit hours= 310 credit hours

620 credit hours

YR3: 10 students x 31 credit hours= 310 credit hours

10 students x 31 credit hours= 310 credit hours

10 students x 31 credit hours= 310 credit hours

930 credit hours

Tuition/Fees

YR1: 10 students @ full time rate ($3669) x 2 semesters = $73,380

YR2: 20 student @ full time rate ($3761- 2.5% increase) x 2 semesters = $150,440

YR3: 30 students @ full time rate ($3855 – 2.5% increase) X 2 semesters = $231,300

1. **Projected Surplus/Deficit**

There are no new expenses for this degree as our listed faculty are currently already teaching the courses listed for this degree. The estimated expenses do not necessarily reflect “new expenses”. Therefore, any new students to the university who enroll in this degree would generate additional surplus revenue.

**XI. References**

Bureau of Labor Occupational Outlook Handbook, Preschool Teachers. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/education-training-and-library/preschool-teachers.htm>

Who can I Hire as a Teacher / Early Interventionist. (2015). Early Childhood, Special Education and Title Services, Kansas State Department of Education.