



ACADEMIC ALERT #2005-1

DATE: February 2005
DECISION: National College of Education (NCE)

New Subsequent Certification Program (not a degree program)

Rationale

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) ceased offering subsequent certificates by transcript evaluation effective December 31, 2004. Areas include Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Secondary Education, and Special Education. Therefore, teachers who wish to add certification thereafter have to seek a university sponsored program.

By adding the Subsequent Certification Program, NLU is poised to capture this market. Teachers interested in adding certification include: MAT graduates who wish to add a second certification area; former teachers returning to the workforce who wish to upgrade their credentials, middle school teachers who wish to teach high school; educators who want to make themselves more marketable by adding certification in the growing areas of special education and early childhood education; and educators certified in a specialized field like early childhood education who desire to make themselves more marketable by adding a more general certificate.

NCE Curriculum Council Approval: November 3, 2004
Senate Academic Planning Committee Approval: December 16, 2004
Faculty Senate Approval: January 19, 2005

Program Authorizations: The Early Childhood, Elementary, Secondary and Special Education programs are authorized to be offered in the following Illinois regions: Chicago; North Suburban; West Suburban; South Metropolitan; Fox Valley; Western; Central; and Prairie.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately for Marketing and Recruitment; First Students for Spring 2005

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SIGNATURE

Carol R. Melnick, Ph.D.
Vice Provost

Admission Requirements

Candidates must meet the same admission requirements as those established for NCE's MAT programs and must hold current Illinois initial or standard certification. All applicants must pass the Illinois Content Area test in the area of subsequent certification prior to admission and teachers who were certified prior to July 1, 1988 must pass the Illinois Test of Basic Skills prior to admission. Applicants will indicate the area of subsequent certification by checking the appropriate box under the "Subsequent Certification" section of the application for admission. Successful candidates will be admitted as non-degree seeking students.

Course Requirements

Minimum Required Hours for Subsequent Certification: 7 SH

Course Code	Course Title	Semester Hours
ECE569 ELE569 SEC569 SPE569	Portfolio Development for Subsequent Certification	4
ECE575 ELE575 SEC575 SPE575	Subsequent Certification Practicum	3-6

Additional Requirements for Subsequent Certification

The total hours required for each candidate depends upon his/her background and experience documented in the electronic portfolio. For example, an elementary teacher seeking a secondary certificate may be required to take up to 24 to 32 hours in a specialization content area, plus other courses before enrolling in the Subsequent Certification Program Practicum. This program of study is drawn from regularly scheduled courses presented by that department or related departments. At the conclusion of the practicum, students will be recommended to the Illinois State Board of Education for certification in the area of program focus. The Subsequent Certificate Program confers no degree.

Implementation

Subsequent Certification Program students must be admitted in a way that will not create a discrepancy with NCE enrollment and retention data.

All Subsequent Certification Program documentation and marketing materials must clearly state that students will take a minimum of 7 semester hours in the Subsequent Certification Program. It must be clear to students that the 7 semester hours are a minimum and most students will be required to take courses beyond the minimum of 7 semester hours for subsequent certification.

Changes need to be made for the next catalog, 2005-2006. The catalog copy has to be rewritten as soon as this academic alert is posted, and submitted to the Office of the Registrar and Office of the Provost. A decision needs to be made where in the catalog the information will appear, since 4 programs are involved.

Changes need to be made in Banner.

Early childhood, elementary, secondary and special education faculty, Offices of the Registrar, Admissions, and staff in Enrollment, Marketing, and Recruitment need to be knowledgeable about these changes and updates.