

Board Meeting  
January 16, 2020

ESTABLISH THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION,  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, SPRINGFIELD

**Action:** Establish the Bachelor of Arts in Middle Grades Education, College of Education and Human Services

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Springfield, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Springfield Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Education and Human Services to establish the Bachelor of Arts in Middle Grades Education.

The proposed Bachelor of Arts in Middle Grades Education is the direct result of a new requirement by the Illinois State Board of Education that all teacher-preparation programs in Illinois redesign their curricula to meet new standards and regulatory requirements that mandate middle-grade teachers complete a stand-alone middle-grade degree program that includes a content-specific middle-grade methods course.

The proposed Middle Grades Education degree program combines an Education major with the concurrent completion of a minor in one or more appropriate content areas, such as English or Mathematics. Students will be encouraged to complete two minors or a double major to obtain more than one endorsement, as the ability to teach

multiple subjects increases employability. The new degree program, which will not require any new faculty resources, will be offered in a blended format of both on-ground and online course offerings.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.