Approved by the Board of Trustees

May 16, 2024

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Board Meeting

May 16, 2024

ELIMINATE THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND THE GRADUATE COLLEGE, URBANA

**Action:** Eliminate the Master of Science in Special Education, College of Education and the Graduate College

**Funding:** No new funding required

The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate, recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Education and the Graduate College to eliminate the Master of Science in Special Education.

The Master of Science in Special Education (MS in SPED) has not had enrollment for several semesters. Students interested in graduate-level work in this area instead enroll in the Master of Education in Special Education (EdM in SPED). The College of Education voted in January 2024 to deactivate the MS in SPED due to low enrollment, as the EdM in SPED serves students and maintaining two graduate-level programs in special education has become redundant. There is no current enrollment in the MS in SPED, and the most recent enrollment activity was two students in fall 2019. Both of those students switched to the EdM program and have graduated.

There is no impact on funding, faculty and staff resources, facilities, or equipment as all are utilized and active in the EdM in SPED.

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 of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.