

**DATE:** July 24, 2008

**SUBJECT:** University of Tennessee Chattanooga, Bachelor of Science in Education with a major in Early Childhood with two concentrations: (1) Child and Family Studies and (2) Early Childhood Education

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The proposed B.S. in Early Childhood has existed as a concentration under the B.S. in Human Ecology since 1990. The program currently enrolls over 400 students. The purpose of converting the concentration to a free-standing degree is to accurately denote early childhood as the field of study. The B.S. in Human Ecology will be terminated concurrent with the changed status of the early childhood program. No programmatic changes are proposed; no additional resources are required. Students pursuing licensure will elect the Early Childhood Education concentration; those who do not will elect the Child and Family Studies option.

**PROPOSED START-UP DATE:** Fall 2008

**1.1.20A MISSION:** The purpose of the program is to prepare graduates for employment in schools and in the field of child and family studies.

**1.1.20B CURRICULUM:** Students must complete the required 120 semester credit hours including a general education core, a concentration core, and, for the Early Childhood Education concentration, all State licensure requirements. No new courses will be added with the change in status from concentration to free-standing degree.

**1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS:** To be admitted to the program, a student must file a formal application, earn a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA in prior undergraduate work and a minimum 2.5 on all courses taken at UTC. A student must maintain a minimum 2.5 in education courses with no grade lower than a "C," score at or above the Tennessee Board of Education-set PRAXIS I test minimum, complete an interview with the Teacher Education Program committee, and receive a positive recommendation. To persist to graduation, Early Childhood Education track students must meet all requirements at every level set by the institution, the State, and school systems in which students complete field placements.

**Projected Program Enrollment and Productivity:** Enrollment is actual for 06-07 and 07-08; number of graduates for 06-07 is actual.

Year	Fall F-T Headcount	Fall P-T Headcount	Fall FTE	Graduates
06-07	402	59	418.1	101
07-08	389	43	406.3	103
08-09	395	45	410	105
09-10	400	48	412	107
10-11	405	50	414	109

**1.1.20D FACULTY:** Seventeen (17) FTE faculty currently support the program. No additional faculty are needed.

**1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES:** Library resources are adequate.

**1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION:** The program will remain housed in the Teacher Preparation Academy within the College of Health, Education, and Professional Studies.

**1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES:** Support resources are adequate.

**1.1.20H STUDENT/EMPLOYER DEMANDS:** Enrollment in the program has remained steady and is expected to continue at the same relative levels.

**1.1.20I COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS:** N/A

**1.1.20J ACCREDITATION/EVALUATION:** The Early Childhood Education program is accredited through the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), with the next NCATE review scheduled for 2012.

**1.1.20K COST/BENEFIT/SOURCE:** No new costs are projected.

**1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING:** An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first five years following approval. The review will be based on benchmarks established in the approved program proposal. At the end of this period, campus, governing board, and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. The benchmarks include, but are not limited to, enrollment and graduation, program cost, progress toward accreditation, library acquisitions, student performance, and others set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. As a result of this evaluation, if benchmarks are not met during the monitoring period, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. The Commission may choose to extend the period, if additional time is needed and requested by the governing board.