

**PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION TO THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EARLY AND
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors change the name of the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Elementary Education to Bachelor of Science (BS) in Early and Elementary Education, effective fall term, 2022.

Background

Description of the Current Program: In the current program, an elementary certification (for which our program is named) certifies a teacher to teach grades K-5 (all subjects) and 6-8 (non-departmentalized), with the option of adding on an early childhood (birth-age 8) endorsement. The early childhood endorsement can only be added to an elementary program and cannot stand alone at the undergraduate level for certification. Undergraduate students graduate with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, generally take positions as classroom teachers.

Rationale for Change and Description: The Michigan Department of Education has changed the parameters for teacher certification. In the revised structure, students can be certified birth-kindergarten, pre-kindergarten-third grade, third grade-sixth grade. The birth-kindergarten band covers many years that do not fall under "elementary" (typically grades kindergarten-five), and thus it is necessary to signal this option in the program name.

Approvals

The proposal was approved by the faculty of the Division of Teacher Education, the Dean of the College of Education, and the Provost.