

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

Multi-Age (PK-12) Foreign Language License: Chinese

RECOMMENDATION

This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a program leading to the Multi-Age (PK-12) License in Foreign Language: Chinese Language Teaching. No concerns were identified in the review. Approval is recommended until the next national accreditation visit. It should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio licensure continue to be met.

Profile: The University of Akron (UA) is a public, non-profit university established in 1870 as Buchtel College in Akron, Ohio. The University of Akron has more than 25,000 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 300 programs.

Accreditation/Authorization: The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) regionally accredits the institution. The University of Akron is HLC accredited until its next scheduled review in 2013. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredits the University of Akron's educator preparation programs at the initial and advanced level. The next accreditation review is scheduled for 2016.

Request: The University of Akron requests approval for a Chinese Language Teaching specialization at the graduate level. The specialized program leads to the Multi-Age License: Foreign Language.

Background: The University of Akron offers multiple majors in preK-12 education leading to a provisional licensure in Ohio and graduate programs in many areas of specialization. The University of Akron is submitting its request to ensure alignment of the current program with national standards and Ohio standards and requirements.

The specialization in Chinese Language Teaching is designed to provide an opportunity for fluent speakers of Chinese with an approved bachelor's degree (BA or BS) to learn pedagogical skills appropriate for PK-12 classroom instruction and the Ohio Multi-Age License in Foreign Language. Students are required to gain admission to UA's graduate school as a condition of admission. The program is a 12-month intensive program for 27 graduate credits, including a field experience and courses specifically focused on the use of technology in teaching foreign languages. The University of Akron originally delivered the program on a pilot basis funded through grants by the Ohio Department of Education. The University of Akron is now requesting approval of the program on an ongoing basis.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a multi-age license in foreign language. There were no concerns identified in the review. Approval is recommended for three years, until the next national accreditation visit. In addition, it should

be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio licensure continue to be met.

End of Comment Period: April 15, 2011
No comments received, recommend approval

RECOMMENDATION

The Office of Academic Quality Assurance has verified that this institution has met the standards and requirements of the Ohio Board of Regents and any applicable standards and requirements established by the Ohio State Board of Education.

Shye Howen *May 4, 2011*

Signature Date

APPROVED

Jim Petro *5-6-11*

Jim Petro, Chancellor Date

mlc