



Office of the Provost and
Vice President for Academic Affairs

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**EXTENSION OF AN EXISTING PROGRAM NOTIFICATION OF INTENT
(LOCATION NOI)**

Program Information

Program Name: Secondary Education MIT Program

Institution Name: Western Washington University

Degree Granting Unit: Woodring College of Education

Degree: MIT Level: Master Type: Teaching

Major: Secondary Education CIP Code: 13.1205

Minor: N/A Concentration(s): N/A

Proposed Start Date: June 23, 2009

Projected Enrollment (FTE) in Year One: 15 At Full Enrollment by Year: 2010: 30
(# FTE) (# FTE)

Proposed New Funding: N/A

Funding Source: State FTE Self Support Other

Mode of Delivery / Locations

Delivery Mechanisms: Face to face course delivery by onsite instructors

Single Campus Delivery: University Center of North Puget Sound at Everett Community College (EvCC)

Off Site (Enter Locations): N/A

Distance Learning: N/A

Scheduling

Day Classes Evening Classes
 Weekend Classes Other (describe)

Attendance Options

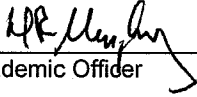
Fulltime Part-time

Substantive Statement of Need

See Attached

Contact Information (Academic Department Representative)

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Endorsement by Chief Academic Officer

Date

Substantive Statement of Need

Background

The Western Washington University Secondary Education MIT program is designed for students who hold a baccalaureate degree in an endorsable subject area and wish to earn Washington State teacher certification to teach middle and/or high school. Consistent with state and national standards for what teachers should know and be able to do, the degree program combines undergraduate preparation in the subject area with graduate level teacher certification course work supported by current research on effective teaching and learning.

The program is currently delivered by Woodring College of Education on the main campus in Bellingham and at the WWU Seattle Center location on the North Seattle Community College (NSCC) campus. Although the Bellingham location is flourishing with a 10.8% net increase in program completers since AY 2004-05, the self-sustaining NSCC location has experienced gradually declining enrollments and is no longer economically viable as a self-sustaining program in the over-saturated Seattle market. The NSCC location will be discontinued at the end of summer quarter 2010 when all currently enrolled students have completed their program.

Woodring College of Education currently offers various programs at the WWU Everett Center including baccalaureate degrees in elementary education (special education major) and in human services, elementary education post-baccalaureate teacher certification, and a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling, through the University Center of North Puget Sound located at Everett Community College (EvCC).

Proposal and Benefits

Termination of the NSCC program location provides an opportunity to shift our focus to the growing Snohomish County population and respond to student, employer and community demands for middle and high school teachers.¹ We propose to extend the state-funded Secondary Education MIT program to the University Center of North Puget Sound at EvCC utilizing established instructional facilities and infrastructure, a seasoned program director and graduate advisor, and a cadre of well-qualified instructors drawn in part from the discontinued NSCC location. Marketing and recruitment will target candidates with baccalaureate degrees in teacher shortage areas of mathematics and science, and in the subject areas of English and social studies. A summary of benefits is provided below.

- **Preparation of highly qualified middle and high school teachers for regional, state and local markets.** Western Washington University is among the top producers of secondary teachers in Washington State. According to the most recent comparative data published by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (AY 2006-07), Western prepared the highest number of biology, chemistry, general science, and English language arts teachers; tied for the #1 producer of earth and space science teachers; and was the #2 producer of mathematics, physics, and social studies teachers.² Extension of the Secondary Education MIT program to the EvCC campus will allow Western to continue its contribution to the pipeline of secondary teachers in these content areas.
- **Focus on teacher shortage areas.** There is a considerable shortage in Washington State of teachers in the fields of mathematics, physics, and chemistry and some shortage in general science, biology and earth science.³ Marketing efforts are focused on recruiting future teachers in these shortage fields. Some applications will also be accepted from a large pool of candidates in the region with baccalaureate degrees in English and social studies.
- **Response to the higher education needs of Snohomish County and beyond.** Extensive research has been conducted on the higher education needs of Snohomish, Island and Skagit Counties (SIS). Legislative authorization for a new four-year higher education institution serving this area has not yet been taken, and the location has yet to be resolved. Regardless of the outcome, the need for the preparation of middle and high school teachers, particularly in mathematics and science, is well-

¹ Higher Education Coordinating Board, *State and Regional Needs Assessment Report*, 2006, pp. 58-59

² Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, *2006-2007 Certificates Issued and Certificated Personnel Placement Statistics*, 2007, pp. 16-17

³ Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, *Educator Supply and Demand in Washington State 2006 Report*, 2007, p.12

documented.⁴ Secondary teacher candidates in the SIS catchment area who complete a Western Washington University MIT program will develop the enhanced knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to support the learning of diverse K-12 students in core academic subjects.

Highlights

Candidate Qualifications. Program applicants must have a baccalaureate degree with content preparation in mathematics, science, English or social studies; an undergraduate grade point average of 3.0; a Graduate Record Examination combined minimum score of 1,000 on verbal and quantitative components and 4.5 on analytic writing, or 403 on the Miller Analogies Test; a passing score on the state-mandated Washington Educator Standards Test - Basic Skills test; and a strong score on an admission interview selection process consisting of a series of group tasks rated by observing faculty. Program retention requires maintenance of a 3.0 grade point average, progress on the development of a portfolio of evidence of meeting standards, and continued demonstration of professionalism defined by the Secondary Education Department Code of Ethics. Candidates demonstrate state teacher standards and endorsement competencies throughout their program and complete a fulltime semester-long student teacher internship followed by the master's research seminar capstone for the degree.

Program Model. In order to accommodate working professionals, course work will be delivered through evening classroom instruction at EvCC with the exception of field experiences and the fulltime student teaching internship, which are conducted in K-12 classrooms during the day. The program will be delivered on a cohort basis beginning summer quarter over a nine-quarter period, with the first cohort earning a teaching certificate in spring 2011 and the master's degree in summer 2011. The table below reflects enrollment and graduation projections.

Table 1: Enrollment and Graduation Targets

	Year 1 AY 2009-10	Year 2 AY 2010-11	Year 3 AY 2011-12	Year 4 AY 2012-13	Year 5 AY 2013-14
Headcount	15	30	30	30	30
FTE	15	30	30	30	30
Program Graduates	0	15	30	30	30

Summary

Western Washington University is a primary source of quality teachers for local and regional school districts and has been successfully delivering teacher certification programs at its Bellingham campus for over 100 years, and at outreach sites throughout Puget Sound for over 17 years. Delivery of the Secondary Education MIT program at University Center of North Puget Sound was officially endorsed by WWU President Bruce Shepard and EvCC President David Beyer with the signing of an expanded partnership agreement on December 10, 2008.

⁴ Higher Education Coordinating Board, *Assessment of the Higher Education Needs of Snohomish, Island and Skagit Counties Area*, 2006, pp. 9;13