

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION

PRESENTED BY: Kevin Flynn, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

DATE OF MEETING: October 20, 2016

SUBJECT: **Changes to Admissions Qualifications for the Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) program**

DECISION REQUESTED:

It is recommended:

That Council approve changes to admission qualifications for the Bachelor of Education (B. Ed.) 4-year program, effective for students who are entering the program in or after September 2017.

PURPOSE:

The *University of Saskatchewan Act* states that decisions regarding admission qualifications and enrolment quotas for university programs are to be approved by Council and confirmed by University Senate.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND:

The College of Education has proposed changes to its admissions requirements for students entering their 4-year, direct-entry program. For students applying directly from high school, the proposed changes allow for applicants to have deficiencies in two study areas as long as those deficiencies are remediated before such students proceed to the second year in the program. Previously, students were only permitted one deficiency in the required subject areas. The rationale for allowing deficiencies is to facilitate enrolment by students from other provinces whose graduation requirements might not align with admissions requirements to the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan.

The other change is for students entering the B.Ed. 4-year program with at least 18 credit units of transferable post-secondary work. Students in this admissions category will no longer require any specific high school prerequisites. The rationale for this change is that the completion of a minimum 18.c.u. of post-secondary work with a minimum average of 60% accounts for the high school prerequisites.

CONSULTATION:

The Academic Programs Committee of Council reviewed these proposed admissions changes at their September 14 and October 5, 2016 meetings. Committee members felt

that the change helped make the B.Ed. program at the U of S more competitive both in Saskatchewan and in Western Canada. The committee agreed with the proponent that the change for students entering the program with transferable post-secondary credits accounts appropriately for high school requirements.

University Senate was asked to confirm the decision in principle at their October 15, 2016 meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed changes to 2017-18 Admissions Requirements for the Bachelor of Education (B. Ed.) 4-year

Proposed Changes to 2017-2018 Admission Requirements

College: Education

Program(s): Bachelor of Education (B. ED.), 4 Year

Admission Qualifications:

- **Regular Admission – High School (less than 18 credit units of transferable post-secondary):**
 - Grade 12 standing or equivalent.
 - Minimum average of 70% on five-subject high school average (see Admission calculation and average April, 2004).
 - Proficiency in English.
 - **One prerequisite subject from each of the following subject areas*:**
 - **Natural Sciences:** Biology 30 or Chemistry 30 or Physics 30 or Earth Science 30 or Computer Science 30.
 - **Social Sciences:** History 30 or Social Studies 30 or Native Studies 30.
 - **Mathematics:** Foundations of Mathematics 30 or Pre-Calculus 30.
 - **Approved Second Language or Fine/Performing Art:** 30-level language (other than English) or 30-level Fine/Performing Art.

An applicant is permitted to be deficient in two of these subject areas. If admitted, students must clear any deficiencies before entering the second year of study.

- **Regular Admission – Post-secondary (18 credit units or more of transferable post-secondary) :**
 - Minimum average of 60% on 18 or more transferable credit units from a recognized and accredited post-secondary institution; average calculated on all attempted courses that are transferable to the University of Saskatchewan.
 - Proficiency in English.
 - **No high school prerequisites required.**
- **Special Mature Admission (less than 18 credit units of transferable post-secondary):**
 - Proof of age (21 or older).
 - A written submission demonstrating capacity to undertake university-level studies.
 - Transcripts of any secondary or postsecondary coursework.
 - Résumé.
 - Proficiency in English.