

ATT 18

**New Program Proposal  
Bachelor of Arts in Music Education  
University of South Carolina-Aiken**

**Summary**

USC-Aiken requests approval to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education, to be implemented in Fall 2004.

The proposal was submitted for Commission review on July 25, 2003. The proposal was reviewed without substantive comment and voted upon favorably by the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs at its meeting on October 8, 2003. The Board of Trustees is expected to approve the proposal on October 17, 2003.

The purpose of the program is to prepare graduates who will be eligible for music teacher certification for the K-12 schools. The need for the program is based on demand by districts for music teachers. Music is a critical need subject area as determined by the State Board of Education. In addition, the proposal indicates that in the 16 school districts served by USC-Aiken music teachers are recruited from outside the service area. Based on a 2002 survey by the University, there were 28 unfilled positions for music teachers in the service area. A survey of current USC-Aiken students who are concentrating in music in the B.A. degree program in Fine Arts indicates that ten of the 13 are interested in pursuing the proposed degree program.

The curriculum consists of 136-137 credit hours. Of these, 52 credits are in general education, seven credits are in pre-professional education, 23 credits are in professional education, 52-53 credits are in music, and two credits are in electives. Students are required to complete successfully an audition to qualify for initial acceptance into the program. The program is a shared program between the School of Education and the Department of Visual and Performing Arts.

The curriculum has been designed to meet State curriculum standards and the standards of the Music Educators National Conference. The curriculum was also reviewed by Dr. Lyle Merriman who is a consultant for the specialized accrediting agency, the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). Dr. Merriman's report found that "The curriculum is well designed with a good mix of general education, professional education and music courses. I am pleased to give a strong endorsement to your proposal." The program proposal compares the USC-Aiken curriculum to the music education curriculum of USC-Columbia, Winthrop University, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The proposed curriculum is similar in content to that offered by

accredited programs at these institutions. Sixteen new courses will be required for the proposed program.

Four public (Lander University, S.C. State University, University of S.C., and Winthrop University) and 14 private institutions offer bachelors degrees in music teacher education. The addition of the proposed program at USC-Aiken would appear to be a duplication of these programs; however, because music is a "critical needs" subject area, the duplication appears warranted.

USC-Aiken indicates that one new tenure tack faculty member will be hired in the second year of the program. This hire will be in music education with expertise in concert band and other instrumental ensembles. Four part-time faculty (2.0 FTE adjuncts) will be hired during the first five years of the proposed program. Adjuncts will be individuals with at least a master-level degree in music. There are currently seven full-time faculty in music and education who will serve the proposed program. Faculty serving the program will begin at 28 headcount (8 FTE) in FY 2004-05 and will increase to 32 headcount (11.5 FTE) in FY 2008-09.

Enrollment in the proposed program is estimated to begin at three headcount (2.2 FTE) in FY 2004-05 and increase to 18 headcount (13.2 FTE) in FY 2008-09. Estimates are based on the number of students in the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree (music concentration) who have expressed interest in matriculating into the proposed program. If enrollment projections are met, the program will meet the current CHE program productivity standards for enrollment, although the program projections suggest it will be a small program.

The proposed program will be required to seek accreditation from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education and the National Association of Schools of Music. The proposal indicates that the university will seek NASM accreditation in four years when there are graduates from the program. USC-Aiken will undergo its NCATE continuing accreditation visit in February 2004. The proposed program will not be reviewed during this cycle because of its newness and lack of graduates. The program will undergo review either during the next NCATE visit in five years or earlier if the university chooses to seek NASM accreditation in four years.

There are no physical plant requirements for the proposed program. Equipment needs are for musical equipment, software, and instrument storage estimated to cost \$22,900 over the program's first five years. The library support was reviewed during the NASM consultant's review of the proposed program and was deemed adequate. The University did not provide a quantitative analysis of holdings against national standards but indicated that the holdings are adequate for the existing music concentration in the Fine Arts program. However, the proposal indicates that there is a need to enhance the periodical/journal collection with titles in music education. There is no request for

additional library support and the University indicates that internal allocations from the current \$5,600 library budget will meet these costs.

New costs for the program are estimated to begin at \$15,740 in year one and include adjunct faculty salaries/fringe (\$3,240), equipment (\$9,000), marketing (\$500), and scholarships (\$3,000). Estimated costs increase to \$85,311 by year five and include faculty salaries/fringe (\$79,011, including one new faculty member hired in year two), equipment (\$3,300), supplies (\$2,000), travel (\$800), marketing (\$500), and scholarships (\$3,000). The total estimated new cost is \$343,442 for the program's first five years.

Shown below are the estimated Mission Resource Requirement (MRR) costs to the state and new costs not funded by the MRR associated with implementation of the proposed program for its first five years. Also shown are the estimated revenues projected under the MRR and the Resource Allocation Plan as well as student tuition.

Year	Estimated MRR Cost for Proposed Program	Extraordinary (Non-MRR) Costs for Proposed Program	Total Costs	State Appropriation	Tuition	Total Revenue
2004-05	\$19,219		<b>\$19,219</b>	\$0	12,727	<b>\$12,727</b>
2005-06	44,845		<b>44,845</b>	6,635	30,549	<b>37,184</b>
2006-07	83,283		<b>83,283</b>	15,516	55,494	<b>71,010</b>
2007-08	108,909		<b>108,909</b>	28,460	73,316	<b>101,776</b>
2008-09	115,315		<b>115,315</b>	37,341	77,389	<b>114,730</b>

These data demonstrate that if USC-Aiken can meet the projected student enrollments and contain costs as they are shown in the proposal, the program will not be able to cover new costs with revenues it generates by the fifth year of its implementation, although in year five it will come very close.

In summary, USC-Aiken will offer a bachelor's degree in Music Education that will allow students to obtain the content and pedagogy required for state certification as K-12 music teachers. The University is proposing to offer a program that will allow students to obtain teacher certification in a critical need subject teaching area. The S.C. Department of Education has been encouraging institutions to add programs and/or increase production of students in these critical need subject areas. The school districts in USC-Aiken's service area are in need of trained music teachers and will be able to hire many of the graduates of the proposed program.

## **Recommendation**

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve USC-Aiken's proposed program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education for implementation in Fall 2004, provided that no "unique cost" or other special State funding is requested or required.