

**New Program Proposal  
Masters of Arts in Teaching  
Middle Grades  
Concentrations in English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Science  
The Citadel and College of Charleston**

**Summary**

The Citadel and the College of Charleston request approval to offer jointly a program leading to a Masters of Arts in Teaching degree in Middle Grades with concentrations in English, mathematics, science, and social science, to be implemented Fall 2010. The program will be offered through traditional instruction on the campuses of The Citadel and the College of Charleston.

The Program Planning Summary was submitted by the College of Charleston to the Commission on November 30, 2006, and reviewed and voted upon favorably without substantive comment by the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs (ACAP) on January 17, 2007. In keeping with The Citadel's institutional practice, this new program proposal was presented for information to The Citadel Board of Visitors on September 19, 2008. The proposed program was approved by the College of Charleston's Board of Trustees on October 16, 2009. The final proposal was received by the Commission on August 14, 2009. The full proposal was reviewed and voted upon favorably without substantive comment by the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL) on December 3, 2009.

According to the proposal, the purpose of the program is to increase the number of middle school teachers to meet a critical need in the Lowcountry of South Carolina. The proposal states that the specific objectives are to recruit a diverse pool of high quality middle school teacher candidates and prepare and support teachers as they enter the teaching profession. This degree program will enable individuals with Baccalaureate degrees in science, mathematics, English, or social science to earn a teaching certificate in middle grades. The need for the program, according to the proposal, is based on middle grades being categorized as an area of "critical need" by the South Carolina State Department of Education. The proposal further states that the state of South Carolina continues to experience teacher shortages in all middle level areas (Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) based on the U.S. Department of Education publication, *Shortage Areas: Nationwide Listing, 1990-91 thru 2009-2010*. Staff research from the *Fall 2008 Teacher/Administrator Supply & Demand Survey* by the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, & Advancement (CERRA) reveals that approximately 1,019 teachers were hired in the four middle level content areas in Fall 2008, and there were 41 unfilled positions as of December 2008.

There is one public institution (Clemson) and one independent institution (Converse College) that offer graduate degree programs in teacher certification for middle level teachers. The proposal states that the proposed degree program is unique to the state because it will be a collaborative program that combines the strengths of two NCATE accredited institutions with nationally recognized programs. In addition, the proposed joint program will allow students who have undergraduate degrees in content areas to earn a graduate degree that integrates content expertise with pedagogical and professional knowledge in order to obtain certification to become middle school teachers. This collaboration is unique in that the College of Charleston has an undergraduate degree in middle level education and The Citadel does not. The institutions will work together in a collaborative effort through the Joint Program Committee to develop curriculum and assessments. According to the proposal, the expectation is that

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candidates will split coursework equally among the offerings at both institutions. The required core courses are already in existence, taught currently at both institutions and will be offered equally at each institution. There are only two of the nine core courses that are not offered at both institutions. The content courses that are required for the specializations are split between The Citadel and the College of Charleston, which require candidates to take courses at both institutions. The Citadel currently has M.A.T. programs in secondary education in biology, English, mathematics, and social studies which will provide necessary content courses for the specialization areas. The College of Charleston currently has an undergraduate program in middle level education which will provide the expertise needed for middle level preparation of teachers.

The proposed program will not qualify for the Supplemental Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and LIFE Scholarship Awards. Graduate programs do not qualify for these scholarship enhancements.

The proposal anticipates that there will be six new students (6.8 FTE) at the College of Charleston and six new students (6.8 FTE) at The Citadel in the program's first year, increasing to 14 students (17.5 FTE) at the College of Charleston and 14 students (17.5 FTE) at The Citadel in the second year, increasing to 15 students (18.8 FTE) at each institution in the third year, and then decreasing to 14 students (17.5 FTE) at each institution by the fourth and fifth years of the program. The expectation that students in the proposed program will enroll in summer sessions in addition to the Fall and Spring semester classes accounts for the high FTE numbers. If enrollment and program completion projections are met as described in the proposal, the proposed program will meet the Commission's productivity standards.

Admission to the proposed program requires a review of each applicant's admission materials by a Joint Program Committee consisting of the program director, associate director, and four professors (two each from The Citadel and the College of Charleston.) Each application for the proposed program will include an official college transcript documenting the completion of a baccalaureate degree with a concentration in one of the four content areas, a fully completed application to the program, an essay from the applicant, a 2.5 undergraduate GPA, and an official copy of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) or Millers Analogies Test (MAT) scores. According to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), students will choose either The Citadel or the College of Charleston as the home institution. Students may register for courses at either of the institutions. The clinical semester will be offered on an alternating basis at each institution in either the spring or fall semester. Graduates of the proposed program will receive a diploma that indicates the program was a joint endeavor and includes the names of both institutions.

The curriculum for the proposed program in Middle Grades will consist of a total of 39-42 total credit hours. The program curriculum consists of 21 hours in core education, 9-12 hours in the content specialty, and 9 hours in clinical practice. One new course will be added to the catalog (Transition to the Profession Seminar) at both institutions. According to the MOU, curriculum decisions will be decided by the Joint Program Committee.

Extensive ongoing student assessment is required by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) through the Specialized Professional Associations (SPAs). According to the proposal, a blend of the assessment systems from both institutions has been created for this proposed joint program and is aligned with state and national standards for middle school teacher preparation.

Faculty for the proposed program will be drawn from existing education and humanities or arts and sciences faculty currently teaching in the undergraduate or graduate programs. According to the proposal, one faculty member will receive a one course reduction per year to serve as program director and chair of the Joint Program Committee. Currently, there are 13 education faculty members on staff at the College of Charleston and 11 education faculty members on staff at The Citadel. No new full-time faculty member will be hired in the first five years of the proposed program's operation, even though The Citadel does not currently have an undergraduate program in middle grades education. In the first year, there will be four faculty members (.665 FTE) teaching in the proposed program at each institution. In the second through fifth years, there will be eight faculty members (2.375 FTE) at each institution teaching in the proposed program.

The proposal states that no new space or facilities are needed for the proposed program. According to the proposal, the Schools of Education utilize several buildings on their respective campuses, and both institutions have classrooms sufficiently equipped with instructional technology to support the content and pedagogical needs of the proposed program. The proposal also notes that existing instructional equipment will be sufficient for the proposed program.

According to the proposal, the library resources that currently exist at the College of Charleston and The Citadel are adequate to support the initial phases of the proposed program. The proposal states that both institutions purchase access to education-specific databases which include content in middle level education. Students will also have access to additional library sources through the Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries (PASCAL). Staff communication with institutional representatives indicates that a cursory search of The Citadel and College of Charleston catalogues yields 167 middle-level monographs and audio-visual titles at The Citadel and 963 middle-level titles at the College of Charleston. Both The Citadel and the College of Charleston state that they will each update their library holdings in the area of middle level education. According to the proposal, the additional costs to each institution will be \$500 per year for each of the first five years of the proposed program.

The proposed program will be subject to accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and national recognition by the National Middle School Association (NMSA). Staff has some concern that courses in the curriculum may not meet NMSA standards because they are not specific to the young adolescent. Methods courses designed for both middle and secondary level and human development courses may need to be revised to ensure middle level content is clearly addressed. Additionally, the proposed program will have to demonstrate to State Department of Education officials discipline-specific objectives as articulated in the South Carolina Curriculum Standards and the South Carolina's Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) program. All students completing the middle level education program must be certified by the South Carolina State Department of Education, pass the appropriate Praxis II and Principles of Teaching and Learning examinations, and undergo an FBI background check.

New costs for the proposed program at the College of Charleston are estimated to begin at \$17,500 the first year and include program administration (\$2,500), graduate assistants (\$12,400), supplies and materials (\$100), library resources (\$500) and recruiting and accreditation consultation (\$2,000). Estimated new costs increase to \$29,950 in the second year, \$42,450 in the third year, and \$52,310 in the fourth and fifth years. The total estimated new costs for the proposed program at the College of Charleston for its first five years will total \$194,520 and include program administration (\$33,220), graduate assistants (\$148,800),

supplies and materials (\$1,000), library resources (\$2,500), and recruiting and accreditation consultation (\$9,000).

New costs for the proposed program at The Citadel are estimated to begin at \$22,460 the first year and include program administration (\$12,860), graduate assistants (\$7,000), supplies and materials (\$100), library resources (\$500) and recruiting and accreditation consultation (\$2,000). Estimated new costs increase to \$29,510 the second year, \$36,610 the third year, and decrease to \$25,750 in the fourth and fifth years. The total estimated new costs for the proposed program at The Citadel for its first five years will total \$140,080 and include program administration (\$43,580), graduate assistants (\$84,000), supplies and materials (\$1,000), library resources (\$2,500), and recruiting and accreditation consultation (\$9,000). The largest expense for both institutions during the first five years of the proposed program is for administration and graduate assistants.

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

**The Citadel**

**Estimated Program Costs and Revenue**

	<b>Estimated Program Costs</b>		<b>Estimated Program Revenue</b>				<b>(G) Total Revenue - Total Costs (F-(A+B))</b>
	<b>(A) MRR Cost</b>	<b>(B) Other Costs*</b>	<b>(C) Actual State Funding</b>	<b>(D) Tuition</b>	<b>(E) Additional Revenue</b>	<b>(F) Total Revenue (C+D+E)</b>	
<b>Year 1</b>	\$56,322	\$0	N/A	\$54,869	\$0	\$54,869	-\$1,454
<b>Year 2</b>	\$146,020	\$0	\$51,164	\$143,283	\$0	\$194,447	\$48,427
<b>Year 3</b>	\$156,450	\$0	\$133,686	\$153,163	\$0	\$286,849	\$130,399
<b>Year 4</b>	\$146,020	\$0	\$142,763	\$143,283	\$0	\$286,047	\$140,027
<b>Year 5</b>	\$146,020	\$0	\$133,686	\$143,283	\$0	\$276,969	\$130,949

\*Includes costs of an extraordinary nature not otherwise included in the MRR cost calculation (e.g., costs for a new building required to support a program).

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	<b>(A) MRR Cost</b>	<b>(B) Other Costs*</b>	<b>(C) Actual State Funding</b>	<b>(D) Tuition</b>	<b>(E) Additional Revenue</b>	<b>(F) Total Revenue (C+D+E)</b>	
Year 1	\$56,322	\$0	N/A	\$66,285	\$0	\$66,285	\$9,963
Year 2	\$146,020	\$0	\$42,159	\$169,492	\$0	\$211,650	\$65,630
Year 3	\$156,450	\$0	\$109,078	\$182,219	\$0	\$291,297	\$134,847
Year 4	\$146,020	\$0	\$117,108	\$169,492	\$0	\$286,600	\$140,580
Year 5	\$146,020	\$0	\$109,078	\$169,492	\$0	\$278,569	\$132,549

\*Includes costs of an extraordinary nature not otherwise included in the MRR cost calculation (e.g., costs for a new building required to support a program).

The data shown in the MRR tables demonstrate that if the institutions meet the projected student enrollments and contain costs as they are shown in the proposal, the program will be able to cover costs beginning the first year and thereafter.

In summary, The Citadel and the College of Charleston are proposing a joint new program leading to the Masters of Arts in Teaching degree in Middle Grades with concentrations in English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Science. The proposed program will draw its students from individuals with undergraduate degrees in one of the four content areas who want to earn a teaching certificate in middle grades. The proposed program will help to meet a need for highly qualified teachers in middle-level content to fill vacant positions in middle schools in South Carolina. Students in the proposed joint program are expected to take courses at both institutions to complete the degree. The proposed joint program will be coordinated by a Joint Program Committee with faculty from both institutions.

**Recommendation**

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commends favorably to the Commission approval of the joint program leading to the Masters of Arts in Teaching degree in Middle Grades with concentrations in English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Science at The Citadel and the College of Charleston, to be implemented in Fall 2010, provided that:

1. no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested;
  2. the program be approved by the State Board of Education prior to implementation;
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3. the program be granted national recognition by the National Middle School Association (NMSA) with nomenclature identical to that used in this program approval.