

School of Education

School of Education website

The School of Education (SOE) comprises a community of educators dedicated to improving the quality of education. The mission of the School of Education is to prepare educators and support the lifelong learning of professionals to embrace diversity and to be intellectually and ethically strong, resilient and passionate in their work with Alaska's learners, families, educators and communities. School of Education programs emphasize the power of learning to transform people's lives.

The School of Education promotes the following core values in their collegial interactions to ensure that program graduates exhibit:

- **Intellectual vitality:** Professional educators examine diverse perspectives, engage in research and scholarship, contribute to knowledge and practice, and apply innovations in technology.
- **Collaborative spirit:** Professional educators generate, welcome and support the collaborative relationships and partnerships that enrich people's lives.
- **Inclusiveness and equity:** Professional educators create and advocate for learning communities that advance knowledge and ensure the development, support and inclusion of people's abilities, values, ideas, languages and expressions.
- **Leadership:** Professional educators are committed to the highest standards of ethical behavior in their roles, using professional expertise to improve the communities in which they live and work, and demonstrating the ability to translate theories and principles into transformative educational practice.

The school offers undergraduate and graduate curricula and programs designed to prepare personnel for various professional roles related to education in a variety of learning environments. The School of Education's advanced program is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). The professional preparation programs are approved by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development issues certificates and endorsements under the "approved program" process for certification. UAA recommends individuals to the commissioner of Education and Early Development for certification or endorsement after successful completion of one or more of the approved programs. Only the director of the School of Education is authorized to recommend candidates for the appropriate certificate or endorsement.

In each of the school's curricula and programs, candidates are introduced to fundamental issues of education in the contemporary world through courses designed to develop perspective and understanding of the relationship of education to society. Courses provide theory and practice in the development of instructional materials and a thorough understanding of methods of instruction. Many courses and programs are offered through distance delivery methods. The school offers high-quality, distance-delivered coursework in order

to improve access for rural students and provide flexible scheduling for practicing educators.

Individuals who desire a UAA degree or certificate must apply for admissions to the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and to the School of Education. Students are formally admitted to an appropriate program on the basis of multiple criteria, including their ability to make a positive contribution to educational professions. Candidates who seek Alaska state licensure must successfully complete a School of Education "approved program," as well as any additional requirements that may be initiated by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. Only courses with a grade of C or higher will be applied to meet certification or endorsement requirements. In addition, candidates must demonstrate professional behaviors and dispositions consistent with the School of Education's Core Values and the Specialized Professional Associations as well as abide by the UAA Student Code of Conduct and the Code of Ethics and Professional Teaching Standards adopted by the Alaska Professional Teaching Practices Commission. These documents are available on the School of Education website. Candidates should be advised that total credits may exceed minimums because of prerequisite requirements, knowledge and skill enhancement, individually selected majors, and areas of specialization and/or emphasis.

Once admitted, students work with an academic advisor to develop a graduate studies plan with each candidate based upon transfer credits, program requirements, professional interests and elective courses. The program may or may not include certification or endorsement requirements.

Master of Education

There are several options for students to obtain a Master of Education (MEd) degree. MEd options are:

- Educational Leadership
- Special Education
- Teaching and Learning

Graduate Certificates

The School of Education offers three graduate certificate programs:

- Educational Leadership: Principal
- Language Education: English as a Second Language (ESL) and Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy Concentration
- Special Education

Coursework that is applied to graduate certificates may also apply to the MEd with faculty advisor approval.

See MEd & Graduate Certificate Requirements (p.) for more information on admission and graduation requirements.

All admitted students must have the technological knowledge and skills to engage in distance learning.