

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Item
Consent Agenda
October 16, 2025

DIVISION OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION

- R. Approval of The University of Mississippi's request to modify required courses within its existing initial licensure-track Bachelor of Arts in Education Early Childhood PreK-K (Child Development) program

Background Information: In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2 there is established within the MDE the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development. It shall be the purpose and duty of the commission to make recommendations to the Mississippi Board of Education regarding standards for the certification and licensure and continuing professional development of those who teach or perform tasks of an educational nature in the public schools of Mississippi.

On September 5, 2025, at its regular meeting, the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development granted approval of The University of Mississippi's request to modify its initial licensure-track Bachelor of Arts in Education Early Childhood PreK-K (Child Development) program, licensure code 153, by removing one (1) course and adding (1) course.

In addition, The University of Mississippi is requesting approval to add EDEC 329 Issues and Trends in Early Childhood Education to provide candidates the option to choose to take EDEC 329 Issues and Trends in Early Childhood Education or PPL 363 Early Childhood Policy in the U.S., in order to better align with current research, best practice, and professional competencies required for early childhood educators. The required number of coursework credit hours will remain the same at 124 hours. The request is as follows:

Remove Course:

- EDEC 327 Social Studies in Early Childhood Education (3 hours)

Add Courses:

- EDEC 325 Function and Theory of Play in Early Childhood Education (3 hours)

Add Course Option:

- PPL 363 Early Childhood Policy in the U.S. (3 hours)
or EDEC 329 Issues and Trends in Early Childhood Education (3 hours)

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material: None