

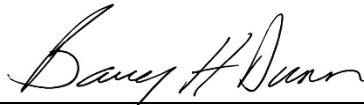


SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS
Program Termination or
Placement on Inactive Status

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:	Early Education & Care (B.S.)
CIP CODE:	13.1210
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	School of Education, Counseling & Human Development
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	SECH
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	Education & Human Sciences
BANNER DIVISION CODE:	3H

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.



President of the University

10/27/2023

Date

1. **Program Degree Level:** Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral
2. **Category:**¹ Certificate Specialization Minor Major
3. **The program action proposed is:**² Inactive Status Termination

5. TERMINATION WITH ENROLLED STUDENTS

a. Provide a justification for terminating the program:

The College of Education and Human Sciences requests to terminate the B.S. in Early Education and Care. The Early Education and Care (EEC) major is an online undergraduate program offered at SDSU through a collaboration with the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (GPIDEA). GPIDEA is a consortium of public universities that offer collaborative online degree and certificate programs in human services and agriculture.

¹ Note: Certificates, specializations, and minors may only be terminated and not placed on inactive status due to limitations in the student information system.

² Note: An inactive program is a program a university has authority to offer, but the program is not admitting new students and has not formally terminated. A presumption exists that inactive status is a temporary status; universities review inactive programs periodically to determine the feasibility of reactivating or terminating the program. Programs can remain inactive for five (5) consecutive years at which time a university must terminate the program. A terminated program is a program for which a university ceases to have authority to offer. Reinstatement of a terminated program requires university and BOR approval through the prescribed new program approval processes.

The request for termination of the EEC major is based on low program enrollment and the availability of related majors at SDSU that meet student demand.

As of fall 2023, there are six students enrolled in the B.S. in Early Education and Care. Since 2017, nine students completed the EEC major out of thirty-one students enrolled in the program. Currently, the program has a graduation rate of less than one student a year. Student retention rates for the program across the consortium are low. Based on FY22 data, 217 students had a first term between FY18 and FY22. This figure includes all enrollments, including non-program students and those who dropped. Of the 217, 63 were active students. Academic advisors and faculty dedicate a significant amount of workload to the program which has not translated to a positive return on the number of enrolled students.

SDSU offers B.S. degrees and minors in Early Childhood Education and Human Development and Family Studies. These two programs have steady enrollments and course offerings that mirror the EEC curriculum. Student demand for educational offerings in these areas can be met by the existing programs.

b. What is the plan for completion of the program by current students?

SDSU currently has six students enrolled in the Early Education and Care program. Of the students currently enrolled in Early Education and Care classes, two are expected to graduate in Spring 2024 and the other two are expected to graduate in Spring 2025. Academic advising conversations will be held with the remaining students to discuss options available at SDSU, such as a degree in Human Development and Family Studies, Early Childhood Education – Birth to Age 8, an Early Childhood Education minor, or other programs of interest to the student. Students can also transfer to another institution in the GPIDEA consortium.

Per the GPIDEA policy handbook, when a program announces termination, they are obligated to teach courses in the program for up to one year after the GPIDEA board approves the termination. SDSU would teach early education and care courses for GPIDEA through Spring 2025. (1 course in Spring 2024, 1 course in Summer 2024, 1 course in Fall 2024, and 2 courses in Spring 2025). The academic advisor will explain to enrolled students that support coursework will be available through Spring 2025.

c. What is the proposed date (day/month/year) program termination status begins (program status in the database changes to *Phasing Out* and last date a student may enroll in or declare the program)?

Fall 2023

d. What is the last date (day/month/year) in which a student may enroll in the program (program status in the database changes to *Phase Out*)?

Fall 2023

e. What is the last term or date (day/month/year) by which a student can graduate from the program?

Spring 2025

f. What are the potential cost savings of terminating the program and what are the planned uses of the savings?

With termination of the B.S. in Early Education and Care, two faculty members will have additional workload units available to dedicate to SDSU program classes (approximately two per year). The potential cost savings for SDSU is over \$9,000 in adjunct cost to cover SDSU program classes these two faculty members will now be able to teach.

Additionally, the termination of the EEC program will allow the academic advisor to focus time and effort to recruit prospective students and support current SDSU students. No additional costs will be incurred.

g. What are the resulting employee terminations and other possible implications including impact on other programs?

No employee terminations are necessary. Workload will be redirected to other programs in the college. SDSU may have an increase in enrollment in the Human Development and Family Studies B.S. program, the Early Childhood Education B.S. program, and the Early Childhood Education minor.