



DEPARTMENT OF  
HIGHER EDUCATION &  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**New Program Report**

**Date Submitted:**

10/27/2020

**Institution**

Truman State University

**Site Information**

**Implementation Date:**

8/11/2021 12:00:00 AM

**Added Site(s):**

**Selected Site(s):**

Truman State University, 100 East Normal, Kirksville, MO, 63501-9980

**CIP Information**

**CIP Code:**

131004

**CIP Description:**

A program that focuses on the design of educational services for children or adults exhibiting exceptional intellectual, psychomotor or artistic talent or potential, or who exhibit exceptional maturity or social leadership talents, and that may prepare individuals to teach such students. Includes instruction in identifying gifted and talented students, developing individual education plans, teaching and supervising gifted and talented students, counseling, and applicable laws and policies.

**CIP Program Title:**

Education/Teaching of the Gifted and Talented

**Institution Program Title:**

Gifted Education

**Degree Level/Type**

**Degree Level:**

Master Degree

**Degree Type:**

Master of Arts (MA)

**Options Added:**

**Collaborative Program:**

N

**Mode of Delivery**

**Current Mode of Delivery**

Online

**Student Preparation**

**Special Admissions Procedure or Student Qualifications required:**

Students must have completed a baccalaureate degree, have an undergraduate GPA of at least 2.75, and have an active teaching certificate, and have at least two years of teaching experience.



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### Specific Population Characteristics to be served:

This program aims to serve practicing teachers who wish to gain an endorsement in gifted education from DESE (or its counterparts) while providing additional coursework in gifted education. The program also represents an attractive option to teachers who already possess a master's degree but are looking for an additional graduate degree. The program is delivered entirely online for the convenience of working teachers.

### Faculty Characteristics

#### Special Requirements for Assignment of Teaching for this Degree/Certificate:

Instructors in courses specifically required for an add-on certification (endorsement) in gifted education must hold at least a master's degree with significant tested experience in gifted education, or hold a PhD in education with appropriate coursework to cover topics in gifted/special education. Some courses in the elective portion of the curriculum, such as special topics, may be taught by individual without a degree in K-12 education, but with experience germane to the topic.

#### Estimate Percentage of Credit Hours that will be assigned to full time faculty:

A smaller percentage of the courses in this program will be assigned to full time faculty. It is anticipated that most courses will be taught by adjuncts with direct experience in the field of gifted education. A few Truman faculty do have expertise in gifted education and will teach occasional courses as their schedules permit. Full time faculty will review the program's performance.

#### Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation:

As most of the faculty are adjuncts, there are now required expectations for professional activities. However, these faculty will be encouraged to attend conferences in gifted education and to remain current. Because the program is fully online, faculty will be required to maintain virtual office hours by Zoom or another approved platform. Faculty in this program will be encouraged to maximize the use of open education resources to limit the cost of the program to students.

### Student Enrollment Projections Year One-Five

Year 1	Full Time: 5	Part Time: 7	
Year 2	Full Time: 7	Part Time: 7	
Year 3	Full Time: 9	Part Time: 7	Number of Graduates: 17
Year 4	Full Time: 11	Part Time: 7	
Year 5	Full Time: 13	Part Time: 7	Number of Graduates: 32

### Percentage Statement:

100.00

### Program Accreditation

#### Institutional Plans for Accreditation:

This program is not independently accredited, but it would fall under the Education Department's broader accreditation through the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

### Program Structure

#### Total Credits:

30



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**Residency Requirements:**

Up to 6 credits may be transferred from another institution.

**General Education Total Credits:**

30

**Major Requirements Total Credits:**

30

**Course(s) Added**

COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	COURSE TITLE
COUN 654G	3	Social and Cultural Foundations
ED 609G	3	Teaching Internship
ED 550G	3	Introduction to Gifted
ED 626G	3	Creativity
ED 632G	3	Research/Applied Educational Psychology
ED 652G	3	Meeting the Affective Needs of Gifted
ED 605G	3	Psychology of the Exceptional Child
ED 627G	3	Argumentation in Gifted Curriculum
ED 651G	3	Curriculum for Gifted
ED 650G	3	Identification of Gifted
ED 653G	3	Programming, Planning, and Development: Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs

**Free Elective Credits:**

6

**Internship or other Capstone Experience:**

A teaching Internship (ED 609G) is required for certification and completion of the program.

**Assurances**

I certify that the program is clearly within the institution's CBHE-approved mission. The proposed new program must be consistent with the institutional mission, as well as the principal planning priorities of the public institution, as set forth in the public institution's approved plan or plan update.

I certify that the program will be offered within the proposing institution's main campus, CBHE-approved service region or CBHE-approved off-site location.

I certify that the program will not unnecessarily duplicate an existing program within the geographically applicable area.

I certify that the program will build upon existing programs and faculty expertise.

I certify that the program can be launched with minimal expense and falls within the institution's current operating budget.



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I certify that the institution has conducted research on the feasibility of the proposal and it is likely the program will be successful. Institutions' decision to implement a program shall be based upon demand and/or need for the program in terms of meeting present and future needs of the locale, state, and nation based upon societal needs, and/or student needs.

Contact Information

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MINCH

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## Program Structure

### Total Credits

- Residency Requirements Up to 6 credits may be transferred from another institution.
- General education Total Credits: NA
- Major Requirements Total Credits: 24

COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	COURSE TITLE
ED 550G	3	Introduction to Gifted
ED 605G	3	Psychology of the Exceptional Child
ED 609G (Internship)	3	Teaching Internship
ED 632G	3	Research/Applied Educational Psychology
ED 650G	3	Identification of Gifted
ED 651G	3	Curriculum for Gifted
ED 652G	3	Meeting the Affective Needs of Gifted
ED 653G	3	Programming, Planning, and Development: Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs
ED 626G (Elective)	3	Creativity
ED 627G (Elective)	3	Argumentation in the Gifted Curriculum
COUN 654G (Elective)	3	Social and Cultural Foundations

- Free Elective Credits: 6
  - See above (Select 2)
- Internship or Other Capstone Experience: 3
  - See above

**ITEM I.1**

**Resolution Amending Chapter 5 of the Code of Policies of the Board of Governors Pertaining to Academic Programs – Gifted Education, M.A.**

**DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND**

Several years ago, in response to expressed demand from Missouri teachers and Truman education alumni, Truman initiated an “add-on” certification in Gifted Education. Unlike a graduate certificate, an “add-on” certification enables a practicing teacher, already holding a teaching certificate, to receive an additional endorsement. In this case, the endorsement allowed completers to teach in gifted and talented programs in their districts. Because 24 credits was already required to complete this endorsement, and because demand for the program has grown steadily since its inception, it seemed only logical that we would attach 6 additional credits to the program and afford students the opportunity to earn a master’s degree. Not only is this enhancement pedagogically and professionally sound, but also for the practicing teacher, earning the master’s degree can result in advancement on the pay scale of their district.

The new online degree incorporates everything from the certification but also asks students to explore different aspects of gifted education, including fostering creativity, addressing issues of intersectionality in gifted children, and how to help students learn to argue constructively. Students may apply some coursework from a prior degree – such as an undergraduate teaching degree or Truman’s MAE – if those courses fulfill DESE requirements for certification.

As a certification, the program consistently enrolls 10-15 new students per year. Once the program is upgraded to a full master’s degree, we anticipate continued positive growth for the program.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

BE IT RESOLVED that Section 5.010.2 of the Code of Policies of the Board of Governors of Truman State University entitled Academic Programs be amended by the addition of the following graduate program:

Gifted Education, M.A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the adoption of such program be subject to the approval of the Coordinating Board for High Education.

Moved by Philip J. Christensen  
Seconded by Steve Burkemper  
Vote: Aye 7  
Nay 0

**ATTACHMENT**

Proposal for Master of Arts in Gifted Education

## Proposal for Master of Arts in Gifted Education

Implementation Date: Fall 2021

CIP Code: 13.1004

Institution Program Title: Master of Arts in Gifted Education

Degree Level: (Bachelors, Masters, Doctoral): Masters

Degree Type (MS, MA, BS, BM, etc.): MA

### Student Preparation

This program aims to serve practicing teachers who wish to gain an endorsement in gifted education from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (or its counterparts in other states) while providing additional coursework germane to improving the education of gifted students. The program is delivered entirely online with the goal of making it possible for working teachers from throughout the state to participate and, if necessary, participate on a part-time basis as their schedules permit. The program also represents an attractive option to teachers who already possess a master's degree but are looking for an additional graduate degree to move them up on their district's pay scale while accomplishing something meaningful for their career.

At present, according to the MDHE database, only one institution in Missouri has a master's degree classified by this CIP code (Lindenwood). However, the University of Missouri, Drury University, and Maryville University also have programs. MU, Drury, and Lindenwood have an option to complete their programs online. The distinguishing factors in the Truman program are that it is online, that it is closer to many underserved districts in the northern part of the state, and that its elective coursework emphasizes current issues, challenges, and opportunities for gifted education that are unique.

### Student Enrollment Projections Year One-Five

Year	Full Time Students	Part Time Students	Graduates
Year One	5	7	
Year Two	7	7	4
Year Three	9	7	13
Year Four	11	7	15
Year Five	13	7	17

### Program Structure

#### Total Credits

- Residency Requirements Up to 6 credits may be transferred from another institution.
- General education Total Credits: NA
- Major Requirements Total Credits: 24
- Course(s) Added: 3 new courses added to existing gifted add-on certification curriculum

COURSE NUMBER	CREDITS	COURSE TITLE
ED 550G	3	Introduction to Gifted
ED 605G	3	Psychology of the Exceptional Child
ED 609G	3	Teaching Internship
ED 632G	3	Research/Applied Educational Psychology
ED 650G	3	Identification of Gifted
ED 651G	3	Curriculum for Gifted
ED 652G	3	Meeting the Affective Needs of Gifted
ED 653G	3	Programming, Planning, and Development: Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs
ED 626G	3	Creativity
ED 654G	3	Social and Cultural Foundations
ED 627G	3	Argumentation in the Gifted Curriculum