

505-3-.74 MIDDLE GRADES ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM

(1) Purpose. This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to teach middle grades students and supplements requirements in Rule 505-3-.01, Requirements and Standards for Approving Professional Education Units and Educator Preparation Programs.

(2) Requirements.

(a) A state-approved professional education unit shall offer this field as an endorsement to a level 4 or higher professional teaching certificate in any 6-12 certification field.

(b) The preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi shall address the following standards:

1. The program shall prepare professionals who understand the physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and moral characteristics of the developmental period of early adolescence within cultural contexts.

2. The program shall prepare professionals who understand the changes in family settings, social contexts, threats to health and safety, and risk behaviors in contemporary society that affect healthy development of young adolescents.

3. The program shall prepare professionals who apply their knowledge of the nature of early adolescence and the needs of young adolescents to plan developmentally and culturally responsive instruction.

4. The program shall prepare professionals who apply their knowledge of the nature of early adolescence and the needs of young adolescents to design appropriate school programs and function within them.

5. The program shall prepare professionals who apply their knowledge of the nature of early adolescence and the needs of young adolescents to create supportive school environments.

6. The program shall prepare professionals who understand the organization of, the rationale for, the role of teachers in, and the function of middle schools.

7. The program shall prepare candidates who understand and apply principles of teaching reading and writing at the middle grades level and who meet the following elements of the standards specified by the International Reading Association Standards for Reading Professionals, Classroom Teacher Candidate, 2003. This requirement may be met in a separate three (3) semester-hour course, or content may be embedded in courses and experiences throughout the preparation program.

(i) Candidates use knowledge of adolescent literacy development (1.3)

(ii) Candidates apply knowledge of the teaching of reading and writing to adolescents (1.1, 1.4)

(iii) Candidates use knowledge of formal and informal literacy assessment strategies in the content areas (3.3)

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(iv) Candidates apply knowledge of how to meet the needs of students who read at diverse levels (2.1, 2.4, 4.2)

(v) Candidates facilitate all students' learning from content area texts (2.2, 2.3)

(vi) The program shall prepare candidates to provide instructional practices grounded in scientifically based reading research (SBRR). <http://www.nationalreadingpanel.org/>.

(c) The program shall require supervised field experience in grades 4-8, or one year of acceptable teaching experience in grades 4-8 while holding a valid state certificate in that field.

Authority O.C.G.A. § 20-2-200