



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

DR. MICHAEL RICE  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 18, 2022

Dr. Ann E. Austin, Interim Dean, College of Education  
Michigan State University  
501 Erickson Hall  
East Lansing, MI 48823

Dear Dr. Austin:

The Michigan Department of Education is pleased to inform you that Michigan State University's application to prepare teachers of Early Childhood PK-General and Special Education (Birth-Kindergarten) (ZN) has been granted initial approval. This program may be offered starting Fall 2021 as an initial endorsement on teaching certificates.

Upon approval the institution is asked to submit a phase out plan for its current Elementary Early Childhood PK-General and Special Education (ZS) within six months of the date of this letter. If needed, please complete the [Program Closure Form](#) and [Program Closure Roster](#) and submit both documents via email to [EducatorPrograms@Michigan.gov](mailto:EducatorPrograms@Michigan.gov).

Michigan State University is required to gather and analyze data related to key assessments and program standards to determine the program efficacy. Slight program changes based on annual data analysis initiated during this period, such as minor modifications to coursework requirements or key assessments, need not be submitted for review to the Office of Educator Excellence (OEE) during this period. However, significant program changes that alter the manner in which Michigan State University fulfills the program standards, should be reported to the OEE during this period.

Full program approval will be granted based on demonstration of program success as evidenced by key assessment data. Prior to the conclusion of the five-year initial approval period, Michigan State University must submit a letter requesting full approval, a report demonstrating program success, and any program changes or modifications made in response to analysis of key assessment data. This letter and report will be due June 30, 2026, and must be submitted through [EducatorPrograms@Michigan.gov](mailto:EducatorPrograms@Michigan.gov).

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • 833-633-5788

Dr. Ann E. Austin, Interim Dean

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Should you have questions regarding this approval or other aspects of this program, please contact Dr. Gina Garner, Higher Education Consultant, GarnerG1@Michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leah C. Breen".

Leah C. Breen, Director  
Office of Educator Excellence

Enclosure

cc: