

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT & FAMILY STUDIES

STRENGTHS:

- As stated on the website, the program is “designed to extend on the Early Childhood Education AAS degree” which resides in UAF CTC.
- The program was designed to meet the National Association for the Education of Young Children’s professional preparation standards.
- Program provides the necessary preparation for early childhood educators who wish to advance their professional knowledge and career opportunities.
- The program is deliverable to both rural and urban students.

WEAKNESSES:

- State-funded grant is ~50% of the department's entire budget; loss of grant would make the program vulnerable.
- No breakdown of the number of students in each concentration in order to determine whether or not there is one that could be closed and possibly reduce costs.
- Program is not intended for teaching degree or certification which could explain the reduction in support from the system.
- Reliance on one faculty and adjuncts with no admin support.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Upper-division ECE courses are being used to meet teacher licensure renewal requirements and this could be grown through greater awareness and loss of comparable degree in the system.
- There is potential for industry including the State and Head Start program to increase employment requirements to a BA creating greater demand for the program.
- With other similar BA program’s deletion, an investment in retooling the curriculum to meet the requirements for teacher certification could lead to increased enrollment.

THREATS:

- In the current economy, possible cuts to SOA Head Start program’s support for tuition.
- The program is heavily reliant on a single, state-funded grant for student tuition to bring in students.
- The university has significantly reduced the program’s state appropriation and may be unwilling to invest in it.
- Significant drop in SCH in recent year.

CENTRALITY TO MISSION:

- The degree contributes to teacher education/licensure and workforce development in Alaska.

INDICATORS OF QUALITY:

- The program was designed to meet the National Association for the Education of Young Children’s professional preparation standards.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS:

- Department-provided budget indicates that they are roughly breaking even. Their budget currently supports 1 faculty FTE and approximately 5 adjuncts. Program is distance delivered with majors across five campuses.

	MAJORS	DEGREES
Child Development and Family Studies BA	FY15: 71/ FY19: 86	FY15: 18/ FY19: 5

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT & FAMILY STUDIES**Child Development and Family Studies BA:**

RECOMMENDATION:	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP:
Continuation w/ improvement plan (6 votes, 1 abstention)	Develop improvement plan that includes stronger articulation between 2-year and 4-year ECE programs and strategies for increased enrollment and graduation	Two years