

UCM Educator Preparation Program Belief, Vision & Mission Statements

Belief: The UCM educator is a competent, caring, reflective practitioner committed to the premise that all can learn. The reflective practitioner theme is expanded upon in the Vision and Mission statements adopted by the Professional Education Faculty (PEF).

Vision: Through dedication to teaching, scholarship, collaboration, and continuous improvement, the University of Central Missouri's Professional Education Faculty prepare reflective practitioners who have high expectations for teaching and learning, are informed decision-makers, and value diversity. The University's Educator Preparation Program provides each graduate the foundation for a life of continued learning, service, and engagement within a technologically advanced global society.

Mission: As a cornerstone of the institution since 1871, the University of Central Missouri's Educator Preparation Program (EPP) develops educators who are well-grounded in theory, display competence in content knowledge and instructional strategies, and possess the dispositions to ensure success for all learners. The EPP prepares individuals who create positive and safe learning environments within ever-changing, diverse communities. The EPP partners with schools to prepare candidates within real-world settings to develop dedicated educators who positively impact student learning. Educator preparation is a student-centered, campus-wide responsibility.

UCM Educator Preparation Program Goals

Professional Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions

The UCM educator preparation program will integrate experiences into coursework that prepare educator candidates to:

- Apply current technology to engage and improve learning for all students.
- Develop and apply the knowledge, skills, and dispositions of effective collaborative practices for educating students with special needs.
- Develop and apply the knowledge, skills, and dispositions for enacting classroom and behavior management practices for all students.
- Develop and apply trauma informed practices for all students.

Student Recruitment, Retention, and Success

The UCM educator preparation program will:

- Align recruitment initiatives with the demographics of the regions served by educator preparation programs.

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- Increase the number of candidates from diverse backgrounds entering and completing educator preparation programs.
- Increase systematic support for monitoring student persistence and success in educator preparation programs.
- Increase the number of non-traditional students pursuing educator certification through alternative pathways to certification.

Diversity, Equity, Equality, and Inclusion

The UCM educator preparation program will:

- Embed the central concepts of multicultural education into existing coursework to increase diverse, equitable, and inclusive pedagogical knowledge across learning environments.
- Integrate knowledge of contextual factors, resources, and supports to increase differentiated instruction across learning environments.

Collaborative Partnerships

The UCM educator preparation program will:

- Collaborate with stakeholders to develop and sustain meaningful reciprocal relationships to increase candidate effectiveness.
- Collaborate with stakeholders to provide mentor training to clinical educators.

Continuous Improvement

The UCM educator preparation program will:

- Develop and maintain a culture of assessment, defined as evidence-based decision-making to improve and sustain educator candidate learning outcomes.
- Collaborate with stakeholders to collect and use data to continuously review the impact of educator candidates and completers.