



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BLUE SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
and  
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL MISSOURI**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes the coordination of activities between the University of Central Missouri (UCM) and the Blue Springs School District (BSSD) in cooperatively offering a series of for credit courses towards a Master of Science in Education (MSE) in Curriculum and Instruction or an Education Specialist Degree in Professional Leadership.

UCM and Blue Springs School District will provide a series of for-credit courses based on the degree options listed above. Additionally, UCM will agree to provide the prerequisite course EDFL 5900: Introduction to Research for CTE 5910 or CTE 6100 during the Summer of 2025, if needed.

- **MSE & EdS Common Courses**
  - EDFL 5120: Advanced Foundations of Education
  - EDFL 5320: Curriculum Development & Assessment
  - EDFL 5340: Contemporary Instruction
  - EDAD 5770: Instructional Leadership & School Improvement
  - EDFL 5270: Teaching Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Students
  - EDFL 5400: Differentiation in K-12 Learning Environment
  - EDFL 5410: Advanced Curriculum Development & Assessment
- **MSE Specific Courses**
  - ECEL 5350: Mentoring: The Instructional Coach Approach
  - EDFL 5900: Introduction to Research
  - EDFL 6110: Capstone
- **EdS Specific Courses**
  - CTE 5910: Qualitative Research
  - CTE 6100: Quantitative Analysis & Interpretation
  - CTE 6130: Special Investigations in Technology & Occupational Education
  - CTE 6900: Proposing Scientific Research
  - CTE 6990: Thesis
- The courses listed above will be taught in online and hybrid modalities. If delivered onsite, courses will occur at a mutually agreed-upon location within the Blue Springs School District.
- Students enrolled in the cohort will receive a 20% scholarship applied to the board-approved Graduate Cohort Tuition Rate. Students will incur only a technology fee.
- Some courses, if needed, may be taught by Blue Springs School District employees meeting minimum UCM faculty qualifications and will be hired as adjunct instructors.



- If needed, BSSD will identify qualified staff to teach the online and hybrid courses, and UCM will pay them \$700 per credit hour if they have a master's degree or \$900 if the instructor holds a specialist/doctorate degree. If the Blue Springs School District wishes to use additional instructors for a class, any compensation for those additional instructors will be provided by the Blue Springs School District. If the lead instructor is a full-time UCM faculty member and the cohort class is taught out of load, the UCM faculty member will receive no load credit for the cohort class and will be paid a stipend at the adjunct pay rate. If a UCM full-time faculty member teaches a cohort class in the summer, a variable rate contract will be issued based on course enrollment.
- For courses taught by BSSD instructors, UCM program coordinators will provide the syllabi and major course activities.
- Regular meetings of program coordinators with adjuncts prior to the start of each semester will occur for program coordination and assessment, syllabi and textbook review, and schedule considerations.
- Blue Springs School District will identify students eligible for the program and pay UCM directly for the course enrollment.
- Students are expected to enroll in an average six (6) credit hours each semester unless otherwise directed to by the faculty liaison.
  - Faculty liaison for the MSE in Curriculum & Instruction is Dr. Yuankun Yao, [yyao@ucmo.edu](mailto:yyao@ucmo.edu).
  - Faculty liaison for the EdS in Professional Leadership is Dr. Michelle Conrad, [mconrad@ucmo.edu](mailto:mconrad@ucmo.edu).
- Students must meet the minimum qualifications for admission to UCM's Graduate Studies and the academic program as outlined below. Students will incur a \$30 application fee.
  - Candidates must have a current or past teacher certification or licensure in their respective areas and a copy of their supervisor evaluation or a recommendation by a college professor.
  - A 2.5 minimum bachelor's GPA
- BSSD will assist in the recruitment of a cohort of students who wish to enroll in the above-mentioned courses.
- This MOU will stay in effect for a total of seven semesters ending at the conclusion of Summer 2027.
- Any correspondence during the term of this MOU should be directed to:

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Administration Building 104  
Warrensburg, MO 64093  
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UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL MISSOURI

BLUE SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Signed: 

Signed by:  
*Tim Crowley*  
A5B39BE1164841D...

Signed: 

Signed by:  
*Elizabeth Talamantez*  
2605B94AFE81407...

Name: Tim Crowley

Name: Elizabeth Talamantez

Date: April 11, 2025

Date: April 11, 2025