

# **EARLY CHILDHOOD GENERAL & SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**ZA TO ZS OPTION**

**Information and application packet**

**HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
AND CHILD STUDIES**

Pawley Hall  
2200 N. Squirrel Road  
Rochester, MI 48309-4401

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[oakland.edu/hdcs](http://oakland.edu/hdcs)

## **ZA to ZS Option**

### **Early Childhood General and Special Education (“ZS”) Endorsement**

#### **Option Overview:**

This 2-course sequence was created for educators who previously earned the ZA (Early Childhood) endorsement and who would like to upgrade to the newer, more inclusive ZS (Early Childhood General and Special Education) endorsement.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) also requires candidates to pass the **Early Childhood Education: General and Special Education MTTC** test (Code #106 / ZS) in order to receive the ZS endorsement.

Individuals who earn the ZS credential will:

- meet MDE’s revised standards reflecting the knowledge and skills needed to teach children from birth to age 8 in general education settings, as well as significant knowledge and skills for teaching children with disabilities
- become qualified to teach in:
  - general education early childhood classrooms
  - inclusive early childhood classrooms, and
  - early childhood special education classrooms
- have earned the most up-to-date early childhood endorsement available, as well as the skills and knowledge needed to address the developmental and educational needs of all children, regardless of ability level.

#### **Eligibility**

Candidates must have a Michigan teaching certificate with a ZA endorsement. Qualifications will be reviewed by the program coordinator prior to registration.

#### **Location**

These two courses are offered through Oakland University at the Macomb University Center (MUC) in Clinton Township, Michigan.

#### **For Additional Information**

- ✓ [oakland.edu/ops/ZA-ZS](http://oakland.edu/ops/ZA-ZS)
- ✓ [abhargav@oakland.edu](mailto:abhargav@oakland.edu) or (248) 370-3067



School of Education and Human Services

## **ZA to ZS Option Catalog Course Descriptions**

### **Early Childhood General and Special Education Endorsement**

These courses are offered at:

**Macomb University Center (MUC)  
44575 Garfield Road  
Clinton Township, MI 48038**

#### **EC 552**

##### **Introduction to Early Childhood Special Education (4 credits)**

*This course focuses on Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) as a unique discipline similar to, but distinctly different than early childhood education and special education. Teaming, assessment, family-centered practice and child focused practices within multiple contexts of ECSE will be addressed. Activities including field experiences will take place that encourage reflective practice. (This course is offered fall term only.)*

#### **EC 553**

##### **Early Childhood Special Education: Programming, Planning and Intervention (4 credits)**

*This course focuses on linking the foundational components to professional practice in the field of Early Childhood Special Education. Practical applications of teaming, assessment, family centered practice and child focused approaches will be addressed, with particular attention to the themes of diversity, inclusion, and technology. Field experiences are built into the course. (This course is offered winter term only.)*

#### HOW TO APPLY

### **ZA to ZS Endorsement Option**

Because upgrading from a ZA to a ZS endorsement requires the completion of only two courses (and not a complete “degree program”), individuals interested will apply for “Professional Development” student status.

- Students admitted to *Professional Development* classification are not eligible to receive financial assistance.
- Admission as a *Professional Development* student in no way assures subsequent admission to a degree or graduate certificate program.

**STEPS FOR APPLYING** are provided on the following page.



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## ZA-ZS OPTION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION INFORMATION

### How to Apply

To apply to the ZA-ZS option, please complete the steps below by: **ASAP**.

☐ **Complete the Online Graduate Professional Development Application**

- Access the application online at [oakland.edu/apply](http://oakland.edu/apply).
- New applicants will need to create an admissions account
- Start a new application by selecting the application type "Grad – Professional Development" and your desired admission term
- Follow the prompts to complete the application. On the Planned Course of Study page, please select "Professional Development – Education" and list the course(s) you wish to register for (EC 552 and EC 553)

☐ **Submit proof of Undergraduate/Graduate Degree**

Proof of degree can include any of the following (only one is needed):

- a copy of official or unofficial transcripts
- a copy of your diploma  
(if you are an Oakland University alumnus, you do not need to send proof of degree)

☐ **Submit proof of ZA Endorsement**

- a copy of your teaching certificate indicating you have a ZA endorsement

**Submit proof of degree and endorsement by scanning/emailing it to [gradinfo@oakland.edu](mailto:gradinfo@oakland.edu).**  
Please make sure your full name (that matches your application) is included.

### Syllabus

The instructor will provide the syllabus and course schedule online (via Moodle) or at the first class meeting. If you have questions regarding the course prior to the class starting, please contact the instructor directly.

### Tuition and Billing

The current 2016-17 graduate in-state tuition is **\$680.75** per credit hour. Student Financial Services will send all official billing notifications to your Oakland University email account. If you have any questions regarding billing, please contact SFS at (248) 370-2550.

### Registration Information

Once you are admitted as a Professional Development student, you will receive a Welcome and Registration packet via email from Andrea Lewis. This packet will walk you through the steps to register for your courses. Seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Applying for Professional Development status does *not* reserve your seat. Please review the [Important Dates](#) and visit the [Office of the Registrar](#) for more information.

### Transcript

Course grades and transcripts can be accessed through SAIL: [sail.oakland.edu](http://sail.oakland.edu).

### Questions?

Contact Andrea Lewis from Outreach & Program Services at (248) 370-3996 or by email: [alewis@oakland.edu](mailto:alewis@oakland.edu).

*\*New tuition rates are set by the OU Board of Trustees in mid-to-late summer. The board reserves the right to change any and all tuition rates when circumstances make such a change necessary. Tuition is assessed on the student's bill based on the student's class standing, residency and the number of credits enrolled.*