

Early Childhood Education, PreK-2/3 Teachers....if you teaching now with only an Initial License, the following may be of interest to you...

YOU CAN EARN YOUR PROFESSIONAL LICENSE AFTER JUST TWO (2) GRADUATE COURSES!

You should know that the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) has approved just a few agencies throughout the state to offer teachers an alternative pathway to professional license...*one that does not require a Masters degree.*

French River Education Center (FREC) is currently approved by the DESE to offer four (4) such *Professional License Programs* including ***Early Childhood Education, PreK-2/3***

The DESE requires those early childhood education teachers holding an **Initial License (or Provisional/Advanced Standing)** to earn a **Professional License** in the same field *within five years of hire or risk losing certification*. If you are looking for a low cost, alternative pathway to professional license---*one that does not require enrolling in a Masters program*---yet satisfies the teacher licensure requirements of the DESE--- then our program should be of real interest to you.

To earn a professional license through French River's DESE approved program, early childhood education teachers need only to successfully complete **just two (2) graduate courses**---not 10 or 12 courses one would need to take for a Masters. The DESE requires that you take just these two approved core courses—a literacy course and a math course—offered by French River with graduate credits awarded by **Framingham State University (FSU)**. There are no substitute courses allowed. The required FSU courses are as follows:

84.937 *Connecting Mathematical Concepts and Teaching* (4 graduate credits; offered in **January '12**)

LTRC 907 *Literacy Instruction: Connection Theory, Research, and Best Practice* (4 graduate credits; offered in **September '12**)

Where do I take these courses? Start in January '12, and take the DESE required math course at Oxford High School one night a week, for 15 weeks, either **Tuesdays** or **Thursdays**—*your choice of days*, from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. In September '12, you will complete the program by taking the DESE required literacy course one night a week, for 15 weeks, again at Oxford High School, from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Following this schedule, you will complete your professional license requirements for early childhood education in December '12. At the conclusion of the program, FREC will endorse you for professional license with the DESE.

*(Note: the DESE has additional requirements for all teachers which must be met before awarding professional licensure. The actual professional license cannot be mailed to any teacher until he or she first completes a DESE approved program—like ours—and also completes 3 years of teaching in the role of their initial license. **VERY IMPORTANT**....If you have been teaching for less than 3 years, you can still enroll in our program now, complete the course requirements now, and receive your professional license in the mail as soon as you finish your 3rd year of teaching with your initial license.)*

To be eligible for this program...you must meet the following requirements:

- ~must already have your initial license (or Prov/Adv) in early childhood education, prek-2;
- ~must be employed as an early childhood education, i.e., working in the role of your initial license; and
- ~must have completed your mentoring year---or will complete your mentoring year---by **June 2012.**

Compare time and cost...If you are still paying for your undergraduate degree, a Masters now could be difficult financially. By comparison, the FREC professional licensure program in early childhood education requires just two graduate courses. In total, tuition and related expenses, based on current costs, should be less than \$2,600. *(NOTE: FSU sets tuition and it could change.)* Compare this to having to take 10-12 graduate courses at a cost of \$14,000 - \$16,000 plus program fees for a Masters degree. ***You save time and money with our DESE approved professional licensure program for early childhood education teachers.***

Interested? Want to learn more? Ready to enroll now? If you would like to learn more about how you can earn your professional license in early childhood education, after just two (2) FSU graduate courses, or you are ready to enroll and reserve a space in the January '12 program now, call Mike Fields, Director, at 508-987-0219, ext. 101, (mfields@frec.org), or Maddy Dudley at ext. 104 (mdudley@frec.org) or complete and return the form below. We will contact you once we receive this form.

If interested, please complete and return the form below.

Fax to: Mike Fields at 508-987-1396

FREC/NCTA Professional Licensure Program for...

Early Childhood Education, PreK-2/3

January 2012

(Please print clearly)

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I hold a MA Initial License (Prov/Adv) in: Early Childhood Education, PreK-2/3

I am a classroom teacher in _____ and I teach grade _____
(District)

I completed my mentoring year (or will complete my mentoring year) in: _____
(Year)

Best Email address to reach me: _____

Please select one of the following:

_____ For January '12, I prefer the Tuesday cohort group.

_____ For January '12, I prefer the Thursday cohort group.

Kindly complete and fax to 508-987-1396, attention Mike Fields.