

## *Teachers of Students with Moderate Disabilities....*

***If you hold an Initial License, PreK-8 or Grades 5-12, and you are looking to earn your Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) mandated Professional License, this is your *last chance*\* to enroll in French River Education Center's DESE approved program—just three graduate courses instead of a Masters degree!***

### **DO YOU NEED TO EARN YOUR PROFESSIONAL LICENSE?**

**You should know** that the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and 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 Professional License Program for *Teachers of Students with Moderate Disabilities, PreK-8 and grades 5-12.*

**The DESE requires** those moderate disabilities teachers holding an **Initial License** to earn a **Professional License** in the same field *within five years of hire* or risk losing certification. If you hold an initial license as a *Teachers of Students with Moderate Disabilities, either grades PreK-8 or Grades 5-12*, and are looking for a low cost, alternative pathway to professional license---*one that does not require enrolling in a Masters program for your professional license*---yet satisfies the teacher licensure requirements of the Department of Education--- then our program should be of real interest to you. (*NOTE: if you were not an undergraduate education major, but have a Masters degree and currently hold an initial license, please know that you must still complete a DESE approved professional license program.*)

**To earn a professional license through French River's DESE approved program**, moderate disabilities teachers need to successfully complete just **three (3) graduate courses**---not 10 or 12 courses one would need to take for a Masters. The DESE requires that you take two approved core courses—a math course and literacy course—in addition to a special education course. Graduate credits graduate for these courses are 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; 1 day a week, Tuesdays or Thursdays, at Oxford HS from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., starting January 2012. *Note: there is no class held during the February or April school vacation weeks.*) Tuition: \$1,200

**17.750 Including Special Needs Students in the Classroom** (3 graduate credits; a 5 day course offered the last week of June at Oxford HS from 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.) **Tuition: \$900**

**LTRC 907 Literacy Instruction: Connection Theory, Research, and Best Practice** (4 graduate credits; 1 day a week, at Oxford HS from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in September 2012) **Tuition: \$1,200**

(NOTE: Should you decide to enroll later in a Framingham State University (FSU) Masters degree program in moderate disabilities after completing our professional license program, please know that both our Literacy Instruction course and Connecting Mathematical Concepts course are also required concentration courses in the FSU Masters program, i.e., you can apply both these courses towards your Masters degree. In summary, you can earn your professional license now to meet the DESE licensure requirements within the five (5) year time line and, by doing so, you will have already completed two of the required courses for a Masters degree in moderate disabilities at FSU should you choose to pursue a Masters at a later time.)

Following this schedule, you will complete your moderate disabilities professional license requirements in December 2012. At the conclusion of the program, FREC will endorse you for professional license with the DESE as a *Teacher of Students with Moderate Disabilities* at your grade level. Once you have taught for three years with an initial license, if you have not done so already, the DESE will issue you a professional license.

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

~must **already have your initial license** as a teacher of students with moderate disabilities, PreK-8 or Grades 5-12;

~must be **employed as a moderate disabilities teacher** working in the role of your initial license; and

~must have **completed your mentoring year**---or will complete your mentoring year by June 2011.

**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 moderate disabilities requires just three (3) graduate courses. Tuition and related expenses, based on current costs, should total approximately \$3,600. (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 approved professional licensure program in moderate disabilities*

**Interested? Want to learn more? Ready to enroll?** If you would like to learn more about how you can earn your professional license in moderate disabilities, PreK-8 or grades 5-12, after just three (3) FSU graduate courses, or you are ready to enroll, call Mike Fields, Director, at 508-987-0219, ext. 101, ([mfields@frec.org](mailto:mfields@frec.org)), or Maddy Dudley at ext. 104 ([mdudley@frec.org](mailto:mdudley@frec.org)) or complete and return the form below. We will contact you once we receive this form.

**NOTE: We are enrolling NOW for January 2012. Don't delay as program space fills up quickly!**

FREC Professional Licensure Program for...

Teachers of Students with Moderate Disabilities, PreK-8 and Grades 5-12

**PROGRAM START DATE: January 2012**

(Please print clearly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Employed as a moderate disabilities teacher in the following School District:

\_\_\_\_\_

My initial license in moderate disabilities is for the following grade levels: \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE: You must pursue your professional license at the same level that you have your initial license)

**I know that to be eligible for the professional license program, I must: *already have my initial license in moderate disabilities; be employed as a moderate disabilities teacher working in the role of my initial license; and have completed my mentoring year, or will complete my mentoring year by June 2011.***

**NOTE: NO TUITION MONEY IS DUE AT THIS TIME. Program enrollees are billed August 1 with tuition due September 1.**

**For the math course in January '12, I prefer to attend the program on (choose the class day most convenient for you):**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Tuesdays*      \_\_\_\_\_ *Thursdays*

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