



NEWS RELEASE

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DAVENPORT UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF URBAN EDUCATION RECEIVES APPROVAL FOR NEW MASTER'S PROGRAM

Classes Planned to Start Oct. 29

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., July 30, 2014 – Davenport University is proud to announce that it has received approval from the Michigan Department of Education as well as from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) to offer the Michigan Alternate Route to Interim Teaching Certification (MARITC) through its new College of Urban Education. Recruitment of the first cohort of students for Davenport's Master of Urban Education program is now underway, with classes scheduled to begin Oct. 29.

"Davenport's College of Urban Education will change how teachers and education leaders are prepared to serve in urban K-12 settings," said Dr. Richard Pappas, President of Davenport University. "We are proud of our partnership with Grand Rapids Public Schools and Innovation Central High School, where DU students will gain valuable experience teaching right from the start."

"Our Master of Urban Education degree program is a real game changer," stated Dr. Andre Perry, Founding Dean of the College of Urban Education. "Among the many ways we will differentiate ourselves is the selection of candidates based on the Grand Rapids Public Schools District's needs. Our students will spend more time practicing in real classroom settings than they would at other programs and they will learn how to use data analytics to improve student outcomes." Also, students admitted into the Master of Urban Education program will take classes and graduate as a cohort.

"Davenport has been a longstanding partner with GRPS, and we're excited for the new College of Urban Education to start," said Mark Frost, Principal of Innovation Central High. "It is a real benefit to GRPS students to have this program embedded in our school, focused on our student outcomes and academic growth."

Eligible candidates for the program must already possess a bachelor's degree and have passed the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification basic skills test and subject area competency exam.

Candidates for the program do not need to be teachers already, nor do they need to have obtained an undergraduate degree in education. Classes start full-time on Oct. 29 and will include in-seat and online courses based out of Innovation Central High. Upon successful completion of the program, candidates will be awarded a master's degree and teacher certification in math, English or integrated science.

The College of Urban Education and University Admissions will host an Open House to answer questions from interested students. The Open House will take place **Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at Davenport's Cook Center, 45 Ottawa Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.**

For more information about Davenport's College of Urban Education or to apply for the Master of Urban Education program, please visit davenport.edu/urban or call 800-686-1600.

About Davenport University

Founded in 1866, Davenport is a private, non-profit university serving nearly 10,000 students at campuses across Michigan and online. With tuition among the lowest of all private universities in the state, Davenport provides high academic quality, small class sizes, conveniently located campuses, faculty with real-world experience and more than 50 dynamic undergraduate and graduate programs addressing in-demand careers in business, technology and health professions. More information is available at www.davenport.edu.

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