



RIO SALADO COLLEGE

A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Letter of Discontinued Traditional & Alternative EPP Program

RE: #1043 Early Childhood Trad/Alt program

To Whom It May Concern:

Please let this letter serve as a notice to the Arizona Department of Education of our intent to discontinue the **1043 Early Childhood Trad/Alt program** EPP program offered at **Rio Salado College** leading to an Institutional Recommendation. Discontinuation of this program will be effective as of **November 30, 2024**.

We have included a copy of our required plan to notify and assist current program participants of the discontinued program. ([R7-2-604.02.C.8](#))

Please select from the following:

☐ Program WILL NOT have any participants or completers after the program is discontinued.

☒ Program WILL have participants and/or completers after the program is discontinued.

☐ Will advise participants/completers that there will be a need for a transcript review when applying for certification.

☒ Will have completers finishing that were in a state board approved program for most of their participation and will need to make a plan with EPP Specialists.

If you have any questions about this discontinued program, please email our department at:

Jennifer.Gresko@riosalado.edu.

Sincerely,

Signature: 

Jennifer A Gresko
Faculty Chair, Educator Preparation Programs
July 17, 2024

Teach-Out/Program Closure Plan

- 1) The college identifies the discontinuation of the program well before the program renewal deadline. **(November 2023)**
- 2) The college identifies students who will be affected by program discontinuation by program identification/field of interest within the college. **(November 2023 – April 2024)**

-Students will meet with the college/department support services to create their personalized completion plan.

Options include:

1. Some students will finish the program on or before the end date with no additional action needed.
2. Some students will finish the program after the program approval date. The program will notify and work with ADE with specific student scenarios. A continuation plan may include students maintaining continuous enrollment at the college.
3. Some students may need support in finding another approved program or pathway to fulfill their requirements.

3) Notify stakeholders of the discontinuation of the program

Send mass communication, via email, to notify:

1. Students **(April 2024)**
2. Partners (schools) **(May 2024)**

Remove program information from websites. **(November 2023)**

Remove program offering from applications (no new students) **(November 2023)**

Notification Letters to Students

Teach out On Track

Dear Rio Salado Early Childhood Teacher Candidate,

We are excited that you have chosen the Educator Preparation Program (EPP) at Rio Salado College to obtain your Early Childhood Teaching credential. The following notice is being provided to inform each of you that we will be phasing out our Early Childhood program and will no longer offer the program to NEW students beginning immediately.

As a currently enrolled Early Childhood certification candidate, we want to assure you that your dedication to pursuing a career in Early Childhood Education is commendable and we are here to support you through the completion of your certification program. Our records indicate that you are on track for completion of your credential coursework no later than Spring of 2025. Therefore, as long as you stay continuously enrolled in

your current program and obtain grades of “C” or better in your coursework then nothing changes for your program.

The teach-out program offers a structured pathway for completing your certification requirements, ensuring that you receive the necessary training and support to excel in your future classroom. Please know that our desire is to ensure that you achieve your goals for certification and our team is here to help you in finishing the program.

As we seek to phase out the program we want you to stay focused on your goal and remember that you are not alone in this journey. Our Educator Preparation Program team looks forward to celebrating your success as a certified Early Childhood educator.

Please contact your Student Support Staff member to discuss your program plan for completion by Spring of 2025.

Teacher In Residence *Student Support Teams are assigned by the student’s last name:*

- **Last names A-L should contact:**
Epp.PostBac1@riosalado.edu
480-517-8504
- **Last names M-Z should contact:**
Epp.PostBac2@riosalado.edu
480-517-8113

Traditional Post-Baccalaureate Students contact us at (480) 517-8414 or email student.teaching@riosalado.edu

Teach out - Need a plan

Dear Rio Salado Early Childhood Teacher Candidate,

We are excited that you have chosen the Educator Preparation Program (EPP) at Rio Salado College to obtain your Early Childhood Teaching credential. The following notice is being provided to inform each of you that we will be phasing out our Early Childhood program and will no longer offer the program to NEW students beginning immediately.

As a currently enrolled Early Childhood certification candidate, we want to assure you that your dedication to pursuing a career in Early Childhood Education is commendable and we are here to support you through the completion of your certification program. The teach-out process does ensure that you will be able to continue with your coursework as long as the following conditions below are met. Failure to meet these conditions will result in removal from the teach-out option:

- Enroll and complete at least one course each Fall and Spring semester, through completion of your program.
- Obtain grades of “C” or better in all Early Childhood certification coursework; a “Y” grade is considered failing.

The teach-out program offers a structured pathway for completing your certification requirements, ensuring that you receive the necessary training and support to excel in your future classroom. Please know that our desire is to ensure that you achieve your goals for certification and our team is here to help you in finishing the program.

As we seek to phase out the program we want you to stay focused on your goal and remember that you are not alone in this journey. Our Educator Preparation Program team looks forward to celebrating your success as a certified Early Childhood educator.

Please contact your Student Support Staff member to outline a schedule for completion of your program. **Once a schedule for completion is established, this date will be shared with the Arizona Department of Education and no additional extensions will be granted. Failure to meet the agreed upon established timeline of completion will result in program non-continuance..**

Please reach out to your Student Support Team at student.teaching@riosalado.edu or call (480) 517-8414 to schedule a time to finalize your program. You must schedule this appointment no later than May 15th, 2024. If you no longer wish to continue in the Early Childhood program, please let us know that also. If an appointment is not scheduled by May 15th, 2024, you will be no longer eligible to participate in the teach-out option.