THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL

- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.
- Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

College/School:
Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: 012030001302501
Unit Codes can be found at: https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html_Reports/units.htm

Department/Program:
Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits: 012031001311503

Type of Action (choose one):

☐ Curriculum change (including informal specializations)  ☐ New academic degree/award program
☐ Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration ☐ New Professional Studies award iteration
☐ Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration ☐ New Minor
☐ Suspend/delete program ☐ Other

Italics indicate that the proposed program action must be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.

Summary of Proposed Action:

We are requesting that admissions to the Undergraduate Program in Early Childhood Education (ECE) in the Department of Human Development and Quantitative Methodology (HDQM) be suspended. Although the ECE program is of high quality, reduced budgetary and faculty resources in HDQM make the program in its present form difficult to sustain. During the suspension of admissions to the program, the Department will develop and implement a Masters-level Certification Program or an Outreach-based certification program in Early Childhood Education. This new program will be designed to allow our early childhood faculty to focus their efforts on early childhood education in a more efficient and targeted manner, while also being more financially viable and stable. The new program will also provide a more contemporary focus on children at-risk to respond to the changing needs of school systems. Our goal is to have a Masters-level or Outreach-based certification program in place by 2016; this is when the last cohort of ECE students in the current undergraduate program will graduate. Thus, the Department will continue to accomplish its mission of producing early childhood educators, but will be able to do so with a higher quality program and with more efficient allocation of faculty resources within the Department.

In summary, our request for program action is based on a reduction of resources that makes it difficult to sustain the ECE program in its present form. In addition, school system needs have changed, requiring early childhood educators to have more focused training in working with children at-risk. Suspending the program provides time to develop and implement a graduate-based certification model that will be more directly responsive to these needs and be more viable with respect to Departmental resources.

Proposed Timeline: We request suspension of the undergraduate ECE program this spring so that the last group of incoming freshman is admitted in Fall 2012.
APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair  ROBERT MARCUS  [Signature]  3/27/2012

2. Department Chair  KATHY WENTON  [Signature]  3/27/12

3. College/School PCC Chair  DENIS SULLIVAN  [Signature]  3/27/12

4. Dean  MARGARET J McLAUGHLIN  [Signature]  4-2-12

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)  

6. Chair, Senate PCC  

7. University Senate Chair (if required)  

8. Senior Vice President and Provost  