

EIU Model Template for completing an RME form. Please direct any questions to the Office of the VPAA.

**Instructions:** Use this form when seeking approval from the IBHE to: 1) elevate an existing option to a stand-alone degree program, 2) change a program's degree designation, 3) create a new post-baccalaureate certificate program, 4) offer an existing program at a new off-campus location out of EIU's region, or 5) develop a new (but temporary) research or service center. **NOTE:** If your request is for a research or service center, please adapt the questions as appropriate. **Under question 6, answer only 6.c. (growth and need for the program).**

### 1. Name of the program

New name:

Previous name:

### 2. CIP (classification of instructional programs) code

See <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2002/cip2000/>. If in doubt, leave this item blank.

### 3. Learning goals and assessment methods

### 4. Catalog copy for new program, including all required courses and total hours for degree completion

### 5. Program alignment with college goals and the university mission

EIU Mission: Eastern Illinois University is a public comprehensive university that offers superior, accessible undergraduate and graduate education. Students learn the methods and results of free and rigorous inquiry in the arts, humanities, sciences, and professions, guided by a faculty known for its excellence in teaching, research, creative activity, and service. The University community is committed to diversity and inclusion and fosters opportunities for student/faculty scholarship and applied learning experiences within a student-centered campus culture. Throughout their education, students refine their abilities to reason and to communicate clearly so as to become responsible citizens and leaders.

### 6. Program alignment with IBHE strategic plan: A Thriving Illinois <https://ibhestrategicplan.ibhe.org/>

Briefly describe how the program will address the three goals of *A Thriving Illinois: Higher Education Paths to Equity, Sustainability, and Growth*: 1) **equity**: close the equity gaps for students who have historically been left behind, 2) **sustainability**: build a stronger financial future for individuals and institutions, and 3) **growth**: increase talent and innovation to drive economic growth. **(PLEASE ANSWER ONLY 6.c. growth and need for the program.)**

6a) equity: close the equity gaps for students who have historically been left behind

Eastern Illinois University is committed to fostering a learning community where all members feel welcomed and valued. The university provides equality of opportunity in all areas of campus life, and we strive to recognize and appreciate the unique value of our students, faculty, and staff. Every member of campus has the right to learn and work in an environment free of discrimination and harassment, and, beyond that, our goal is for all members of our community to develop a strong sense of belonging to Eastern Illinois University. As an institution with a Fall 2023 first-time full-time cohort that identified as 45.68% non-white, EIU is a significantly diverse community of undergraduate and graduate students, as the following composition demonstrates:

- American Indian/Alaska Native 0.13%
- Black/African American 11.86%
- Asian 3.56%
- Hispanic/Latino 14.21%
- Two or More Races 1.92%
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander 0.07%
- White 54.32%
- International 10%
- Unclassified 3.95%

EIU has a long and established commitment to providing enhanced support for underrepresented students. Below, we present an overview of critical resources, programs, and offices:

- **Office of Inclusion and Academic Engagement (OIAE)** (formerly the Office of Minority Affairs) intentionally connects students from underrepresented groups to high-impact practices such as undergraduate research, study abroad, and internships. Indeed, the office's core mission is to connect minority students with the resources and experiences necessary to thrive. Further, staff offer personal support, answer questions, provide information on special scholarships and internships, dispense relevant academic information, and provide general information on campus life and social activities.
- **TRiO Student Support Services** is a comprehensive federally-funded program offering undergraduate students academic assistance. Students can become participants at any point in their program (freshman through senior) and remain in the program until they receive their undergraduate degree from EIU. There is no charge for services provided to students through student support services. TRiO reports to OIAE and is co-located with the Academic Success Center in McAfee Hall.
- **Gateway** is housed in the OIAE. The program is longstanding and a highly successful provisional admission program. Specifically, Gateway is an intensive academic program that supports provisionally admitted students in Year 1, and as needed in Year 2. Gateway students participate in regular mentor meetings and are required to participate in a range of co-curricular activities such as study tables and tutoring.
- **Office of Accessibility and Accommodations** is committed to facilitating the provision of equal access and opportunity to all campus programs and services for students with disabilities. One of four core units in the Academic Success Center (ASC) housed in McAfee Hall, the office works with students and faculty to ensure EIU is able to maximize student success by ensuring the institution is positioned to meet the accommodations and needs of all learners.
- **Testing & Evaluation Operations (TEO)** supports the educational mission of the university by providing high-quality testing, exam scoring, evaluation and survey services for faculty, students, and staff. In addition, TEO provides testing services to the local community. Services for all constituents are provided in a professional, secure, and accessible environment that supports academic success. TEO reports to the Academic Success Center (ASC) and is housed in McAfee Hall.
- **Academic Support Center** is a specialized unit supporting students returning to campus who may be on academic probation or readmitted following an academic dismissal. A member unit of the ASC, the center coordinates and staffs several EIU courses focused on academic skills development and offers workshops and one-on-one counseling.

#### **6b) sustainability: build a stronger financial future for individuals and institutions**

EIU's historical value proposition has been to provide Illinois residents a high-quality education at an affordable price point. Therefore, EIU continues to be the lowest cost of attendance of all four-year public institutions and has specifically developed scholarship programs that simultaneously support academic excellence and access. Several scholarships enable students to effectively and efficiently leverage financial aid and merit-based programs. Since this degree is designed for non-traditional students, here are the scholarships designed for transfer students:

**Automatic Scholarships:** Academically talented students entering Eastern Illinois University will automatically be offered the Transfer Academic Excellence Scholarship at the time of application to the university. This scholarship is automatically

renewable for a total of 2 years (4 semesters). Eligible students are required to maintain full-time consecutive undergraduate enrollment in fall and spring semesters, and maintain specific GPA requirements.

**Competitive Scholarships:** Eastern Illinois University offers over 600 scholarship opportunities to new and continuing students e.g., Honors Transfer Student Scholarship.

**Success and Engagement Award:** Students who do not meet the GPA requirements for the Transfer Academic Excellence Scholarships but showcase leadership and involvement can receive \$2,000 (\$1,000 annually). Students must be enrolled full-time (12+ hours) and maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress in order to receive this award. Students can apply for annual renewal contingent upon earning a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and the submission of a narrative describing continued involvement within EIU’s campus community.

**Panther Promise Tuition Waiver (up to \$2,500):** File the FAFSA and possess a household income between \$55,000 and \$100,000

**EIU Promise:** A last-dollar tuition and fees scholarship for first-time students reducing total tuition and fees to \$0 for individuals with household incomes less than \$66,000 and a 3.0 GPA or higher.

**Phi Theta Kappa:** One-time award worth \$1,000. Fall admission only. Associate degree required.

**6c) growth and need for the program: increase talent and innovation to drive economic growth**

**6C1. summary of similar programs in the state or peer institutions**

Institution	Program Name	# Enrolled, Fall ____

**6C2. Demand for graduates of the program; empirical and/or other data**

**6C3. Types of careers for which the program will prepare graduates**

**6C4. Timeline for meeting IBHE minimum program enrollment (currently 40 students in undergraduate programs and 10 students in graduate programs, both by the fifth fall semester of enrollment)**

Academic Year	# Enrolled Fall 10th day	# Graduates


**7. Admission and graduation requirements****8. Impact on other programs at EIU**

Will the program require courses from other departments and do they have the capacity? Will this program compete with other programs on campus? If the proposed program includes courses from another department, then evidence of consultation with that department must be provided.

**9. Staffing needs**

Expected faculty, staff, and administrative costs for the first five years

**10. Resource needs**

Expected space needs, lab equipment, library, technology costs for the first five years

**11. External funding, fees, or income (if applicable)****12. Dates of consultation with appropriate dean(s) and Provost**