

1086-M1-731 **Jennifer E. Szydlik*** (szydlik@uwosh.edu), Math Department, UWO, 800 Algoma Blvd.,
Oshkosh, WI 54901. *Big Ideas in Mathematics: An Inquiry-Based Program to Prepare Elementary
Math Specialists.*

During the past fifteen years, the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh has prepared more than 200 mathematics specialists for the elementary grades. Our program is designed to help pre-service teachers gain a deep understanding of elementary and middle school mathematics, its definitions, representations, and connections to the broader mathematical landscape; to reveal mathematics as the practice of making sense of patterns; to examine the mathematical thinking of children; and to develop mathematical habits of mind. We will provide an overview of the program, its inquiry-based courses, and some materials we have developed to support these students in doing mathematics. (Received September 11, 2012)