Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T)

This is an opportunity for post baccalaureate provisionally certified practicing teachers of record to work toward a graduate degree concurrent with their studies toward elementary teaching certification (grades Pk-5). This cohort based program encourages authentic collaboration around learning, teaching, and advocacy with colleagues similarly committed to pedagogical excellence and equitable educative opportunities for all children.

Program Structure

- Aims to promote relevancy, interconnectedness, and applicability for beginning teachers of record
- Support novice teachers as they work in urban high needs schools in the metro Atlanta area
- Prepares teachers without previous coursework in education not only to meet the needs of the students they serve, but also to address the challenges in their urban school contexts.
- Supports beginning teachers of record during the vulnerable induction phase of teaching
- Provides an instructional bridge for beginning teachers as they learn to connect course content and effective pedagogical practices to their own classrooms.

How to Apply

The application priority deadline is June 1 for a Fall program start date.

In addition to the general criteria for graduate admissions in the College of Education as found in the Georgia State University Graduate Catalog, applicants will also be required to meet the following criteria:

1. Undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university
2. Undergraduate GPA of 2.75 or higher
3. Official scores on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) from the past five years
4. Passing scores on the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE) Test of Basic Skills or exemption from this test based on GRE, SAT, or ACT scores.
5. Academic or professional letters of recommendation.
6. Goals Statement
7. Resume
8. Writing sample (i.e., print or electronic publication, course paper, professional blog series, etc.)
9. Employment Verification
**Program of Study**

Students who successfully complete the entire program of study and meet program requirements (44 credit hours) receive a M.A.T. in Early Childhood Education and will be recommended by GSU for a clear renewable certificate (grades PK-5). OR receive the certification by completing the certification only portion on the Program of Study (35 credit hours)

A. **Professional Studies (9)**

   Required (9):
   - EPRS 7910 Action Research (3)
   - EPSF 7100 Critical Pedagogy (3)
   - EPY 7090 The Psychology of Learning and the Learner: The Young Child (3)

B. **Content Courses of Teaching Certification In Early Childhood Education:**

   Required (23):
   - ECE 6361 Responsive and Student Centered Pedagogy (3)
   - ECE 6390 Foundations of Learning and Teaching Mathematics (2)
   - ECE 6576 Integrative and Iterative Curriculum Design (6)
   - ECE 6586 Advocating for Students through the Descriptive Review of the Child (3)
   - ECE 6587 Language and Literacy Development (3)
   - ECE 7393 Number and Operation in the Elementary Classroom (3)
   - ECE 7576 Teacher Inquiry for Critical Change (3)

C. **Advanced Courses for Endorsement/Specialization (3)**

   Select three credit hours:
   - Courses should be selected from the list of recommended electives after consultation with advisor. Acceptable Prefixes include: CPS, ECE, EPY, EPSF, EDRD, EDLA, TSLE, EXC, EPEL, and EPRS. All courses elected must be at the 6000, 7000, or 8000 level.
   - Courses with other prefixes may be selected with consent of advisor.

D. **Internships (9)**

   - ECE 6575 Beginning Teachers of Record as Reflective Practitioners I (2)
   - ECE 6585 Beginning Teachers of Record as Reflective Practitioners II (2)
   - ECE 7575 Induction Teachers as Change Agents I (2)
   - ECE 7585 Induction Teachers as Change Agents II (3)

   Students must complete all Professional Studies and Content courses with a grade of “C” or higher and Internship courses (ECE 6575, ECE 6585, ECE 7575, and ECE 7585) must be completed with a “B” or higher in order to continue with the cohort.

   All courses in the ECE M.A.T. must be taken in sequence.

   Students must complete EXC 4020 Characteristics and Instructional Strategies for Students with Disabilities (3) or its equivalent to be eligible for recommendation for certification in addition to the program of study requirements.

**Program Total: minimum of 44 semester hours**

Students in this program will be eligible to be recommended for Georgia initial certification after earning passing scores on the GACE Basic Skills Assessment and GACE Content Assessments for Early Childhood Education and successfully completing:

1) EXC 4020 Characteristics and Instructional Strategies for Students with Disabilities (or its equivalent) and EPY 7090
2) The content courses of teaching certification in Early Childhood Education: ECE 6361, ECE 6390, ECE 6576, ECE 6586, ECE 6587, ECE 7393, ECE 7576.
3) The internship courses: ECE 6575, ECE 6585, ECE 7575, ECE 7585.

For more information about this program, contact Laura Meyers, program coordinator, at lemeyers@gsu.edu.