Teacher Certification Process and Procedures

The College of Education offers the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) degree or a similar graduate non-degree program option for those who hold bachelor’s degrees in a related teaching field. The M.A.T. and non-degree options are available for those in Middle Grades Education, Special Education, Early Childhood Education and Secondary Education fields (biology, broad fields science, business, chemistry, economics, English, family and consumer sciences, history, geography, mathematics, physics, and political science), and a P-12 Education field (Spanish education). Concentrations are also offered in Early Childhood and Health and Physical Education. Those who hold a bachelor’s degree and are interested in Early Childhood or Health and Physical Education, another certification option is to complete program requirements at the undergraduate level. For Music Education, certification is only available at the undergraduate level. (See undergraduate program descriptions in the Undergraduate Catalog (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate).) For M.A.T. and all non-degree program options, students must have their transcripts evaluated by Georgia Southern University’s College of Education Graduate Academic Services Center and they must meet all Teacher Education Program (TEP) admission and retention requirements, including an overall GPA of 2.50 or higher on all college course work attempted. If a graduate degree is sought, all admission requirements for the graduate program must also be met and admission granted prior to entering Step Two of the program. See the College of Education’s graduate programs (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/graduate/education/#degreestext) section of this catalog for further information on these program options.

Candidates in a certification program (degree or non-degree) must be admitted to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) by the end of Step One, prior to enrolling in Step Two of the program of study. For non-degree candidates who seek to enter the M.A.T. program, GRE or MAT test scores must be submitted and admission granted into the M.A.T. degree program before enrolling in Step Two. Any M.A.T. program application submitted by a candidate who is enrolled under non-degree status will not be considered for admission once the candidate enrolls in Step Two courses.

Prospective students should contact the College of Education Graduate Academic Services Center with questions and go to http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu for an Application for Evaluation for Initial Teacher Certification. The completed application should be submitted along with transcripts and payment of the required fee ($25.00). Allow at least two weeks for the evaluation process to be completed. Evaluations will be mailed to the applicant upon completion.

All applicants are expected to meet the criteria for admission to the Teacher Education Program. Further requirements for alternative certification students are outlined in the Application for Admission packet which is mailed out with each completed evaluation.

Candidates for the M.A.T. or a graduate non-degree program are advised by graduate program faculty assigned at the time of admission.

For further information about alternative certification programs and the transcript evaluation process, please contact:

Graduate Academic Services Center
College of Education
P.O. Box 8083
Statesboro, GA 30460
(912) 478-1447
FAX: (912) 478-5093