Admission and Retention in the Teacher Education Program

Admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) is required for those students wishing to pursue the M.A.T. degree or related non-degree program that leads to initial teacher certification. (See the Undergraduate Catalog [http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/archive/2015-2016/university] for undergraduate TEP requirements.) M.A.T. or non-degree certification students must make formal application for admission into the Teacher Education Program which includes a TEP admissions folio review during Step One of the program. Also, during Step One of the M.A.T. program, students begin using an electronic assessment and data management system. This system supports the monitoring and assessment of students’ progress through the TEP.

In order to be admitted into the Teacher Education Program (TEP), a graduate student must have:

1. Earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 or better on all previously attempted coursework.
2. Earned a total adjusted GPA of 2.75 or higher on all teaching field coursework.
3. Completed English composition and college algebra courses (or equivalents) with a minimum grade of “C.”
4. Successfully completed the GACE Program Admission Assessment examination or be exempted by SAT/ACT/GRE scores.
5. Successfully completed the appropriate GACE Content Assessment examination. (Not required for MAT Concentration in Special Education.)
6. Successfully completed the TEP Admissions Folio Review during Step One of the program.
7. Earned a passing evaluation on TEP Admissions field experience rubrics during Step One of the program. Any student who does not successfully complete the field component of the required course(s) may apply through the COE graduate studies office to attempt this field experience again. This field experience will be repeatable as field placements are available and must be completed successfully within three attempts, including the original attempt.
8. Successful completion of writing sample and interview, if applicable (see Transfer Student Plan available from the College of Education's Student Success Center.)
9. Submitted proof of liability insurance.
10. Completed a criminal background check.
11. Opened an active account with the College of Education’s electronic assessment and data management system.
12. Created a MyPSC account with the Georgia Professional Standards Commission and claim Georgia Southern University as your program provider.
13. Completed the Georgia Educator Ethics-Program Entry (350).
14. Received a Preservice Certificate from the Georgia Professional Standards.

All of the following requirements must be met for retention in the Teacher Education Program:

1. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, in the MAT program.
2. Students must earn a minimum grade of “C” in all professional education and all teaching field course work.
3. Students must successfully complete all field experiences.
4. Students must not have been found in violation of the Georgia Southern Student Conduct Code. Reviews will be made on a case-by-case basis based on the seriousness of the violation and with regard to consistency.
5. Students must not have violated the Georgia Professional Standards Commission’s Code of Ethics for Professional Educators. Students are provided a copy upon admission and must sign a statement agreeing to abide by this Code of Ethics upon admission into TEP.
6. Students must be making satisfactory progress toward meeting program objectives. Programs will be responsible for monitoring student progress and providing guidance to students who may be having difficulty meeting retention requirements.
7. Students must maintain liability insurance.
8. Students must maintain an active account with the College of Education’s electronic assessment and data management system.