

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

Fall 2025

Why Apply?

- Three-year cohort program with evening courses
- Tuition credits provided through MCPS employee benefits – Direct Billing to MCPS
- Student is expected to pay University & student fees
- On-the-job internships in Montgomery County Public School
- Earn a certification in Special Education (Infant-Primary, Elementary/Middle, or Secondary)
- Accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and approved by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).
- EDTPA support and guidance

Program Info

The Towson University M.A.T. program is for post-baccalaureate students who do not have any prior formal training in the field of education. Admission to this program is limited exclusively to full-time employees of Montgomery County Public Schools. Courses meet once a week in nine-week sessions, which allows students to take two classes per semester but only one class at a time. Students are admitted entering the program annually in the fall. The M.A.T. program is a cohort program, which admits a limited number of students each year, on a “rolling admission” until the cohort reaches student # class capacity. Students are encouraged to apply and submit all required documents early, but no earlier than 12 months prior to the start of the program.

Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission, students must:

Have a GPA of 3.0 for full admission. A GPA between 2.50 and 2.99 may be considered for conditional admission.

Have no more than 18 credits of content courses to complete while in the program

Submit a complete application consisting of the following:

- Official transcripts (from all colleges attended)
- Résumé
- Written statement
- Two letters of recommendation

After admission, but prior to starting classes, students will attend orientations at USG.

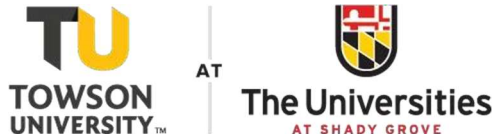
**Students should plan to apply in the FALL for entrance into the program one year prior to the start date(s).

For more information, please visit <https://www.shadygrove.umd.edu/universities/towson-university>

Eric Kuhn, Program Director, at epkuhn@towson.edu

Marc Trainum, Site Coordinator, at mtrainum@towson.edu

Steps to a Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) Degree in SPECIAL EDUCATION at



The M.A.T. in Special Education begins cohorts annually at the beginning of each fall semester.

- ___ 1. **Submit unofficial transcripts and requests a transcript analysis to the TU MAT office.** Transcripts are evaluated to determine any content area required in addition to the M.A.T. course work. Please submit **unofficial** transcripts to: mat@towson.edu. You can review the following link for transcript analysis instructions at: <https://bit.ly/3DL4qT9>.
- ___ 2. **Begin completing your prerequisite course requirements upon feedback from MAT office.** Students **cannot** enter the program with more than 18 content credits to complete while in the program. **All** content requirements must be completed prior to entering the final semester. **STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COMPLETE ALL CONTENT REQUIREMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

(Completion of content requirements prior to admission does NOT guarantee admission.)
- ___ 3. **Obtain employment with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS).** The M.A.T. in Special Education program is **ONLY** open to current MCPS employees. *If you are not an MCPS employee, please contact the Program Coordinator.*
- ___ 4. **Apply to Towson University.** We will begin accepting applications **one year** prior to the cohort start date. Application directions will be sent after you receive your transcript analysis feedback from the TU MAT office. Please contact Marc Trainum or Eric Kuhn to request the link to the directions for applying.
 - ___ A. **Submit official transcripts.** Official transcripts should be sent electronically to Towson University through the official transcript electronic delivery system from your degree granting institution(s) *
**Students should take note of how and where they submit their transcripts*
 - ___ B. **Submit two letters of recommendation.** You **MUST** complete this process by submitting contact e-mail information for your recommenders in the online application.
 - ___ C. **Submit a résumé.** (Please include in section 6 of the online application)
 - ___ D. **Submit a written statement.** 1-2 pages discussing your reasons for entering the teaching profession (include in section 6 of the online application)
- ___ 5. **Get admitted to Towson University and USG program.** To qualify for admission to the USG program, students must:
 - Be a full-time employee of Montgomery County Public Schools
 - Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 (*A GPA between 2.50 and 2.99 may be considered for conditional admission.*)
 - Have no more than 18 credits of content courses to complete while in the program
 - Submit a **complete** application with **all** additional materials (See step 4 above)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained by visiting <https://shadygrove.umd.edu/> or contacting

Eric Kuhn, Program Director, at 301-738-6326 or Epkuhn@towson.edu

Marc Trainum, Site Coordinator, at 301-738-6062 or mtrainum@towson.edu



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Master's of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) in Special Education

Transcript Analysis

Transcripts must be evaluated to determine any content area required in addition to the M.A.T. course work.

1. Write a brief cover letter stating the following information:

- Your name
- Your TU student ID number (if you have previously attended Towson University)
- Your mailing address
- Your e-mail address
- Your telephone number
- Your intended area of concentration

The M.A.T. in Special Education program offered at USG includes the following areas of concentrations:

Special Education– Infant / Primary
(Birth-grade 3)

Special Education– Elementary/Middle
(Grades 1-8)

Special Education-Secondary (Grade 6-adult)

2. Gather unofficial or official transcripts from all 2-year and 4-year colleges/universities attended* *If you attended Towson University, your TU ID in your cover letter will suffice.

If you submit official transcripts to the M.A.T. office, they will be shared with the Graduate Admissions office.

3. Unofficial Transcript analysis request and cover letter can be e-mailed to:

mat@towson.edu

You will receive written notification of your transcript analysis results mailed to your home address. Any missing content area required for the program will be identified.

**STUDENTS CAN HAVE NO MORE THAN 18 CONTENT COURSE CREDITS TO COMPLETE WHILE IN THE PROGRAM
ALL CONTENT COURSES MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO ENTERING THE FINAL SEMESTER IN THE PROGRAM**

Applicants are encouraged to complete content courses as soon as possible. However, completion of content courses prior to receiving admission to the M.A.T. program does not guarantee acceptance into the program.



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MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING (M.A.T.) IN SPECIAL EDUCATION (INFANT/PRIMARY, ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE, SECONDARY TRACKS)

Prerequisites:

- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university
- Employed by Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS)
- Content courses (required content courses as determined by a transcript analysis) must be completed prior to enrolling in EDUC 798

FALL, YEAR 1	Credits	SPRING, YEAR 1	Credits
SPED 637 Inclusion for the Classroom Teacher	3	SPED 525 Formal Tests and Measurements for Students with Disabilities K-12	3
EDUC 730 Principles of Learning, Development & Diversity	3	SPED 632 Assessment Issues for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students (INFANT - PRIMARY & ELED only)	3
		SPED 601 Curriculum/Methods of Instruction for Secondary Transition (SCED Only)	3
Total Credits	6	Total Credits	6
FALL, YEAR 2	Credits	SPRING, YEAR 2	Credits
SPED 646 Using Technology to Differentiate Instruction	3	SPED 641 Curriculum/Methods of Instruction for Students with Disabilities	3
SPED 607 Curriculum/Methods of Classroom Management for Students with Disabilities	3	SPED 605 Working with Families of Students with Disabilities	3
Total Credits	6	Total Credits	6
FALL, YEAR 3	Credits	SPRING, YEAR 3	Credits
EDUC 797 Internship I with Seminar	3	EDUC 798 Internship II with Seminar	6
ECED 623 Strategies for Teaching and Writing: Balanced Literacy Approaches in an Early Childhood Classroom (INFANT - PRIMARY only) in conjunction with EDUC 797	3	ECED 621 Assessment of Reading & Writing in Early Childhood Education (INFANT - PRIMARY only) in conjunction with EDUC 798	3
EDUC 787 Instructional Practices in the Development of Literacy (ELED only) in conjunction with EDUC 797	3	ELED 621 Literacy Assessment in the Elementary Classroom (ELED only) in conjunction with EDUC 798	3
REED 602 Teaching Reading: Theory & Practice (SCED only) in conjunction with EDUC 797	3	SCED 561 Teaching Reading in the Secondary Content Areas (SCED only) in conjunction with EDUC 798	3
Total Credits	6	Total Credits	9