






University of Alaska Anchorage
College of Education
Master of Arts in Teaching Program
2010-2011

The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) is a comprehensive teacher preparation program for the exceptional graduate student who has both academic preparation in a content area and significant life experiences. The program integrates course work and field experiences to meet Alaska and national teacher education standards. Graduates of the MAT program are prepared to become educators who are:

-  Excited about teaching and learning in 7th-12th grade classrooms. (K-12 for some specialty areas such as music and physical education.)
-  Committed to a life of thoughtful practice.
-  Dedicated to working with *all* children, their families, and support personnel.
-  Knowledgeable in the appropriate subject matter and skilled in how to teach it.
-  Committed to the highest standards of professional ethics.

There are three options for completing the program. The Fast Track Option is an intensive 3-semester program with course work beginning in either January 2010 (fall application) or May 2010 (spring application) and ending in late April 2011. The Two-Year Option allows for part-time enrollment with program completion April 2012. The Alternate Route Option is for candidates in high needs content areas who already are employed as a teacher and need initial teacher certification. (Additional application materials are required for applicants who qualify for this option.) Regardless of the option taken, successful candidates are recommended for teacher certification at the end of this program.

Applicants must contact a College of Education advisor for a transcript analysis **prior** to submitting an application for admission to the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) and the University of Alaska Anchorage. See page 4 for additional information about the Initial Endorsement Content Preparation Review Form.

All tests must be completed by September 1, 2009 (fall application) or February 1, 2009 (spring application). (Praxis II may be taken in September 2009 or March 2010, respectively, i.e. after the application due dates. However, those applicants will be considered only if open slots remain).

Applications to the MAT program and supporting documentation are due in the College of Education, Room PSB 224, on or before **Thursday, October 1, 2009** (fall application, for spring admission) or **Monday, February 22, 2010** (spring application, for summer admission).

Admissions may be restricted due to limited availability of internship placements.

Check our web site for information and updates.

<http://coe.uaa.alaska.edu/programs/teaching/secondary/index.cfm>

MAT Application for Admission
Master of Arts in Teaching Program 2010-2011
(Check one box in each column.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fast Track Option | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall – October 1, 2009 Application Deadline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two-Year Option | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring – February 22, 2010 Application Deadline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Route Option (must consult with COE before selecting this option) | |

Name: _____

UAA ID Number (preferred) or Social Security Number: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Previous degree(s) earned (including baccalaureate with major):

All applicants must have a content teaching major related to the teaching areas below. Please indicate the teaching area in which you seek endorsement:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> English/Language Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> ESL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music (K-12) | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education (K-12) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> World Languages (language: _____) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Career and Technical Education (select one option from Business Education, Family and Consumer Sciences, or Technology Education) | |

Admission Process

When the UAA Enrollment Services Office has received all transcripts, test scores, and other required materials, the applicant's file is forwarded to the College of Education and combined with College of Education materials for consideration by the MAT Admissions Committee. In order to be considered for the next cohort group, all materials must be received on or before October 1, 2009 (fall application, for spring admission) or February 22, 2010 (spring application, for summer admission). MAT coursework begins the semester following the application date. (Fall application results in Spring admission; Spring application results in Summer admission.)

Admission to the program is competitive and based on a two-part review of the applicant's credentials. The first committee review is preliminary and based on the documentation submitted by the applicant. If the applicant is recommended as a strong potential candidate for admission, then he/she is scheduled for an admissions interview. The Admission Committee makes a final decision based upon a consideration of all the data.

All applicants are reviewed in three areas:

- Academic preparation and demonstrated content knowledge competency in the endorsement area sought.
- Successful experience with adolescents.
- Dispositions for teaching, including collaborative skills and the ability to work with children and families from diverse backgrounds.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the university requirements for admission to graduate programs, applicants will be holistically evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Verification of a baccalaureate degree with an expected minimum of a 2.75 G.P.A. in the last 30 credits of the baccalaureate degree or subsequent graduate-level coursework. Undergraduates may apply during their senior year with anticipated graduation in May 2010 (or sooner).
- Passing scores on the Praxis I, a test of basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. This test is also required by the State of Alaska; the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development determines passing scores.

<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/TeacherCertification/>

Passing Scores for the Praxis I exam are:

<i>Reading</i>	175
<i>Writing</i>	174
<i>Math</i>	173

Provisions are available for disability services or if your primary language is not English. Please see the Praxis Registration Bulletin or website for details. It is highly recommended that you take this test well in advance of the MAT application deadline in the event that you may need to retake a section of the test to raise your score.

- Scores from the relevant content knowledge Praxis II test. Scores must be within the Average Performance Range (25th percentile) or higher. *Competitive* scores will be at the national median (50th percentile) or higher. Please consult the

College of Education for specific passing scores for the Praxis II. *The section on the score report from ETS that denotes the “Passed/Not Passed” Status cannot be used to ascertain whether or not the Praxis II score is passing for the MAT program.* Provisions are available for disability services or if your primary language is not English. Please see the Praxis Registration Bulletin or website for details.

- Demonstrated evidence of content area preparation in the teaching area for which the applicant is seeking endorsement, including the “Initial Endorsement Content Preparation Review” that has been signed by an appropriate College of Education faculty advisor. The Review Form may be printed from the College of Education website. Transcripts (unofficial are acceptable) are to be attached to the form. **Applicants should be aware that many endorsement programs will require additional content course work, which must be completed prior to admission to the MAT Program and/or recommendation for teacher licensure.** The Review Form may be printed from the MAT website.
<http://coe.uaa.alaska.edu/programs/teaching/secondary/index.cfm>
- Applicants are expected to be competent in the area of technology before entering the program. Students are responsible for improving their skills, if necessary, by enrolling in a course, self-study, or other appropriate method.
- Essay explaining: 1) why you are applying to the teacher education program, and 2) how your prior experiences have prepared you to work successfully with children and families in our diverse, multicultural society and schools. Please double space this 2-3 page essay, use 12-point font, and label it “MAT Admission Essay.” Include your name on the paper.
- A current resume. Include all education, training, jobs and other relevant experiences from high school graduation to now.
- Documentation of experience with school-aged children and adolescents. This should be a one- or two-page descriptive list and may be volunteer work. Give a short description of the experience including specifically what you did. Please include this as a separate sheet and label it “Experiences with Adolescents.”
- Two letters of recommendation that speak directly to the applicant’s qualifications to be admitted to the MAT program and her/his choice of teaching as a career. At least one of the letters should address the academic expertise in the endorsement area and preferably come from a college instructor. One or more letters may also address experience with school-age children (not preschool or adults). All letters must include a contact phone number and/or email address. Writers of the letters of recommendation may be contacted by the College of Education. The letters may be mailed separately by the writer or submitted in a signed and sealed envelope with the application. See the last page of this packet for information to give to the letter writers. Additional letters beyond the two required will not be considered. References need to be professional; that is, letters from friends are not acceptable.

Additional Requirements

MAT students will also need to meet the following requirements before beginning the internship:

1. Student Teaching Authorization (this includes fingerprinting). This is due in to the College of Education Student Services Office (PSB 209) by **Monday, February 22, 2010**. Please contact the COE Student Services Office in early February to obtain the forms and instructions. **IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The State of Alaska requires fingerprinting/background check prior to the internship experience. If the background check is not passed, you will not be allowed to continue into an internship.
2. Current physical exam. This can be completed either in the spring or summer before the beginning of the Fall Internship. The UAA Student Health Center provides physical exams to enrolled students at no cost. More information will be provided upon enrollment in the MAT Foundations classes.
3. Student accident insurance maintained throughout internship. Additional information will be provided before the Fall Internship. Accident insurance is required for all students enrolled in the MAT and may be purchased through UAA. Please complete an "Accident Insurance Form." (Forms are available from the College of Education Student Services Office.) A \$13.65 fee will be charged for fall and spring semesters (total of \$27.30). However, if you have health insurance coverage, please bring in proof of coverage and you will be given a form to take to the Accounting Office to waive the fee.
4. Although not required, it is highly recommended that admitted students have their own laptop computer or readily accessible home computer. Distance classes require the use of a computer. Generally public computer labs cannot be used for distance classes because of the interaction (speaking) required. The UAA IT Webpage has information about suggested computer specifications and purchase options. <http://technology.uaa.alaska.edu/computer/>

Checklist of Required Application Materials

1. UAA "Graduate Application for Admission." There is a \$60 fee with this form. The application may be completed online at <http://edit.uaa.alaska.edu/admissions/index.cfm> Choose Master of Arts in Teaching. If you are applying in the fall, then select spring admission. (Spring applicants would select summer admission.)
 - _____ Submit to the UAA Enrollment Services Office at least one month in advance of MAT application deadline.

 2. Official transcripts (expected 2.75 GPA)
 - _____ Submit official transcripts (other than the UA system) with verification of Bachelor's degree to the UAA Enrollment Services Office. Please allow processing time so that transcripts will arrive before the MAT application deadline. Applicants who are finishing their undergraduate degree (except for those attending UA) will also need to submit an additional official transcript when the degree is conferred.

 3. Praxis I Test.
 - _____ Have score reports from ETS sent to the University of Alaska Anchorage College of Education (RA4896) AND to the Alaska State Department of Education and Early Development (R7027).

 4. Praxis II Test.
 - _____ Have score reports from ETS sent to the University of Alaska Anchorage College of Education (RA4896) AND to the Alaska State Department of Education and Early Development (R7027).

 5. MAT "Application for Admission." (Page 2 of this packet)
 - _____ Submit to the College of Education by October 1, 2009 (fall application) or February 22, 2010 (spring application)

 6. Documentation of successful experience with adolescents.
 - _____ Submit to the College of Education by October 1, 2009 (fall application) or February 22, 2010 (spring admission).

 7. *Essay.
 - _____ Submit to the College of Education by October 1, 2009 (fall application) or February 22, 2010 (spring application).

 8. *Current Resume.
 - _____ Submit to the College of Education by October 1, 2009 (fall application) or February 22, 2010 (spring application).
- *Note: Essay and/or Resume may be submitted by the College of Education to school district personnel to assist in determining your internship placement.
9. Two letters of recommendation.
 - _____ Submit to the College of Education by October 1, 2009 (fall application) or February 22, 2010 (spring application).

10. Initial Content Preparation Review Form.

_____ Submit to the College of Education by October 1, 2009 (fall application) or February 22, 2010 (spring application).

11. Student Teaching Authorization (including fingerprint cards and money order).

_____ Submit to the College of Education by February 22, 2010 (fall or spring application).

State of Alaska Certification Requirements

Teacher certification (licensure) is awarded by the State of Alaska through the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (EED) in Juneau. Therefore, in addition to successfully completing all requirements for the certification program of the MAT, students must meet all requirements specified by the EED at the time of their application for the teaching certificate. In addition to the background check/finger printing, there are currently three other State of Alaska requirements. These requirements are embedded in the MAT and require no further action by applicants.

1. Praxis 1

The sub-tests (reading, writing, and mathematics) measure basic competency skills and are required for admission to the MAT. MAT admission requires the minimum scores set by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. See their website for further information.

<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/TeacherCertification/praxis.html>

Applicants for State certification require no further action. (Notice: The applicant must submit an original score report to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.)

2. Multicultural/Cross-Cultural Communication competency

The Alaska State outcomes for multicultural/cross-cultural communication competency are embedded in the curriculum of the MAT Program. Therefore, applicants for State certification require no further action.

3. The Alaska State outcomes for Alaska Studies competency are embedded in the curriculum of the MAT. Therefore, applicants for State certification require no further action.

Test Information

Applicants must plan their test-taking schedule carefully in order to meet the application deadlines for the MAT. All tests (except Praxis II) must be taken by September 1, 2009 (fall application) or February 1, 2010 (spring application). It is to your advantage to take the Praxis II early. However, due to limited offerings of the test, if the Praxis II is taken in October (fall application) or March (spring application), your application will still be given consideration *but only after other applications have been reviewed*.

Praxis I

The Praxis I is offered on a regular basis as a computer based exam through the Prometric Testing Center. Please call 1-800-853-6773, option 3) to schedule the Praxis I. Call well in advance (at least 4 weeks) for an appointment. Also allow 3-4 weeks for the score report to arrive.

Prometric Testing Center
3401 Minnesota Drive
Anchorage, AK 99503

The Praxis I may also be taken on campus (paper and pencil exams) on scheduled testing days (see below). For more information, see the Praxis Series Registration Bulletin, or visit the following websites:

<http://www.ets.org>

<http://coe.uaa.alaska.edu/exams.cfm>

Praxis II

This test is offered on campus only, and is administered on a limited basis by the testing company. Required Praxis II test numbers are provided on the following page of this packet. Registration bulletins, test descriptions, and sample question are available online. The test dates are always Saturday.

Testing dates for the Praxis II are:

June 13, 2009

March 13, 2010 *

July 25, 2009

April 24, 2010 *

September 12, 2009 *

June 12, 2010 *

November 14, 2009 *

July 24, 2010 *

January 9, 2010 *

**ETS has not yet published exact tests dates for 2009-2010. Therefore, these are estimated test dates. Please consult the ETS website in mid-July for the exact date.*

September 2009 - Latest test date to meet fall 2009 application deadline.

March 2010 - Latest test date to meet spring 2010 application deadline.

Register online at least 6 weeks in advance. Also allow 5-6 weeks for the score report to arrive. <http://www.ets.org>

Approved Endorsements Praxis II Tests

Required Praxis II

<u>Endorsement Areas</u>	<u>Test Name</u>	<u>Test Number</u>
English/Language Arts (7-12)	English Language, Literature & Composition: Content Knowledge	0041
ESL (7-12)	Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge	0511
General Science (7-12)	General Science: Content Knowledge	0435
Mathematics (7-12)	Mathematics: Content Knowledge	0061
Music (K-12)	Music: Content Knowledge	0113
Physical Education (K-12)	Physical Education: Content Knowledge	0091
Social Studies (7-12)	Social Studies: Content Knowledge	0081
World Language (7-12)*		
French	French: Content Knowledge	0173
German	German: Content Knowledge	0181
Spanish	Spanish: Content Knowledge	0191
(French, German & Spanish contain a listening section)		
Japanese		**
Russian		**
Other		**
Career and Technical Education (7-12)		
Business	Business Education	0100
Family & Consumer Sciences	Family & Consumer Sciences	0120
Technology	Technology Education	0050

*World Language Endorsements also require the OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview) Test. Schedule this at least 6 weeks in advance of the application deadline.

<http://www.languagetesting.com/>

**Contact the College of Education at (907) 786-4401 for information on the established alternative to the Praxis II test.

Additional Information

Addresses and Phone numbers:

UAA:

Enrollment Services Office

Located at University Center – Physical location - 3901 Old Seward Highway

3211 Providence Drive

Anchorage AK 99508

Phone: (907) 786-1480 Fax: (907) 786-4888

<http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/studentaffairs/enrollment/index.cfm>

College of Education

Professional Studies Building, Room 209 (formerly Building “K”)

3211 Providence Drive

Anchorage AK 99508

(907) 786-4401 (main number)

<http://coe.uaa.alaska.edu/>

Initial Program Inquiry

Phone: (907) 786-4401

Fax: (907) 786-4444

aymat@uaa.alaska.edu

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development:

Goldbelt Place

801 West 10th Street Suite 200

Juneau AK 99801-1894

(907) 465-2857 (main number)

<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/>

Recruiting

Alaskateacher.org

Anchorage

Adn.com

Financial aid

uaa.alaska.edu/financialaid

Acpe.state.ak.us

Accident Insurance

alaska.edu/swrisk

**University of Alaska Anchorage
College of Education**

Master of Arts in Teaching Program

Letters of Recommendation

Intellectual Vitality, Collaborative Spirit, Inclusiveness and Equity, and Leadership are the Core Values of the College of Education. These four principles permeate all of our classes and programs. In addition, we expect candidates to enter our programs with some initial indications of dispositions that support these Core Values.

Letter writers should address as many of these indicators as they have observed. Additional comments beyond these indicators are also welcome.

Intellectual Vitality

- Critically examines self and work
- Engages in inquiry and research
- Asks questions and thinks critically

Inclusiveness and Equity

- Considers opinion of others with an open mind
- Interacts in a polite and respectful manner
- Demonstrates empathy and concern for others

Collaborative Spirit

- Cooperates with others
- Assists peers
- Supports decisions of the group, even if different from own
- Listens attentively

Leadership

- Initiates communication to resolve conflict
- Maintains emotional control
- Adapts to unexpected or new situations
- Maintains positive attitude when necessary changes occur
- Is prompt & reliable

Letters should come from someone with whom you have had a professional or academic relationship, i.e., your work supervisor, a professor you have recently taken a class from, or, perhaps a professional colleague. Letters should be “current”.

Letter writers are to include contact information (phone & email). Letters should be on company or business letterhead, when appropriate. The College of Education may contact letter writers to obtain additional information and/or clarification of what was stated in the letter.

Letters can be submitted to the College of Education by the applicant in a signed and sealed envelope. Or, if the writer chooses, letters can be sent directly to the University of Alaska Anchorage, College of Education, 3211 Providence Dr., Anchorage, AK 99508. Attention: MAT Program