

**Alternative Certification for Teaching
ACT Program- MAT Degree
Master of Arts for Teaching**

Two options: for working teachers and for full time students

Prerequisites: (necessary for a provisional certificate (NT certificate) and/or to enter the MAT program)

- Minimum 2.75 GPA
- Bachelor's content degree that aligns with GA public school curriculum (or content course work as determined by the transcript evaluation)
- Pass GACE Program Admissions or GACE Basic Skills test (or have the exemption, SAT 1000+, ACT-43+, GRE 1130+)
- Pass GACE Content Assessments and
- Pass SEED 2999 (secondary education) or MGED 2999 (middle grades education)

STEPS FOR ENTRY INTO ACT/MAT PROGRAM (either the June or January cohort)	
<i>Inquiring about the process (2 parallel processes) Contact Dr. Barbara Radcliffe or Dr. JT Cox (229-333-5611)</i>	
College Education (Middle & Secondary)	Graduate
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Must have earned a minimum of a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. 2. Must have a 2.75 GPA or higher on all coursework from accredited institutions. 3. Must have a COMPLETED Transcript Evaluation on file. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transcripts from ALL undergraduate and graduate institutions previously attended must be included for evaluation. • Submit Transcript Evaluation from and all transcripts to Mrs. Renee Whitmer – RM EC 2105 4. Must have completed all appropriate content coursework as indicated by the transcript evaluation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If content courses are still required, applicants must seek admission to Valdosta State University as a certification student. 5. Must have passed or exempted the GACE Program Admissions test (GACE Basic Skills). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exemptions: Applicants who have <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. an SAT score of 1000 or greater or b. an ACT score of 43 or greater or c. a GRE score of 1030 or higher or d. earned a Master's degree from an accredited institution 6. Must have passed the GACE Content Tests in the intended area(s) for certification. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary Education certification requires only one concentration area. • Middle Grades certification requires two concentration areas 7. Pass SEED 2999 (secondary education) or MGED 2999 (middle grades education) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply to Graduate School (online application) 2. Submit all official transcripts to the graduate school 3. Submit to graduate school acceptable scores on MAT or GRE (minimum MAT 375, minimum GRE 750) 4. Meet admission deadline (mid-April for June cohort and mid-November for January cohort)
<p>When all above listed requirements are completed letters of acceptance will be sent from the Graduate School and from the Department.</p>	

Two options exist in the MAT program for teacher certification:

1. Employed Teacher option – The Employed Teacher track is for those who are currently teaching on a non-renewable/induction certificate. It is designed as a two year program; at the end of the first year (18 credit hours) a candidate may be recommended for initial certification at Level 4 after completing all program requirements and passing the GACE at the Induction level or Professional Level, and at the end of the second year (additional 18 credit hours) a candidate may earn a master's degree (M.A.T.) and be eligible to upgrade their certificate to Level 5.
2. Full-time student option – The Full-Time Student track of the M.A.T. is a fifth year program beyond a bachelor's degree and is a full-time program in which candidates may earn a master's degree (M.A.T.) and be eligible for an induction certificate (once employed) or a certificate of eligibility (while seeking employment) once all program requirements are met and the GACE has been passed at the Induction or Professional Level. This typically occurs in four semesters. The 36-hour degree program requires three full days in schools during the semester before student teaching and five full days in schools during student teaching. Additionally, students participate in evening classes two or three nights a week. Cohort groups begin in June or January.

Contact information: Dr. Barbara Radcliffe (bjradcliffe@valdsota.edu) 229-333-5611