

## Policy on MFT Program Admission

### Policy Availability

The **Policy on MFT Program Admission** is available to the public via the [MFT Homepage > Accreditation > Policies and Handbook](#).

### Admission Philosophy

MFT training requires a high degree of emotional and psychological stability, openness to a variety of perspectives, respect for the diversity of the human race and diverse clientele with which students work, and some degree of self-awareness. The MFT Program actively seeks educated, motivated individuals desirous of earning a Master of Science degree from an accredited program. Prospective students are screened for these qualities during the personal interview. The MFT program adheres to the [VSU Non-discrimination Policy](#) in its admission practices. For more information, go to the [MFT polices](#) page and click on *Policy on Student Recruitment*.

### About MFT Program Admission

The MFT program is traditionally completed in 2 years of full-time graduate work. In consultation with an advisor, students can work out a Plan of Study that takes 3 or 4 years to complete.

After admission, courses taken more than seven years prior to the semester of degree completion cannot be used to meet graduate degree requirements or admission to doctoral candidacy requirements unless otherwise indicated by individual program requirements.

No more than 6 semester hours of academic work may be transferred into the MFT program from another program or institution. Credit considered for transfer must be no more than seven years old at the time of admission unless otherwise approved by the program. Transfer credit will be evaluated by the academic department after the student is admitted.

### MFT Admission Requirements

The MFT faculty has a responsibility to assure that the graduates of the MS in MFT Program who are released to the public domain are qualified, ethical MFT practitioners. To achieve this, the Program maintains the following admission requirements:

1. a conferred baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university
2. an official copy of all college/university transcripts, undergraduate and graduate
3. a cumulative minimum undergraduate grade point average of 2.75
4. three references
5. an essay describing professional goals and reasons for choosing the MFT field and VSU's MFT program
6. personal interview with an MFT faculty member

MFT Program admission requirements can also be found on the [Graduate School website](#) and the [MFT Program website](#).

### **Minors on Campus (MOC)**

In order to provide for the safety and security of children who participate in programs sponsored by and/or held on Valdosta State University property, the University System of Georgia requires that programs serving minors register with the [Minors on Campus Office](#). All MFT students are required to register with MOC. For more information go to the [MFT polices page](#) and click on the Policy on Minors on Campus.

### **Admissions Procedures**

Admissions usually occur between the months of November and June of the following year for the program's Fall-only admission. The MFT Program Admissions Committee adheres to all VSU Graduate Studies Admissions Policies as it moves through the process of reviewing prospective student application packets and conducting interviews with each student applicant. All admission packets are accrued and reviewed through Slate, the applications management platform.

1. An Admission Committee member reviews the admission packet on Slate and determines whether the applicant meets the minimum criteria for admission
  - a. if eligible, the faculty member contacts the applicant and schedules an interview
  - b. if ineligible, the faculty member marks the applicant for denial which informs the Graduate School that the program has declined to interview the student.
2. Admissions committee member interviews prospective students
3. If qualified for admissions, the admitting faculty member
  - a. notifies the Graduate School of the admission decision by indicating admission in Slate and assigning an MFT faculty academic advisor to the student
  - b. sends an email and with welcome letter attached informing the student that they is/are on track for admission and requesting email confirmation of the following:
    - i. student's intention to matriculate
    - ii. affirmation that they have read and can abide by the MFT Program's Diversity Statement
    - iii. affirmation that they have read and can abide by the VSU Student Code of Conduct
    - iv. affirmation that they have read and understand the enclosed description of degree portability
4. The student's response to the welcome email prompts the Program to send the student an information letter reviews program requirements (pr), and provides important information (i) covering such areas these:

Background Check (pr)	Diversity (pr)	Student Code of Conduct (pr)
MFT Orientation (i)	Registration (pr)	VSU Email Address (pr)
Grad Assistantship (i)	VSU 1Card (i)	Office of the Registrar (pr)

This policy addresses Standards V12.5, Eligibility Criterion E: Accuracy and Program Transparency in Policies and Publications and Standard I: Outcome-Based Education Framework and Environmental Support, KE I-C: Plan for Assessing Environmental Supports. Updated Fall 2025. Scheduled for review and update 2028 or sooner if USG or Graduate School admission policies change.

MFT Classes (pr)	Business Cards (i)	Books (pr)
Parking (i)	Health Center (i)	Recreation Center (i)
Odum Library(i)	FERPA (i)	Comprehensive Exams I & II (pr)
<b>AAMFT Ethics Code (pr)</b>	<b>FamilyWorks (i)</b>	<b>Carrying a FW Caseload (pr)</b>
Service Learning (pr)	LAMFT licensure_(i)	Post-Grad Requirements (i)
Standard Curriculum (i)	Degree Portability (i)	Client & Supervision Contact (pr)
Liability Insurance (pr)	Telehealth 3 CEs (pr)	AAMFT Membership (pr)

5. All letters (welcome letter, information letter, etc.) and correspondence related to admission are retained in the student's permanent file.

### Probationary Admission

Applicants can be admitted to the [MFT Program](#) on a probationary basis when the MFT faculty has reason to believe that the student is able to do graduate-level work and may do well in the program even though he/she/they do not meet minimum requirements for one or more admission criteria (GPA, interview, essay, references). Students admitted on a probationary basis are informed in the welcome letter that they must maintain a 3.0 GPA for the first semester of work, regardless of semester hours attempted, and that failure to do so may result in dismissal from the program.

### Related Policies

Policy on Student Recruitment