

Towson University's Master of Arts (MAT) in Special Education for Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) Cohort

Overview

This hybrid program is intended for current **BCPS Paraprofessionals or Provisional Teachers** who hold an undergraduate degree in a field outside of education but are looking to earn their teaching degree. This is a master's degree program that also leads to eligibility for initial teacher certification in the state of Maryland. Graduates are eligible for teacher certification in the special education tracks of *infant/primary, elementary/middle, or secondary/adult*. Classes are to be held in the evenings and will consist of a blend of virtual (online) and face to face (in BCPS school) environments. The final two semesters of the program require internships in special education that can be completed in the candidates' current BCPS school assignment and includes a standardized performance assessment, edTPA.

Program Advantages

This program is designed to support current **BCPS Paraprofessionals and Provisional Teachers** in gaining their certification in special education. Upon the successful completion of coursework, students will be eligible to take the Praxis tests required to earn a state teaching certificate. The program, designed to accommodate working professionals, includes coursework with a strong emphasis on inclusive practice, consultation and collaboration, effective and universally designed instruction through a cross-categorical disability approach. This program has been nationally accredited by both national and state accrediting bodies. Past MAT graduates in special education have a long history of high performance, earning 100% passage rate on the Special Education Praxis and 100% employment rate in special education following graduation. Tuition will be offered at a reduced rate, and employees eligible for reimbursement may seek reimbursement from BCPS.

Admission Requirements

Please see the accompanying Admissions Checklist developed for this cohort. Applicants who meet the program requirements will be admitted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Individuals interested in this program are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

Interested?

Send an email to:

Jenyfer Lewis, Program Coordinator, MAT Program jlewis@towson.edu
Michelle Pasko, Graduate Program Director mpasko@towson.edu



Program of Study

Infant/Primary & Elementary/Middle Tracks

Fall 2022

SPED 637 Inclusion for the Classroom Teacher (3)

Spring 2023

EDUC 730 Principles of Learning, Development, and Diversity (3)

SPED 641 Curriculum and Methods of Instruction for SWD (3)

Fall 2023

SPED 525 Formal Tests and Measurements for Students with Disabilities (SWD)/K-12 (3)

Spring 2024

SPED 605 Working with Families of SWD (3)

EDUC 717 Children's Literature and Other Materials for Teaching Reading (3) (MSDE required reading course)

Fall 2024

SPED 607 Curriculum and Methods of Classroom Management for SWD (3)

Spring 2025

ECED 618/ELED 611 Principles and Processes of Language and Literacy (3) (MSDE required reading course)

SPED 646 Using Tech. to Differentiate Instruction (3)

Fall 2025

SPED 632 Assessment Issues for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students (3)

Spring 2026

EDUC 797 Internship I with Seminar (3)

ECED 623/EDUC 787 Literacy Methods (MSDE Required Reading Course)

Fall 2026

ECED 621/ELED 621 Literacy Assessment (MSDE Required Reading Course)

EDUC 798 Internship II with Seminar (6)

Program of Study

Secondary Track (English, Biology, Math, or Social Studies)

Fall 2022

SPED 637 Inclusion for the Classroom Teacher (3)

Spring 2023

EDUC 730 Principles of Learning, Development, and Diversity (3)

SPED 641 Curriculum and Methods of Instruction for SWD (3)

Fall 2023

SPED 525 Formal Tests and Measurements for Students with Disabilities (SWD)/K-12 (3)

Spring 2024

SPED 605 Working with Families of SWD (3)

SPED 601 Curriculum and Methods for Secondary Transition (3)

Fall 2024

SPED 607 Curriculum and Methods of Classroom Management for SWD (3)

Spring 2025

SPED 670 Remedial Literacy Practices (3)

SPED 646 Using Tech. to Differentiate Instruction (3)

Fall 2025

SCED 560 Using Reading and Writing in the Secondary School (4) (MSDE Required Reading Course)

Spring 2026

EDUC 797 Internship I with Seminar (3)

Fall 2026

SCED 561 Teaching Reading in the Secondary Content Areas (3) (MSDE Required Reading Course)

EDUC 798 Internship II with Seminar (6)