

Master of Arts in Teaching

The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program provides a rigorous and integrated coursework focused on field experiences, evidence-based instructional techniques, research-based strategies, resources, and technologies to meet the diverse learning needs of students.

The MAT program is intended for individuals holding a bachelor's degree who wish to transition into a special education career.

WHAT MAKES SIUE THE BEST CHOICE?



Accredited by National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and ranked exemplary by Illinois State Board of Education



State-of-the-art Virtual Professional Practice Lab that simulates experiences to master skills in teaching



Military tuition rate, enhanced scholarships and tuition waivers are available

What do our students say about our program?

Entering the MAT program was one of the best decisions I have made. The cohort exposed me to the Virtual Professional Practice lab, which gave me the confidence to complete my field placements. In addition, it gave me the opportunity to build lasting relationships with future teachers just like me.

- Lunetha Robinson



The MAT program has allowed me to pursue my goals with a group of individuals who are driven, kind and passionate about becoming the best educators they can be.

The opportunity to earn your master's while working in the field, and being able to take what you learn and apply it every day is just a small part of what makes this program special.

- Terry Chapman

For more information, contact Mr. Connor See at csee@siue.edu or by phone: 217-201-3939.
Please scan this code and fill out our form to be contacted by an instructor in our program!



SCAN ME

What is the Masters of Arts in Teaching (Special Education):

1. A program that offers a post-baccalaureate teacher certification in Learning Behavior Specialist I licensure (special education K-21).
2. The MAT prepares teacher candidates to build a knowledge base to identify and intervene with students who exhibit a wide range of disabilities, including learning disabilities, cognitive impairments, autism, social/emotional disabilities and physical disabilities or other health impairments.
3. Students graduate from a nationally accredited program in two years with courses taught by faculty with terminal degrees.
4. Students can still work full time in your schools while attending classes at night and in the summer.

Why recruit educational assistants (EA) to the MAT?

1. EAs are already an integral part of the instructional process- know the challenges.
2. EAs already live in the community and know the community context.
3. EAs are more likely to stay in teaching and are usually rated higher in performance by principals.
4. EAs are more likely to take jobs in targeted schools and more likely to remain.
5. EAs can help with staffing concerns:
 - a. Earn state licensure and a master's degree in just two years.
 - b. Cohort model- continuous enrollment required to get done in 2 years

What barriers to educational assistants most reference?

1. Balancing work, family and classes
2. Often feel unsure of their academic abilities and study habits- need support
3. Some have language barriers and need to enhance their English proficiency
4. Financial barriers- earn a low wage and require financial assistance (tuition waiver policy has changed, ISBE offers SPE and Minority student waivers, TEACH grant)

What can your district do to help their educational assistants?

1. Creation of a strong partnership with SIUE- 100% pass rate edTPA, accredited program, rated exemplary by ISBE
2. Voice a sustained commitment to the EAs in the program- future employment
3. Establish policies and procedures
 - a. Recruitment and selection process
 - b. Supports at each school that EAs can access (mentors, principals, social workers)
 - c. Funding support and how to secure funding (counselors at HS)
 - d. Regular communication with EAs on how you can support them to secure placements or learning opportunities to complete assignments

What EAs should be recruited for the MAT?

1. Have a BA or BS in anything but education
2. First generation or language diverse
3. Demonstrate grit and determination

Link to the program page: <https://www.siue.edu/academics/graduate/degrees-and-programs/teaching/>