



BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING/NON-LICENSURE DEGREE PROGRAM

3.2022

The Master of Arts in Teaching/Non-Licensure degree (MAT/NON-LICENSURE) is for individuals who have a Bachelor of Science or a Bachelor of Arts degree in a content area other than Education and who would like to acquire the knowledge base of teaching and learning and want to gain the skills and competencies they need to become a teacher. By signing this Memorandum of Understanding I am aware and completely understand that the Belhaven University Graduate School of Education’s Master of Arts in Teaching Degree (MAT) **does not guarantee or qualify me for an educator licensure, certification, or endorsement within the state of my residence or state that I might find employment.***

I have made application for the degree of Master of Arts in Teaching/Non-Licensure and have read and understand the outcomes and considerations of this degree.

I acknowledge that I have fully read and understand the following:

- Once admitted to the MAT/NON-LICENSURE degree program, I am eligible to apply for Federal financial aid.
- **Once I complete this degree, I understand that this degree does not meet the requirement to apply for an initial state teacher certification in Mississippi or any other state.**
- This degree program does NOT require me to have taken or to have passed the MDE required certification tests for admission to the Master of Arts/Non-Licensure degree program as is required of applicants to the Master of Arts in Teaching/Alternate Route to Teacher Certification degree program.
- **This degree program does NOT qualify me to be recommended for a Mississippi Department of Education Alternate Route Teacher Certificate or for any other certifications within the United States.**
- **Once I have been admitted to the MAT/NON-LICENSURE degree program and should I decide that I would like to earn the Mississippi (MDE) Alternate Route Teacher Certification, I may choose to change my degree plan by submitting a Request for Degree Change Form requesting admission to the MAT- ALT/CERT program.**
- **I can only change degree plans if all criteria for admission to the MAT-ALT/CERT degree program have been met. This includes passing all the MDE required tests for Alternate Route Teacher Certification prior to being admitted “Unconditionally” to the MAT-ALT/CERT degree program.**
- I must have qualifying passing scores on the following tests in order to change my degree plan:
 1. Entrance General Knowledge Test (1 of the following 3)
 - Praxis CORE scores: Reading (156), Writing (162), Math (150)
 - ACT scores: Composite score of 21 or higher
 - Qualifying SAT scores
 2. Subject Content Knowledge Test
 - Pass PRAXIS II SPECIALTY AREA TEST: Scores in content area must meet MS qualifying scores – **OR** -
 3. Elementary 4-5-6 Grades: Foundations of Reading Test
 - Only required of candidates seeking teaching licensure for Elementary Education grades 4-6; must take and pass the Foundations of Reading Test (minimum passing score = 229) before they can be admitted to the MAT program.
- Should I take and pass the MDE required Alternate Route Teacher Certification tests once I complete the MAT/Non-Licensure degree program, I will have five years from the date of degree completion to complete the MDE licensure process for my 3-year initial license, obtain a teaching position and complete the two required internship courses to qualify for my 5-year renewable license. I understand that I will need to contact the BU Financial Aid Office to see if the two internship courses will qualify for financial aid once I have earned the MAT/Non-Licensure degree.
- **The Belhaven University School of Education will NOT provide school districts or me with letters for the MDE Special Non-Renewable License. The School of Education will not provide MDE or a School/District with a letter of “Unconditional Acceptance” regarding my status while I am enrolled in the MAT/Non-Licensure degree program.**

***OUT-OF-STATE APPLICANTS & CANDIDATES REGARDING EDUCATOR LICENSURE:** The Belhaven University Educator Licensure Preparation Programs are in compliance with Federal Regulation: 34 CFR 668.43 (a) (5) (v) and 34 CFR 668.43 (c), requiring disclosures by institutions regarding educational requirements for programs leading to professional licensure or certification regardless of modality. The Belhaven University School of Education has made No Determination as to whether Belhaven’s Educator Preparation Programs and curriculum meet other state educational Programs for educator licensure other than those educator licensure programs approved by the state of Mississippi. All of the Belhaven University School of Education educator preparation degree programs leading to educator licensure have been approved by the Mississippi Department of Education. The Belhaven University School of Education’s Educator Preparation Licensure Programs **do not** automatically qualify out of state candidates for educator licensure, certification upgrade, endorsement, or pay increase within their state of residence or state of their employment. Out-of-state candidates are responsible for ascertaining the requirements for licensure, endorsement, or pay increase in the state where they seek employment or licensure.

Candidate’s Name –Printed: _____

Candidate’s Signature: _____ Date: _____