



BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Educator as Servant Leader
Learning to Lead – Leading to Serve

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

12.2020

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – COVID-19 TESTING SUSPENSION

APPLICANTS SEEKING – MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

MAT – ALT/CERT FOR MS ALTERNATE ROUTE TO TEACHER CERTIFICATION

By signing this *Memorandum of Understanding* regarding school educator licensure, I am aware of and completely understand that I have enrolled in the Belhaven University Graduate School of Education's Master of Arts in Teaching leading to the Mississippi Alternate Route Teacher Certification/Licensure program.

I understand that I have been admitted to the program during an exceptional time due to the COVID-19 pandemic which has had a major impact on both K-12 and higher education not only in the state of Mississippi but also nationally and globally.

On March 26, 2020 during a Special Called Meeting, the Mississippi State Board of Education granted approval for MDE to suspend the educator preparation program entry testing criterion only, for all candidates seeking admission to a Mississippi State Board of Education approved traditional or nontraditional educator preparation program on or before December 31, 2021.

Elementary Education is not included under this MDE directive; there is an exception to MDE's suspension for Elementary testing. I understand that a candidate for grades 4-6 elementary alternate route certification will be required to take and pass the Elementary Praxis content area test 5018.

I understand that I am being admitted to the MAT Alt/Cert program during this special testing suspension time and that I will have a short time frame in which to complete the four courses required in order to be recommend for the MS Alternate Route Five Year Temporary Teacher License without having to submit to MDE the requisite test scores.

I understand that I am being enrolled in the program at this time while MDE has suspended the required testing mandates. I also understand that I need to take successfully complete the following courses prior to **July 31, 2022** in order to be recommended for my initial **Three-Year MS Teacher License**.

EDU-501: Measurements and Evaluation Strategies

EDU-506: Classroom Management

I understand that, once I have received my initial three-year MS Teacher License, I need to obtain a teaching position that aligns with the certification area(s) on my initial 3-year license in order to be eligible for enrollment in the two internship courses.

EDU 502: Dimensions of Learning I

EDU 503: Dimensions of Learning II

I understand that I will have the three-year validity of that license to complete the required internship courses to convert to the five-year standard license and remain exempt from test requirement under the COVID-19 test suspension. If all requirements are not met by the expiration of the three-year nonrenewable internship license, the individual shall meet all requirements in effect at that time. If all requirements are not met by the expiration of the three-year nonrenewable internship license, the individual shall meet all requirements in effect at that time.

I understand that it is my responsibility to stay informed and current with any changes and/or updates regarding MDE's status and policies during this suspended testing time of COVID-19.

I understand that if I do not take the afore mentioned courses in the prescribed timeframe, I will not hold the Belhaven University Graduate School of Education responsible should I not meet the conditions, timeframe, and requirements to obtain a MS Alternate Route Teacher License.

In order to enroll and complete the clinical intern hours required for **EDU 502 & EDU 503: Dimensions of Learning I & II** I understand I am required to be employed as a teacher within a school and/or school district within the state.

I have been informed by the School of Education that all paperwork and application for the initial Mississippi Three Year Teacher License must be submitted to MDE on or before July 31, 2022.

I have been informed by the School of Education that all paperwork and application for the renewable Mississippi Five Year Class A Teacher License must be submitted to MDE within the validity of the initial 3-year license in order to be recommend for the MS Alternate Route Five Year Temporary Teacher License without having to submit to MDE the requisite test scores.

I have also reviewed the attached Timeline Chart regarding test suspension.

A Typed Full Name will be Accepted with Date and Time

Type Full Name:

Date:

Time:



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EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER

TO QUALIFY FOR LICENSURE WITHOUT TESTING

TIMELINE

MS ALTERNATE ROUTE TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Due to the suspension of all MDE testing requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic

NEWLY ADMITTED CANDIDATES TO THE MAT ALTERNATE ROUTE TO TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

EDU506 and EDU501 are delivered online during 7-week sessions. * However, EDU 502 & 503: Dimensions for Learning I & II run for a full semester while candidates are employed in a school as a teacher.	New Candidates Admitted For SPRING 1 January 2021	New Candidates Admitted For SPRING 2 March 2021	New Candidates Admitted For FALL 1 August 2021	New Candidates Admitted For FALL 2 October 2021
FALL SESSION 1 AUGUST-SEPTEMBER	XXX	XXX	EDU -506	XXX
FALL SESSION 2 OCTOBER-DECEMBER	XXX	XXX	EDU -501	EDU -506
SPRING SESSION 1 JANUARY-MARCH	EDU -506	XXX	EDU – 503 Dimensions II Teaching in a School	EDU -501
SPRING SESSION 2 MARCH-MAY	EDU -501	EDU -506 (Take 501 in Summer 1)		XXX

Once Candidates successfully complete EDU 501 & EDU 506, they can be recommended for their 3 Yr Alt/Cert Teaching License. They must then be employed as a licensed teacher in a MS school teaching in the certification area that is shown on their licenses and enroll for two complete semesters in **EDU 502 and EDU 503 Dimensions of Learning I & II** their first year of teaching prior to being eligible for their Class A five-year Teacher License.

*EDU 502 FALL FULL SEMESTER OF TEACHING	EDU – 502 Dimensions (Teaching in a School	EDU – 502 Dimensions (Teaching in a School	EDU – 502 Dimensions I Teaching in a School	EDU – 502 Dimensions (Teaching in a School
*EDU 503 SPRING FULL SEMESTER OF TEACHING	EDU – 503 Dimensions II Teaching in a School	EDU – 503 Dimensions II Teaching in a School	XXX	EDU – 503 Dimensions II Teaching in a School

EDU506 and EDU501 MUST be completed by the end of Spring 2, 2022 to meet the MDE no-testing deadline for receipt of the initial 3-year license.

JULY 31, 2022 DEADLINE

ALL DOCUMENTS FOR THE INITIAL 3-YEAR LICENSE MUST BE RECEIVED BY MDE ON OR BEFORE THIS DATE. LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL REQUIRE THE TAKING AND PASSING OF ALL PRAXIS TESTS.