

Admission Requirements. In addition to the admission requirements listed in the *Graduate Education Program* section of this catalog, M. A. in Education – Reading/Language Arts program applicants must provide verification of advisement.

Program Requirements

Under the direction of the Reading Program Coordinator, each student prepares and submits an individually designed program within the following framework:

	<i>Units</i>
1. Course Requirements	22
ERA 220*; ERA 288 (or CI 285) and	
LEE 298A or 299	10
LEE 213, 215, 244, 278**	12
2. Approved Electives	8
(See adviser for suggested courses or groupings. The program offers special elective groupings in Integrated Language Arts, Teaching English Language Learners, Diagnostic/Clinic Experiences, and Reading Recovery.)	
Total	30

* ERA 153 or an approved equivalent is a prerequisite for ERA 220.

** Students meet the Graduate Writing Requirement by passing the writing component of LEE 278. See graduate program coordinator for further information.

M.A. in Teaching (MAT)

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CalStateTEACH Regional Director

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Program Description

The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program is designed to improve classroom instruction, close the achievement gap in California public schools, and extend the academic and technological foundation provided in credential programs. The Web-based MAT program focuses explicitly on applied advanced study in K-12 classrooms. Many of the theoretical and research skills included in conventional master's programs are part of the MAT; however, the MAT emphasizes practitioner-oriented knowledge,

skills, and dispositions necessary to increase learning for all students. Program applicants must be classroom teachers.

Program Requirements

The MAT is a three-semester program (fall, spring, fall) offered to cohorts of students completing a prescribed sequence of courses. A two-day program orientation on the Fresno State campus is required for all entering students.

	<i>Units</i>
Course Requirements	
CalStateTEACH 404 or equivalent*	9
CI 240	3
CI 241**	3
ERA 243	3
CI 245	4
CI 246	4
Culminating Experience	4
(a) Comprehensive exam [0 units], plus 4 units of CI electives	
(b) CI 298 Project [4 units] or	
(c) CI 299 Thesis [4 units]	
Total	30

* The MAT requires 21 units of residency. Non-CalStateTEACH applicants must consult with the MAT program coordinator concerning equivalent coursework.

** CI 241 includes the graduate writing requirement (GWR) as part of the course.

M.A. in Special Education

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Program Description

The Master of Arts in Special Education offers advanced preparation in mild/moderate disabilities and moderate/severe disabilities and is closely related to course requirements for the Professional Level II Education Specialist Credential program. It is expected that students seeking admission to the Master of Arts in Special Education will possess a substantial entry-level background in special education, such as having made significant progress toward completion of the Preliminary Level I Education Specialist Credential program in mild/moderate or moderate/severe disabilities.

Master's degree candidates are provided various opportunities to broaden their professional and educational preparation. Faculty regularly involve degree candidates

in advanced research, professional conference presentations, and collaborative writing for publication. Interested students receive mentoring concerning scholarships, grant writing, positions of leadership in school districts, and doctoral programs.

Applicants seeking the Master of Arts in Special Education who also wish to teach in special education settings in the public schools of California should be concurrently enrolled in the Education Specialist Credential program. The master's degree alone will not provide authorization for classroom instruction in the state of California. Only students seeking teaching positions in states other than California, students seeking expertise for application to employment settings that specifically exclude public education, or students desiring to teach outside of the United States may pursue the Master of Arts without concurrent enrollment in the Education Specialist Credential program. Students with these unique aspirations are responsible for understanding credentialing/licensing requirements that may pertain to their desired work setting.

Students are not required to obtain this master's degree to be employed as a fully credentialed special education teacher in California. It is the credentials (both Level I and II) that provide the required state authorization. Most individuals at the Professional Level II will desire the master's degree as a reflection of their professional preparation beyond the entry level, and for purposes of possible salary augmentation. Students who already possess a master's degree in another field are not required to complete this degree program while pursuing the education specialist credentials.

It is essential that time considerations for admission to and completion of the Master of Arts and credential programs be observed. Applicants who wish to be fully credentialed as special education teachers must complete the Professional Level II Education Specialist Credential program in mild/moderate or moderate/severe disabilities within five years of completing the Level I program. Six units of Special Education coursework may be brought forward from the Level II credential program to the Master of Arts program. The Master of Arts must be completed no later than five years subsequent to taking the first approved course for the degree.