



# TRANSITION *to* TEACHING

Master of Arts in Teaching  
Special Education High-Incidence  
Grades K-6 or 6-12



## Program Advisor:

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To apply to graduate school, go  
to: [https://go.pittstate.edu/  
apps.intro.v2](https://go.pittstate.edu/apps.intro.v2) or scan this code:



*Obtain your license to teach  
students with high-incidence  
disabilities in grades K-6 or K-12*

# FAQ

## Can I enter the MAT program with an emphasis in Special Education if I don't have a degree in any area?

No, a bachelor's degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher is required, in addition to one year of paraeducator experience in special education.

## What if I do not have a 3.0 undergraduate GPA?

Applicants with less than a 3.0 GPA but greater than a 2.75 may be admitted conditionally; an additional GPA review will occur after the completion of 12 hours in which the candidate must have maintained at least a 3.0 GPA.

## How long will it take to complete the program?

The 36-hour program is designed to be completed in a two year sequence of six semesters, with six hours of course work completed each semester. Courses are taken in sequence to optimize the learning experience.

## Are courses offered online?

Yes, course content is presented fully online.

## Can I continue to work as a paraeducator as I take classes?

Candidates must be employed as a paraeducator in an elementary or secondary\*high-incidence setting during the entirety of the program.

## When will I become certified to teach?

Licensure comes at the end of the program after passing the licensure exam; the license qualifies you to teach K-6 or 6-12, high-incidence special education.

## If I am accepted into the program, when do classes begin?

The two-year program starts once a year during the first summer session.

# WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

- A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution
- A minimum of one year experience working as a full time paraeducator in an accredited school
- Employment as a paraeducator during the entirety of the program in an accredited school
- A cumulative GPA of at least 3.00

# WHAT IS THE MAT-SPED PROGRAM AT PSU?

- Fully online master of arts program
- **Practicum performed within duties as a paraeducator**
- Begins each year in June
- 6 hours per semester including summer terms

| COURSE NUMBER:        | COURSE NAME:  | HOURS: | SEMESTER:     |
|-----------------------|---|--------|---------------|
| SPED 738              | CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS WITH HIGH INCIDENCE LEARNING NEEDS                    | 3      | SUMMER YEAR 1 |
| SPED 849              | PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN AND YOUTH                      | 3      |               |
| TCHL 825              | PROFESSIONAL SEMESTER: INITIAL EXPERIENCE   | 3      | FALL YEAR 1   |
| SPED 755              | Individualized Education Programming  | 3      |               |
| SPED 780              | TEACHING SECONDARY STUDENTS WITH HIGH INCIDENCE (ADAPTIVE) LEARNING NEEDS         | 3      | SPRING YEAR 1 |
| PSYCH 810             | ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY   | 3      |               |
| SPED 862              | ACCESSING THE SECONDARY GEN ED CURRICULUM   | 3      | SUMMER YEAR 2 |
| SPED 750              | ASSESSMENT IN SPECIAL EDUCATION   | 3      |               |
| SPED 749/<br>READ 870 | ELA IN THE HIGH-INCIDENCE SECONDARY SETTING/<br>DEVELOPMENTAL READING INSTRUCTION | 3      | FALL YEAR 2   |
| SPED 745              | BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT  | 3      |               |
| SPED 861              | THE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR   | 3      | SPRING YEAR 2 |
| SPED 761              | PRACTICUM I   | 3      |               |

Apply by March 1st for full consideration.

