THINK YOU WANT TO BE A TEACHER?

The College of Education and Human Development
George Mason University
For maximum flexibility, students should apply to the master’s program noting that completion of the master’s is optional for all programs except Elementary Education.

- Early Childhood Ed (PK-3) (EDSE-SPEC; Birth-age 5)
- Elementary Ed* (PK-6)
- Secondary Education (6-12)
- English as a Sec. Lang. (PK-12)
- Foreign Language (PK-12)
- Special Education (K-12)

http://gse.gmu.edu/programs
STEPS TO VIRGINIA LICENSURE

- Bachelor’s degree
- Content/endorsement requirement course work
- Praxis I passing scores or qualifying substitute
- Praxis II passing scores, as required
- Pass Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA)
- Virginia Reading Assessment (VRA), as required
- ACTFL WPT/OPI, as required
- Complete a state-approved program

GMU Licensure Specialist:
Travis Holder edlicen@gmu.edu
HOW DO I BECOME A LICENSED TEACHER?

- Complete a state-approved teacher preparation program
  - All of Mason’s initial licensure programs are state-approved

- Alternative Route to Licensure
  - An applicant must first be hired by a Virginia school division based on the content requirements for the teaching area for which the individual is applying
  - Non-renewable, 3 year license
WHY GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY?

- Nationally accredited (NCATE) programs
- Wide variety of programs
- Convenient class times (4:30 and 7:20pm)
- Team to assist you
  - Advisor
  - Endorsement Specialist endorse@gmu.edu
  - Field Placement Specialist lclarkg@gmu.edu
  - Licensure Specialist edlicen@gmu.edu
### PROGRAM DEADLINES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Ed</td>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>October 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Ed</td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>October 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Ed</td>
<td>April 1 Priority</td>
<td>Nov 1 Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL/Foreign Lang.</td>
<td>March 1 Priority</td>
<td>Nov 1 Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>March 1 Priority</td>
<td>Nov 1 Priority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students accepted for fall are allowed to enroll in summer classes.
APPLY ONLINE

- Steps for Applying [http://cehd.gmu.edu/admissions/steps/](http://cehd.gmu.edu/admissions/steps/)
- Create account and apply online [http://admissions.gmu.edu/ApplyNow/](http://admissions.gmu.edu/ApplyNow/)
- Determine program requirements [http://cehd.gmu.edu/admissions/requirements](http://cehd.gmu.edu/admissions/requirements) and mail supporting documentation to:
  
  CEHD Graduate Admissions
  4400 University Drive, MS 4D1
  Thompson Hall 2700
  Fairfax, VA 22030

- Check your application status online [http://admissions.gmu.edu/ApplicationStatus](http://admissions.gmu.edu/ApplicationStatus)
ENDORSEMENTS

- Prerequisite courses in content area(s) you wish to teach
  - Example: To teach secondary education-math you must have a certain number of credits in Algebra, Geometry, Calculus, etc.

- Licensure: the initial designation from the state of Virginia; Endorsement: Designation on the license noting ages or grade levels and/or subjects, disciplines and disabilities

- Must be within 9 credits of completion of endorsement requirements by the first day of class.

- Course work in progress must be entered in the online review
ENDORSEMENT REVIEW

- Early Childhood*, Elementary & Secondary Ed
  - Complete online review: [http://cehd.gmu.edu/endorse/](http://cehd.gmu.edu/endorse/)
  - *Master’s in Early Childhood no endorsement review at admissions stage

- Foreign Language
  - Contact Stephanie Turner at sszkutak@gmu.edu regarding requirements
  - Option: 30 hours of coursework in target language or ACTFL WPT/OPI score of Advanced Low plus 6 credits of foreign language

- ESL requires 6 credits of a foreign language
- Special Ed does not require an endorsement review
COMPLETE TEST REQUIREMENTS

- Passing Praxis I OR eligible SAT/ACT OR VCLA plus math score are a state requirement for admission to an initial teacher licensure program*

*Applicants to Master’s in Special Education OR Early Childhood Education not required to submit test results at admissions stage

OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Official transcripts (do not need to submit Mason transcripts)
- Goals statement (750-1000 words)
- 3 letters of recommendation

All application materials should be submitted online except for official test scores and official transcripts which must be sent to our office.
COMMUNICATION

- Payment Receipt – Immediately after submission
- Email Confirmation – Several days after submission
  - G# - student ID number to include on all correspondence
- Lacking E-mail – 1 day and 30 days after application is processed
  - Details all outstanding application requirements
- Decision letter
  - Sent by mail
UPDATE YOUR INFO

► Names
  ► List any previous names on your application
  ► If you previously applied to or attended Mason your info may be under a previous name
  ► Submit official change of name request form to admissions office [http://cehd.gmu.edu/documents/admissions/](http://cehd.gmu.edu/documents/admissions/)

► Addresses
  ► Email cehdgrad@gmu.edu with any changes to your address or other contact information

*We cannot discuss your application with anyone else without written consent from you*
HOW DO YOU GET ADMITTED?

Your application will be evaluated using the following standards:

- A minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 credit hours undergraduate
- Praxis I composite score of at least 532 or SAT/ACT/VCLA plus math equivalent
- Strong letters of recommendation
- Endorsement requirements fulfilled
- Interview and writing sample also required by some programs
WHAT IF YOU MISS THE DEADLINE?

- All licensure programs except ELED allow students to take intro courses as a non-degree student.
- Questions regarding class registration eligibility should be directed to the program office manager.
- Restrictions on how many classes can transfer into degree & certificate programs.
- Students should only be in non-degree status for one semester.

[http://admissions.gmu.edu/nondegree/](http://admissions.gmu.edu/nondegree/)
WHAT IS THE COST?

- Board of Visitors sets tuition rates annually in May
  - More information via Student Accounts at http://studentaccounts.gmu.edu/
- In-State Tuition Application is part of online application
  - More information regarding in-state requirements online at http://registrar.gmu.edu/domicile/index.html
SCHOLARSHIPS/FUNDING

- The Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program:
  - For students pursuing teaching careers in shortage or critical needs areas

- General financial aid information can be found at [http://financialaid.gmu.edu/](http://financialaid.gmu.edu/)

- The application for assistantships can be found at [http://cehd.gmu.edu/oasa/funding_opps/](http://cehd.gmu.edu/oasa/funding_opps/)
APPLY FOR INTERNSHIP

- Complete all endorsements
- Complete licensure coursework
- Complete testing requirements
  - Requirements vary by program; may include: Praxis II, VCLA, VRA
    
    [http://cehd.gmu.edu/teacher/intpract/internship_testing/](http://cehd.gmu.edu/teacher/intpract/internship_testing/)

- Submit application to Lauren Clark
  

- Internship manuals by program can be found at
  
LICENSURE RECIPROCITY

- Will my Virginia teacher’s license “transfer” to other states?

- Because Virginia has some of the highest teacher licensure requirements in the country, many states have agreed to offer “reciprocity”

- If you are considering teaching in another state or DC, contact the DOE for that state regarding how to obtain licensure
ASSISTANCE

► CEHD Admissions
   Email: cehdgrad@gmu.edu
   Phone: 703-993-2892; Fax: 703-993-2020
   Mail: CEHD Graduate Admissions
       4400 University Drive, MS 4D1
       Fairfax, VA 22030

► Office of Academic and Student Affairs (OASA)
   Phone: 703-993-2080

► Financial Aid
   Phone: 703-993-2353

► Non-Degree Admissions Office
   Phone: 703-993-2400