

# COLLEGE OF EDUCATION GRADUATE PROGRAMS ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

## Requirements for Admission/Readmission

Each applicant to a graduate program must meet the general Graduate School Standards for admission. Individual programs may have additional requirements for admission and may be restricted because of capacity limitations. Consult departmental or program descriptions for additional information. **Readmission** to some programs in Education (e.g., Educational Administration, Instructional Design and Development Doctoral Program, and some AA/Ed.S. Programs) require review by program faculty.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION: MASTER OF EDUCATION AND MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMS

The programs for the Master of Education degree in the College of Education provide for a major in each area. Both thesis and non-thesis degree options are available to the graduate student. Each degree area specifies courses that support the major area. Supporting courses are developed for the particular demands of the individual degree areas. The programs lead to the Alabama Class A Certificate, or equivalent.

The programs for the Master of Science degree program in the College of Education provide for a major in each area. Both thesis and non-thesis degree options are available to the graduate student. Each degree area provides for areas of study that support the major area. These are developed for the particular demands of the individual degree areas. Supporting areas of study draw upon other divisions of the University, as well as the College of Education, to give greater depth and breadth to the major. Courses in the supporting area are elected by the student after consultation with the advisor.

Students are admitted each semester. The following criteria supplement the Graduate School criteria.

## REGULAR ADMISSION

1. Sufficient courses in the major area to qualify for graduate study in the involved discipline.
2. An appropriate advanced degree may be used in lieu of other requirements for Regular Standing.
3. A completed application for admission to the Graduate School.
4. Official test scores - GRE (must be sent by testing agency to the Registrar). All Master's of Education programs require the GRE except Health, Physical Education, Educational Administration and Counseling. Health, Physical Education, Educational Administration and Counseling will accept the GRE or MAT.
5. Official transcripts from all institutions attended.
6. A copy of a valid Alabama Teaching Certificate.
7. Submission of resume with chronology of professional employment.
8. Two letters of recommendation attesting to your scholarship and/or professional abilities.
9. Two page narrative on your career goals and purpose for graduate study.
10. See departments for any other or more specific requirements.

## PROVISIONAL ADMISSION

See [Categories of Admission](#) for criteria for Provisional Admission and requirements for a provisional student to be changed to Regular Standing.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION: ALTERNATIVE MASTER OF EDUCATION DEGREE PROGRAMS

Students are admitted each semester. Students must meet the criteria for Provisional or Regular Standing in the Graduate School described in Categories of Admission in the general section of the **Bulletin** and the Master of Education or Master of Science Requirements for Admissions sections listed above, as well as the following program criteria:

1. An overall grade-point average of at least 2.50 (A=4.0) documented on the official transcript from the undergraduate degree-granting institution and an overall grade-point average of at least 2.5 (A=4.0) on all college work (undergraduate and graduate) taken prior to admission including courses taken to meet deficiencies.
2. Evidence of having earned as many hours of credit in the subject to be taught as are required in an undergraduate teacher education program. (Minimum 32 semester hours/19 semester hours upper level.) Social Science, General Science and English Language Art composite programs require at least one course in each area of the composite program. For example General Science composite program requires course work in Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Space Science, and Physics. The Office of

Graduate Studies must analyze transcripts to ensure that all coursework prerequisites have been met before application is made to the Graduate School. Deficiencies will be identified and must be completed successfully (grade of C or better) before admission.

3. Elementary and Early Childhood Education and Special Education require completion of 12 hours of course work in each of the following prior to admission to the program: Mathematics, Social Sciences, General Sciences, and English Language Arts. The Office of Graduate Studies must analyze transcripts to ensure that all coursework prerequisites have been met before application is made to the Graduate School. Deficiencies will be identified and must be completed successfully (grade of C or better) before admission.
4. Official GRE test scores must be sent by testing agency to the Registrar. All Alternative Master's programs require the GRE including the Analytical writing section.
5. Successful completion of the APTT (test scores are sent directly to the Office of Student Services in the College of Education). Passing score on the appropriate Praxis II exam required for all programs except ESOL.
6. All Alternative Masters programs, except Special Education, require SPE 500 if not previously taken at the undergraduate level. SPE 510 in required for Special Education majors.
7. Proof of: Clear SDE background check.
8. See department for additional prerequisites or admission requirements.

#### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION: EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST DEGREE PROGRAM FOR THE INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST**

The Educational Specialist degree program for the Instructional Specialist leading to AA Certification, in Alabama, is available in the following areas: Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Educational Leadership, Secondary Education, and Special Education.

#### **ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM**

The requirements for admission to the Program are as follows:

1. The applicant shall have successfully completed a fifth-year program in the same teaching area in which the sixth-year program is sought;
2. The applicant shall have a Master's degree from an accredited institution, and appropriate valid certificate;
3. The applicant shall have at least two year's successful experience as a teacher in the area of specialization in which the sixth-year program is sought, except in for Instructional Leadership, which requires three years of acceptable experience. A Supplemental Experience Form is required as proof of teaching experience.
4. A two to three page narrative, typed and double spaced, stating the applicant's reasons for pursuing an Educational Specialist degree.
5. Three letters of recommendation. Letter may not be written by someone currently teaching in the College of Education.
6. Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores including the Analytical writing section.
7. The Instructional Leadership program requires an admission portfolio with specific content and format. Please refer to the department section for additional information.

Application forms can be requested from the Director of Admissions, University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama 36688-0002. If a student already holds a Master's degree from the University of South Alabama, a new application will be submitted, as this is considered a different program.

#### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION: DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM IN INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT**

Applicants for the doctoral program with a Bachelor's degree or without a Master's degree in Instructional Design and Development or equivalent will be required to complete the Foundational Core courses in the Master's degree in IDD and take a Master's comprehensive exam on the Foundational Core before admission to the regular Ph.D. program.

Applicants with a Master's degree in Instructional Design and Development or equivalent may be admitted to the regular Ph.D. program. After transcript review, however, the admission committee may require additional coursework and/or successful completion of the Master's comprehensive exam.

The Admissions Committee will select the most highly qualified candidates to be considered for admission to the program. A positive effort will be made to identify and recruit minority students into the program. The following must be on file for an applicant to be considered.

1. A completed application for admission to the Graduate School.
2. Official GRE scores, including the writing section, sent by the testing agency to the Registrar.
3. Official transcripts from all institutions attended.

4. A written statement of the applicant's career goal(s) and purpose(s) for pursuing the Ph.D. program in Instructional Design and Development.
5. Three letters of recommendation from persons familiar with the applicant's academic and/or professional abilities.
6. Curriculum vita.

**08/26/2010**