

Masters Plus Certification Program

Why should I consider UD's Masters Plus Certification program?

The Masters Plus Certification Program (MPCP) is for individuals with bachelor's degrees in fields other than education/teaching and who are not only interested in entering the teaching profession but also want to teach students with special needs.

MPCP allows you to earn teacher certification in Delaware while working as a paraprofessional full-time in year one and a teacher full-time in year two. You will complete a state-approved set of professional education courses and assessments while teaching in your own classroom and receive coaching & supervision from a University of Delaware Clinical Coordinator.

Your responsibilities include:

- Teaching students across a range of grade levels and a variety of special needs.
- Collaborating with other teachers to develop instructional strategies that promote student achievement.

The three special needs pathways include:

- Elementary
- Secondary
- Autism/Severe

What are MPCP's eligibility requirements?

- You must have a bachelor's degree with a GPA of 3.0 in a field other than education.
- You must apply and be accepted into the M.Ed. program in Exceptional Children and Youth by Feb. 15th.
- Admission criteria and the online application to the Masters for Exceptional Children and Youth program is found at www.artc.udel.edu
- You must pass all three sections of the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators assessment described online at www.ets.org/praxis/de/requirements.



Then what?

You look for a job! The ARTC staff will guide you as you apply for teaching positions.

What is the MPCP path to certification?

- **During year one:** You will find employment in a Delaware public school as a para-educator.
- **During year two:** You will find employment in a public or charter school district in Delaware as a teacher serving children with special needs.
- **Evaluations:** You will receive two formal evaluations by the MPCP Clinical Coordinator as well as coaching to prepare you for evaluations by local administrators under the Delaware Performance Assessment System (DPAS II).
- **Praxis II Assessment:** You must pass the Special Education Praxis Assessment and a Content Praxis Assessment in the content area of your certification. Information about those assessments is available online at www.ets.org/praxis/de/requirements.
- **Certification:** Once you complete all coursework, pass certification assessments, and obtain satisfactory teaching evaluations, you will be eligible for Delaware certification.

Most other states accept Delaware certification.

If you are interested in learning more about Masters Plus Certification Program (MPCP), please visit www.artc.udel.edu or contact Deborah M. Fetzer at dmfetzer@udel.edu (302) 831-4598 or Rob Grey at rgrey@udel.edu (302)831-0212.