

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (MAT)

Program Overview

The Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) program in Health and Physical Education is designed to provide both a master's degree and initial teacher certification at the T-5 level for individuals holding a bachelor's degree in a closely related field of study (e.g. exercise science, athletic training). Certification in this field is for grades Pre-K through 12. The M.A.T. provides professional and pedagogical studies that develop proficiency in the knowledge, skills, and habits of beginning teachers. While specific course work is in place to ensure meeting teacher certification requirements set by the Professional Standards Commission, aspects of the program are individually designed based on a transcript evaluation.

All educator preparation programs are approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. In addition to the degree requirements, there are further requirements for teaching certification. Visit the Certification page (<https://cctl.columbusstate.edu/certification.php>) on the CSU Center for Quality Teaching and Learning (CQTL) website for detailed information about certification requirements and the certification process.

This plan of study will be determined by the program coordinator based on an evaluation of each student's transcripts and educational experiences. Students who do not have appropriate experiences and coursework may need to take up to 12 additional hours in the program.

Career Opportunities

Successful completion of the M.A.T. program and passing scores on the appropriate Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE) basic skills and content tests allow the candidate to be recommended to the Georgia Professional Standards Commission for teacher certification at the T-5 level (i.e., the letter "T" indicates that the certificate is in a teaching field and the number "5" indicates that the candidate's highest degree is a master's degree recognized by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission).