



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Department of Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership

**M.ED CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
TEACHING AND LEARNING MATHEMATICS IN THE MIDDLE GRADES**

This is a 30-credit, part-time program intended for teachers already certified in elementary or middle school education, special education, or in ESOL. This is a cohort-only program offered in partnership with the Mathematics Department at the University of Maryland and local school districts.

It is a three-year, content-based master's program that prepares teachers to become highly qualified in middle-grade mathematics by strengthening their content knowledge and their professional knowledge about teaching mathematics to students in diverse school settings. This research-based program involves coursework in mathematics content, mathematics education, curriculum-based integrated content, and pedagogy courses, as well as an action research course.

All graduates of the Master's degree in our department demonstrate that they:

- 1) can engage in the careful analysis of and reflection on their own and others' teaching as a basis for continuing growth as a professional;
- 2) understand the content, topics, issues, practices, and policies that support effective classroom practice for diverse students in diverse school settings;
- 3) can engage in effective instruction for diverse students;
- 4) possess the capacity to engage in disciplined inquiry into curriculum, teaching, and students' learning as a basis for decision-making in the classroom, leadership roles in schools, and/or support of research and theory development in the field.

Application Guide for Math Education M.Ed. Program (Degree Seeking)

Apply online at: <https://ter.ps/applyumd>

This guide will help you fill out the graduate school application with information specific to our program. Please read this guide and the information on the Graduate School website carefully (linked above).

Graduate School Minimum Requirements

The Graduate School at UMD requires a minimum GPA of 3.0. If you do not meet Graduate School minimum requirement of 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) in all prior Undergraduate and Graduate work, you may submit a petition for a letter of support from the program director. Contact Dr. Sara Kirschner, skirschn@umd.edu, to make this request.

University of Maryland's Graduate Application Process

As required by the Graduate School, all application materials are to be submitted electronically:

- Graduate application
- Transcripts (upload unofficial copy into application). Please note that upon admission by The Graduate School, applicants are required to submit an official transcript for enrollment at the University of Maryland, College Park by the end of the first semester of enrollment.

The official transcripts should be sent to the graduate school:

University of Maryland College Park
Enrollment Services Operation –
Attn: Graduate Admissions
Room 0130 Mitchell Building
College Park, MD 20742

- Statement of Purpose (see details below)
- Resume
- 3 Letters of recommendation (provide recommender's name & email on application--recommender will be contacted by auto-generated email to submit their electronic recommendation)
- Non-refundable application fee (\$75) for each program to which an applicant applies

Electronic submission of application materials helps expedite the review of an application. Completed applications are reviewed by an admissions committee in the graduate degree program to which you apply. The admission recommendations from the programs/departments are submitted to the Dean of the Graduate School. Thus, all degree-seeking applicants must be formally admitted to the University of Maryland Graduate School.

Follow the steps below to begin the application process. Start before the deadline as the first two steps often take some time to complete.

1. **Request your transcripts** from post-secondary institutions you've attended. You will need to submit copies of your transcript(s) online and mail your official copies to UMD (note: official transcripts are due by the end of the first semester of enrollment if accepted into the program).
2. Request 3 recommendation letters
3. Write your Statement of Purpose
4. Begin your application on the graduate school [online application system](#).

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Use the [guidance](#) from the Graduate School website and write a brief (1000 - 2000 word) statement addressing the following two questions:

- What are your reasons for undertaking graduate study at the University of Maryland? You may wish to discuss past work in mathematics education, your future career plans, or how you developed your interest or knowledge in mathematics education.
- What life experiences have prepared you to pursue a graduate degree at a large and diverse institution such as the University of Maryland? Among the items you might care to include would be your financial, community and family background, or whether you are the first person in your family to pursue higher education or any other factors that you believe would contribute to the diversity of our academic community. You may also wish to give the graduate admissions committee some examples of your determination to pursue your goals, your initiative and ability to develop ideas, and/or your capacity for working through problems independently.

Note: In the application sections “Educational Intent” and “Maryland Residency” it is important that you fill out all sections and provide adequate information to ensure your application is properly identified.

MARYLAND RESIDENCY section

Although the program offers flat rate tuition to all participants in the MCPS/UM Partnership regardless of residency, you need to complete the residency classification section. If you are an out-of-state applicant, you may be required to pay the higher out-of-state rate if you take courses outside of the program or out of sequence with your cohort¹. You will need information from the following documents to demonstrate you are an in-state resident: driver's license, registration of your motor vehicle, registration to vote, and Maryland income tax returns. You need to include the specific date (day/mo/yr) given. *Do not enter future dates in the application. This will flag the residency as out-of-state.*

For in-state and out-of-state students, all University of Maryland College Park campus-based mandatory fees will be waived, except for the technology fee since students use these services throughout the program. Shady Grove fees apply.

EDUCATIONAL INTENT section

The screenshot shows the 'Graduate Educational Intent' form on the University of Maryland Graduate School website. The page header includes the university logo and navigation links: DASHBOARD, MESSAGES, PROFILE, TECHNICAL SUPPORT, and LOG OUT. A sidebar on the left contains links for Recommendations, Check Your Application, Application Instructions, and a PRINT FORMS button. The main form area is titled 'Graduate Educational Intent' and contains several dropdown menus: College/School* (College of Education), Program of Study* (Curriculum and Instruction (EDCI)), and Degree* (M.Ed.). Below these are two questions: 'To which graduate program would you like to apply?' and 'Which degree within the program selected above do you wish to apply for at this time?'. A 'Statement of Purpose*' field has an 'Upload Document' button with a link to file formats (.doc, .pdf, .txt, .xls) and a 'More' link. Below this are three 'Area of Interest' dropdowns: Area of Interest 1* (Middle School Mathematics Teaching/Learning (Montgomery County/Off-Cam)), Area of Interest 2 (placeholder: -- please select from the options below --), and Area of Interest 3 (placeholder: -- please select from the options below --). At the bottom of the form are 'Save', 'Save & Continue', and 'Reset' buttons. A 'Submit Application' button is located below the form. The footer contains links for Technical Support, Privacy & Security, System Requirements, and Helpful Hints.

Term of Entrance: SELECT THE SEMESTER YOU WISH TO START
College/School: College of Education
Program of Study: Curriculum and Instruction (EDCI)
Degree: M.Ed.
Enrollment Status: Part-Time
Area of Interest 1: Middle School Mathematics Teaching/Learning
(Montgomery County/Off_Campus)

NOTE: After completing the Educational Intent page and uploading your Statement of Purpose hit “save & continue”. This will take you to the “Previous Education” page, which is where you will upload a copy of your unofficial transcript.

Upon submitting your application, notify the program director, Dr. Sara Kirschner at skirschn@umd.edu to facilitate processing your application through the online system.

MIDDLE GRADES MATHEMATICS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
FALL	TLPL 616 Teaching and Learning Statistics and Data Analysis in the Middle School	TLPL 610 Trends in Math Education	MATH 487 Number for Middle School Teachers
SPRING	MATH 481 Statistics and Data Analysis for Middle School Teachers	TLPL 615 Teaching and Learning Geometry in the Middle School	TLPL 612 Teaching and Learning Algebra in the Middle School Curriculum TLPL 698 Conducting Research on Teaching
SUMMER	TLPL 613 Problem-solving and innovative thinking in the mathematics classroom	TLPL 614 Assessing Mathematical Understanding	MATH 480 Algebra for Middle School Teachers TLPL 698 Conducting Research on Teaching