

Centenary College of Louisiana | Department of Education

Application for Graduate Admission | Master of Arts in Teaching

Centenary College Education Aspire 4+1 Program

Department of Education
Centenary College of Louisiana
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Shreveport, LA 71104

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ASPIRE 4+1 PROGRAM

While state licensing rules do not permit undergraduate students to be formally enrolled in the MAT program prior to the awarding of their non-educational bachelor's degree from Centenary College of Louisiana, the Education Department seeks to encourage talented undergraduate students with a passion for teaching to begin MAT coursework prior to their graduation to fast-track completion of their MAT degree.

1. Candidates for the Aspire 4+1 program must have at least 104 completed undergraduate hours on their Centenary transcript to *begin* courses, but should **apply** in the semester during which they are earning their 104th hour.
2. Undergraduates must have at least a 2.75 grade point average for all Centenary College coursework.
3. MAT courses may not be used to satisfy the credit hour requirements for an undergraduate degree.
4. The MAT program requires on-campus summer term attendance.
5. Students who complete six MAT courses (18 credit hours) prior to their undergraduate graduation from Centenary College, can complete the MAT degree in three additional terms (summer, fall, spring).
6. Full-year teaching residencies can only be completed fall-spring in the same academic year.
7. Acceptance to the Aspire 4+1 program does not guarantee admission to the MAT program.
8. Please note that admission to the MAT program does not guarantee licensure. Individuals who have been convicted of any felony or of misdemeanor offenses involving sexual crimes, minor children, and/or illegal drugs are generally not eligible for teaching licensure in the state of Louisiana. If you have questions about your specific circumstances, please contact education@centenary.edu.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

All transcripts, scores, and required documents must be received in the Department of Education office by the deadlines for that term.

Fall Term Admission – **July 1**; Spring Term Admission – **October 15**; Summer Term Admission – **April 1**

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS & PROCESS

All documents submitted for admission become the property of Centenary College and cannot be returned to the applicants

1. The application packet should include:
 - a. a completed copy of this application
 - b. A written **Response** between 200 and 300 words on *each* of the questions below:
 - i. Teachers are influential role models to their students and the profession is one that is represented both in the schools and in the community. What we say, how we present ourselves and what we do as professional teachers is extremely important. Imagine parents of the students in your future class are talking about how you represent yourself professionally. What would you want to hear them saying?
 - ii. Classroom management—the ability to have an orderly, focused, and academically productive environment—is a critical element of teaching. How do you anticipate that your prior experiences as a student (and teacher, if relevant) will influence your own classroom management of a K-12 classroom?
 - iii. When you think about teaching students, in what major ways do you want to influence their lives? How will your students be different as a result of your influence?
 - iv. Is there a type of student that you believe you can teach most effectively? Who? Why?
 - c. A current **Resume**.
 - d. Unofficial copy of your **Centenary transcript**.

2. Additional required application materials include:
 - a. Passing scores on the **Praxis I –Core Academic Skills for Educators** (#5752) as mandated by the State of Louisiana Department of Education (details about the specific Praxis tests is available at <https://www.centenary.edu/praxis/>)
 - i. Candidates with a Centenary GPA of at least 3.25 at the time of application and a composite ACT score of at least 25 may substitute these credentials for Praxis I scores.
3. Upon receipt of the above materials, **references** will be contacted.
4. Applicants will be notified about their acceptance into the Aspire 4+1 program which allows students to begin taking MAT coursework.
 - a. Aspire 4+1 students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in their MAT coursework to continue in the program.

Additional steps and materials are required prior to undergraduate graduation from Centenary in order to be formally admitted into the MAT program.

1. By November 1 for a December graduation or by April 1 for a May graduation, students must have passing scores on the remaining Praxis tests as mandated by the State of Louisiana Department of Education. The specific tests required will vary depending on the certification area; details about the specific Praxis tests is available at <https://www.centenary.edu/academics/departments-schools/education/program-overview-requirements/praxis/>
 - a. **Praxis II –Content Area**
 - b. **Praxis PLT** (Principles of Learning and Teaching OR World Languages Pedagogy depending on certification area)
2. In their final undergraduate semester, applicants will schedule an **interview** with faculty members of the Department of Education.
3. Applicants must have a career grade point average of 2.5 or better for all undergraduate work pursued, and 3.0 or better for all graduate work.

Centenary College of Louisiana encourages application for admission from all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin in its admission policies, loan programs or other college programs, policies and activities. In compliance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Centenary College will make every reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of its students with disabilities.

REFERENCES

(Please list two academic references from Centenary; at least one must be a professor in your major)

Name _____ Phone _____

How long have they known you? _____ In what context/relationship? _____

Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____

How long have they known you? _____ In what context/relationship? _____

Email _____

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ Phone _____

OTHER REQUIRED ELEMENTS

Your application is not considered completed until the following documentation is received by the Education Department.

Documents to include with your application

- This signed application
- Reflection
- Current Resume
- Unofficial Centenary Transcript

Documents to send under separate cover

- Praxis I
- Official Transcripts for any non-Centenary college credits earned

Upon completion of your application materials, references will be contacted.

I certify that the foregoing information is true and correct. I agree to be governed by the academic standards and policies of Centenary College of Louisiana, in making application for admission to Centenary College, and in compliance with the provisions of the “Family Education Rights and Privacy Act” of 1974. I affirm that I will be responsible for the payment of all fees and that I will comply with the regulations regarding fees, expenses, and refunds outlined in the current College catalogue.

Signature _____ Date _____

Completion of this form is optional.

We are an organization that values diversity. For this reason, we invite you to indicate your gender and race/ethnicity below. This information will be used by the department to track our efforts at improving the diversity of our program. This information is kept separate from your application and is not used for decisions about acceptance to the program. Submission of this information is voluntary and refusal to provide it will not result in any adverse treatment.

INVITATION TO SELF-IDENTIFY

Gender: _____

Race/Ethnic Identification:

Please mark the **one box** that describes the race/ethnicity category with which you primarily identify.

	Two or More Races: a person who primarily identifies with two or more of the race/ethnicity categories listed.
	American Indian or Alaska Native: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
	Asian: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
	Black or African American: a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
	Hispanic or Latino: a person of Cuban, Mexican, Chicano, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
	White: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.
	I do not wish to disclose.