



Early Entry Master of Arts Program for Science and Mathematics Teachers

Advance your Career in Higher Education

Are you interested in a career teaching in science or mathematics in Middle or High school (6-12)? The demand for certified STEM teachers nationally has been rising, and in Kentucky, there is a critical need. Kentucky is still producing significantly fewer certified STEM teachers than needed to fill the vacant middle and high school science and mathematics teaching positions.

To meet this critical need, Bellarmine University is now offering Early Entry Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) teacher certification degree program for STEM students. Bellarmine STEM students majoring in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics can add a Masters-level teaching certification to their STEM bachelor's degree in one additional year, earning both their Bachelor's degree in a STEM field and a Teaching Certification in the 5th year.

The School of Education offers a competitively-priced Early Entry MAT program and prides itself on having a 100% pass rate on PRAXIS Principles of Learning & Teaching, which students are required to take for certification to teach in the state of Kentucky. The School of Education is also the department with the highest numbers of graduates working in the field of education (97%) or pursuing continuing studies (3%) (Knights Get Hired survey, 2017).

Internship Opportunities

The Early Entry MAT program offers experiential learning in STEM education through internships at the Kentucky Science Center and other STEM-related area organizations. BU Students can enroll in EDUC 444 to receive 3 credits for this internship.

Career Opportunities

Bellarmine graduates are highly sought after. They will be leaders in education, serving their communities by helping every child develop to his/her highest potential. Graduates of the Early Entry MAT Program find employment in middle and high school in both public and private schools. Starting salary varies depending on the school district in which one finds employment, though is highly competitive with a MAT degree. The starting salary of a JCPS teacher with a MAT degree is \$48,944 and the average teacher salary of a JCPS teacher is \$63,000, with top earners making almost \$90,000 per year.

PROJECTED JOB GROWTH
IN TEACHING JOBS
IN KENTUCKY THROUGH 2026

5.4%

Grant and Loan Forgiveness

The Kentucky Academy for Equity in Teaching is a renewable loan forgiveness program designed to provide financial support and mentoring to pre-service teachers who are enrolled in, or awaiting admittance to, an approved educator preparation program at an institution of higher education in Kentucky (Bellarmine is an approved preparation program). The KAET loan repayment program is designed to identify and prepare a pool of highly effective, experienced, and diverse educators poised to transition into the teaching profession in Kentucky's public schools. KAET participants receive financial support and training as they are supported and mentored by experienced and effective educators. Eligible candidates may receive up to \$5,000 per semester in loan forgiveness for up to 4 semesters of undergraduate education or up to \$2,500 per semester for the MAT program. The TEACH Grant is a non-need-based program that provides up to \$4,000 per year to students enrolled in an eligible program and who agree to teach as a highly-qualified teacher in a high-need field, at a low-income elementary or secondary school for at least four years within eight years of completing the program for which TEACH Grant was awarded.



For more information about the Early Entry MAT Program, contact the Office of Graduate Admission at 1.800.274.4723 x 7200 or 502.272.7200 or gradadmissions@bellarmine.edu

