

The “Work and Learn” Program aims to recruit, prepare, and support highly qualified paraprofessionals and Tier 1 and Tier 2 teachers on their affordable, accessible, and accelerated journey to become a Tier 3 and Tier 4 licensed teacher in Minnesota.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Individuals who are dedicated to education, are current or prospective employees in schools and have a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution. Applicants must be employed in a school district during the duration of the Work and Learn cohort. Applicants must seek written approval from their district, as a part of the application process, to do student teaching on the job.

WHAT WILL THE PROGRAM LOOK LIKE?

- Participants will be employed as teachers of record (Tier 1 or Tier 2) or paraprofessionals by school district.
- Participants will have fully online courses
 - Two evenings a week for online courses
 - No more than two classes at a time with three classes completed per semester (e.g., two 8-week and one 15-week)

Year 1

Fall	J-Term	Spring	Summer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standards of Effective Practice • Professional Practices • Behavior & Learning Environments • Field Experiences on the job 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equity & Inclusive Practices • Field Experiences on the job 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy • Special Education • Field Experiences on the job 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standards of Effective Practice Courses • Mild to Moderate Disabilities • Field Experiences on the job, as needed

Year 2

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment • Elementary Academic Intervention • Secondary Academic Interventions • Student Teaching on the job 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability Methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Teaching edTPA on the job • Optional Master’s Degree Research Course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional Add on License Courses
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INITIAL SPECIAL EDUCATION LICENSE

The initial license area, Academic Behavior Strategist (ABS), requires 31 graduate credits.

MASTER’S DEGREE

It is easy to add on a master’s degree with 1 additional 3-credit research course.

AFTER 1ST LICENSE

It is easy to add on an additional license with 3-4 courses for 8 to 12 graduate credits.

Program	Credits
Initial Academic Behavior Strategist License Coursework	31 credits
Optional: Complete master’s degree	3 credits
Optional: Add on ASD, DD EBD, or LD	9 credits
Optional: Add on ECSE	12 credits

WHAT DOES THE PROGRAM COST?

University of St. Thomas tuition is currently \$660 per credit.
Student fees and cost of books is additional and varies by course
Financial aid opportunities

APPLICATION PROCESS STEP I Due August 16

- A recommendation letter on letterhead that the candidate is to be admitted to the program from Principal with the following details:
 - Permission for candidate to do their student teaching on the job in the district.
 - Identify a cooperating special education licensed teacher for the candidate (who is available to observe candidate during student teaching and participates in evaluation meetings with university supervisor).
 - Provide access to district Woodcock-Johnson-IV Tests of Achievement.

COMPLETE UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS GRADUATE APPLICATION PROCESS Due August 31

- One from the building principal/Special Education Director stating you can do student teaching on the job
- Provide a letter of recommendation from another source

- Submit a philosophy statement based on University of St. Thomas Mission Statement
- Submit all transcripts

Contact Barbara Jo Stahl (bjstahl@stthomas.edu with) your school's interest.