



Online Practical Teaching Training (OPTT) + Master’s Degree (M.Ed)

Students in the OPTT Program may elect to apply to the M.Ed. program. Students must meet OPTT admissions requirements and requirements of the M.Ed program.

Minimum Requirements for Master’s Applicants:

- Apply to the Graduate School at USU: <https://gradschool.usu.edu/apply/>
- 3.00 GPA over the last 60 semester hours
- Three letters of recommendation, preferably from university faculty who can speak to the student’s performance in courses and potential to successfully complete a Master’s program
- All transcripts
- Letter of intent describing career goals, research interests, and how the Master’s program addresses goals/interests.

Course Schedule

Year 1: OPTT classes

Year 2: OPTT classes

Year 3: Master’s classes

Year 4: Master’s classes

Master’s Core is 24 credits; students will need 12 additional credits to get M.Ed.

Three options for OPTT students who have **already earned** a bachelor’s degree:

Application to Master’s	Teaching License	TSSP	Credits
Before beginning OPTT	After competing student teaching	After completing Master’s Degree	Up to 12 OPTT credits count as electives*
During OPTT (do not complete 2 nd Bachelor’s degree)	After competing student teaching	After completing Master’s Degree	12 credits of OPTT taken as Master’s level credits
At the end of OPTT (complete 2 nd Bachelor’s degree)	After competing student teaching	After completion of OPTT program	Split form – see details below

1. Apply to the M.Ed before starting OPTT. Students could get a teaching license after student teaching. OPTT classes would count as electives in the M.Ed up to 12 credits.* Students would not qualify for TSSP stipend until they finished the Master’s Degree.
2. Apply to M.Ed while in OPTT. Rather than finish the 2nd BS, apply to Master’s in time for at least 12 credits of student OPTT classes to count as their Master’s electives* (students could enroll in

Master's level credits for their remaining time in OPTT). Students could get a teaching license after student teaching. Students would not qualify for the TSSP stipend until they finished the Master's Degree.

3. Finish OPTT and get 2nd BS and get licensed. Apply for TSSP stipend. Apply for M.Ed at the end of OPTT. The OPTT program is 34-35 credits.
 - a. Option A: Do a split form for the 4-5 credits of OPTT that are over the 30 needed for a 2nd BS. Use the 4-5 credits plus 24 master's core to total 28-29 of the 36 credits needed for a Master's Degree. Students would need to take 7-8 credits of Master electives.*
 - b. Option B: Take enough elective credit during their OPTT program to bring the total number of 2nd BS credits to 39. Do split form and bring 9 credits to Master's Degree. This brings the student to 33 Master credits. Students would just need 3 credits of Master electives to reach 36 needed for M.Ed.*

*electives count towards M.Ed only. Electives do not count towards two masters programs: Board Certified Behavior Analysis M.S. or Administrative Supervisory Licensure.

Schedule of Courses for OPTT + Masters

Fall Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
SPED	5011	2
SPED	5012	3
SPED	5311, 5511 or 5711	6
Total Semester Hours		11

Spring Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
SPED	5014	2
SPED	5312, 5512 or 5712/5714	6-7
Total Semester Hours		8-9

Summer Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
SPED	5015	3
SPED	5713 (B5 only)	3
SPED 5018 -1 (provided by LEA 1 or 2 year)		
Total Semester Hours		3-6

Fall Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
SPED	5016	3
SPED	5013	3
Total Semester Hours		6

Spring Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
SPED	5017 (mm/severe only)	3
SPED	5230	3
Total Semester Hours		6

Summer Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
Total Semester Hours		

ODD Fall Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
SPED	6700	3
Total Semester Hours		3+

EVEN Spring Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
SPED	6770	3
Total Semester Hours		3+

EVEN Summer Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
Total Semester Hours		

EVEN Fall Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
SPED	6300	3
SPED	6720	3
Total Semester Hours		6+

ODD Spring Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
SPED	6060	3
Total Semester Hours		3+

ODD Summer Semester		
DEPT	COURSE #	CR. HRS.
Total Semester Hours		

- SPED 6900 and 6960 are not listed in schedule above. Students can take SPED 6900 and 6960 either fall or spring. SPED 6900 is the prerequisite to SPED 6960. These courses are designed to assist the student in completing the Creative Project. 6900 and 6960 are monitored by the Advisor.
- In most cases, OPTT courses should be completed before beginning master's coursework. Individual programs of study may vary. Please contact Elise Gonzalez (elise.gonzalez@usu.edu; 435 797-3245) to develop a program of study.

Master's Classes	Course Name	Credit	Semester Offered
SPED 6770	Coaching and Systems Change	3	EVEN years in spring
SPED 6060	Legal Issues in Special Education	3	ODD years in spring
SPED 6300	Effective Practices with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Populations	3	ODD years in fall
SPED 6700	Intro to Behavioral Research in Education	3	ODD years in fall
SPED 6720	Educational Applications of Behavior Analysis I	3	EVEN years in fall
SPED 6900 for M.Ed.)	Independent Study	3	fall and spring
SPED 6960	Creative Project	6	fall and spring

For more information about OPTT, contact **Laura Parrish** (Laura.Parrish@usu.edu).

For more information about masters' programs, contact **Elise Gonzalez** (elise.gonzalez@usu.edu).