

**UMBC Department of Education**  
**Accelerated Pathways Program – Combined BA/MAT Program**

This program is designed for undergraduate students who decide as seniors that they want to teach in the K-12 schools. Earn Your Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree with teaching certifications at either the early childhood, elementary, or secondary levels. Special Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs exist for students interested in teaching at either the elementary or secondary levels. There are also scholarship programs available for MAT students. Please ask admission advisors about the scholarship opportunities.

**How does the BA/MAT Accelerated Pathways Program work?**

If you are an undergraduate at UMBC and are interested in earning a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree, the BA/MAT Accelerated Pathways Program allows you, in your senior year, to begin taking graduate level courses in the MAT program and have them apply toward the MAT degree. The MAT degree requires 36 course credits which include a full-year, 6 credit-hour, internship in the K-12 schools. Once accepted into the BA/MAT Accelerated Pathways Program, you can take up to three MAT graduate level courses as an undergraduate and are allowed to transfer up to nine graduate credits into the MAT program. The students are charged undergraduate rates for the graduate courses taken in their senior year. Earning these nine graduate credits as an undergraduate saves money for the student and gives BA/MAT students a head start on completing the program and shortens the MAT program by a semester in most cases.

**How do Students Qualify and Apply for Combined BA/MAT Accelerated Pathways Program?**

- Be highly motivated to use your talents to teach children in K-12 schools.
- Interested students must have an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 to be considered for admission to the Accelerated Pathways Program BA/MAT program.
- All interested students are required to be in their senior year or in their last semester of their junior year to be considered for admission.
- All students must schedule an initial admission interview with a BA/MAT advisor to go over application process, review undergraduate coursework, complete necessary admission paperwork, and plan course of study for MAT completion. Schedule an appointment with either:
  1. **Rehana Shafi** – [rshafi@umbc.edu](mailto:rshafi@umbc.edu) (410-455-1736) if you have an undergraduate background in any Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics (STEM) discipline/degree program and are interested in either elementary or secondary teaching.
  2. **Dr. Vickie Williams** – [vwilli5@umbc.edu](mailto:vwilli5@umbc.edu) (410-455-2327) if you have an undergraduate background in disciplines/degree programs other than STEM and are interested in either early childhood, elementary, or secondary teaching.