

Am I eligible for GaTAPP?

1. **Do you have a Bachelor's degree or higher from a PSC-approved accredited college or university?**
 - o If no, stop here. Without at least a Bachelor's degree, you are not eligible for participation in the GaTAPP program.
 - o If yes, please continue.
2. **Is your Undergraduate GPA a minimum of a 2.5 or is your degree over 10 years old? GPAs cannot be rounded up (example: 2.46 cannot be rounded to 2.2)**
 - o If no, stop here. A GPA of less than 2.5 cannot be accepted if less than 10 years old.
 - o If yes, please continue.
3. **Have you passed the GACE Content Assessment or do you have minimum required hours of upper level coursework? A transcript evaluation can be done for you to determine eligibility. The pre-screening application and fee must be submitted in order for your transcript to be evaluated for the minimum number of hours.**
 - ☐ Minimum required hours of upper level coursework for middle grades is 15 semester hours.
 - ☐ Minimum required hours of upper level coursework for 6-12 fields is 21 semester hours.
 - ☐ Elementary Ed GACE is required up front for P-5.
 - o If yes, please continue
4. **Have you completed the Georgia Educator Ethics 360 Program Assessment**
 - o If no, stop here. You are not eligible for participation in the GaTAPP program.
 - o If yes, please continue
5. **Do you have the disposition to teach?**
 - o All non-traditional path participants shall be required, by path completion, to demonstrate the following dispositions:
 - A. Do you have an appreciation of the diversity of the students, the staff, and the community and capitalize on the richness of that diversity;
 - B. Are your interactions with adults and children friendly, warm, caring, polite, respectful, and developmentally and culturally appropriate;
 - C. Do you value a culture of learning where students are committed to the value of the subject, accept the teacher's high expectations, and take pride in quality work and conduct;
 - D. Do you respond appropriately, respectfully, and successfully to student behavior;
 - E. Do you intend to provide directions, procedures, and oral and written language are communicated clearly and accurately;
 - F. Do you believe in demonstrating flexibility and responsiveness by adjusting lessons, responding to students, and being persistent in your effort to teach all students;
 - G. Do you value maintaining accurate, complete records of student assignments and learning and of non-instructional activities;

- H. Do you recognize the value of frequently and successfully providing instructional information and student progress information to parents and engages families in the school program;
 - I. Are you supportive of and cooperative with colleagues and volunteers and are willing to make substantial contributions to school and district projects;
 - J. Would you be willing to actively seek professional development to enhance content and pedagogical skills and actively assist other educators;
 - K. Would you proactively serve all students, challenge negative attitudes, and take a leadership role in high quality decision-making; and
 - L. Would you be committed to understanding and actively participating in the school's School Improvement process;
 - M. Would you commit to understanding and practicing the Georgia Code of Ethics;
 - N. Would be committed to reflect on your teaching practices, analyze student achievement data, and make adjustments to your performance based on results?
- o If you do not believe you have these dispositions (qualities), stop here. The teacher-candidate's disposition to teach students at the grade level and in the field of interest is critical;
 - o If you believe that you do possess these dispositions, please continue to Step 2.

I am eligible for GaTAPP. Now What?

You will need to complete the pre-screening application process with MGRESA. Click here to access the application: Pre-Screening Application.

All of the following items must be received before your application can be processed:

- 1. Completed Candidate Information Form**
- 2. Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended.**
These must be sent directly to the MGRESA office. Most college/universities are sending transcripts electronically. If so, please have them emailed directly to Sunny Franks at sfranks@mgresa.us. If you have an unopened hard copy of the official transcript, you can place it in the mail or can hand deliver it to our office. Please be sure not to open the envelope as they will not be considered official and will not be accepted. *Note: You may want to order more than one official copy as the school system will need an official set as well.*
- 3. Copy of passing GACE Content Assessment Score Report or transcript evaluation verifying minimum hours of upper level coursework.**
- 4. Copy of certificate for completing the Georgia Educator Ethics 360 Assessment.**
- 5. Payment of Pre-Screening Application Fee.** Middle Georgia RESA accepts cash, check, money order, and credit/debit cards. If you pay with a check, you will be responsible for submitting a copy of the cleared check as verification that it has cleared the bank. Applications cannot be processed until the copy of the cleared check has been received.

Complete Pre-Screening Application Packets can be mailed or hand-delivered to:

**Attn: TAPP Administrative Assistant
Middle Georgia RESA
Located on the Warner Robins campus of Central Georgia Tech
80 Cohen Walker Drive, B228
Warner Robins, GA 31088**

Applications will be processed in the order in which they are received. You should receive an eligibility letter within 2 weeks (usually less) of the application being received by MGRESA.

Once I receive my eligibility letter, what do I do next?

- 1. Secure a job offer as a teacher with a Local School System.** *Middle Georgia RESA serves the following eight school systems: Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Monroe, Peach, and Twiggs.*
 - Access the website of the school system(s) in which you are interested in seeking employment to determine its process for employment; You can access each of these websites from Middle Georgia RESA's website at www.mgresa.org under the "About Us" section under "Organizations".
 - Once at the system(s) website(s), follow the directions for seeking employment (MGRESA IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURING CANDIDATE TEACHING POSITIONS);

- Create a resume that includes, in addition to education and professional experiences, other experiences working with young people such as camp counselor, local recreation center coach, etc. if applicable;
 - Develop a cover letter that states your eligibility and/or interest in the GaTAPP program; you should also include a copy of the eligibility letter from MGRESA.
 - Visit www.teachgeorgia.org for a listing of available statewide job openings;
 - Apply for the teaching position in which you are interested. School systems are familiar with GaTAPP and some hire GaTAPP candidates right away. Other systems may have the practice of hiring fully certified teachers first. Some school systems hire all year long;
 - Please practice patience and understanding. Pursuing a teaching position can be very much like seeking employment in the corporate world or any other position outside education. The employer and candidate are both seeking the right fit;
 - Once you have secured a teaching job offer with a Local School System, contact the TAPP Administrative Assistant at Middle Georgia RESA (478) 988-7175.
- 2. Obtain a Georgia Criminal History Report.** (Often the employing school system will take care of this step.)
- 3. Register to attend the upcoming Essentials for Effective Teaching Course.** Go to www.mgresa.org and create a profile first. Then go to the online registration to register for the upcoming course.

Please note that participation in the Essentials Course is required prior to going into the classroom as a teacher. Middle Georgia RESA offers this course twice a year: July and December.

Individuals can choose to take the Essentials course without a job offer but will be required to pay \$500 to do so. This amount will go towards first year TAPP fees once hired by a school system. You are not considered “officially” in the GaTAPP program until a position is received. The benefit of taking this course without a job offer is that at any point in the year, you could accept a teaching position that may become available. Individuals that have not had this training are not eligible for positions that may become available between sessions of this course.

(For example, if a position were to become available in October/November, individuals that have paid and are participating in the Essentials course could apply and accept that position and would immediately be admitted into the GaTAPP Program. Those that did not take the Essentials would not be eligible to apply for that position and would not be eligible to begin the program officially at that point.)

Best wishes on your Georgia TAPP journey!

For any additional questions regarding eligibility requirements and getting started, please contact the MGRESA TAPP Administrative Assistant at 478-988-7175.