MCSD GATAPP

Frequently Asked Questions

gatapp@muscogee.k12.ga.us
https://sites.muscogee.k12.ga.us/gatapp/

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#1: What do these acronyms mean?

Alphabet Soup

Acronym	Meaning
*Chatt-Flint	Chattahoochee-Flint RESA
CST	Candidate Support Team
GACE	Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators
Ga PSC	Georgia Professional Standards Commission
GaTAPP or TAPP	Georgia Teacher Academy for Preparation & Pedagogy
GPA	Grade Point Average
HR	Human Resources
MAT	Master of Arts in Teaching
MCSD	Muscogee County School District
RESA	Regional Educational Service Agency

*MCSD GaTAPP and Chattahoochee-Flint RESA GaTAPP are two different PSC approved certification programs.

This information packet applies specifically to MCSD GaTAPP.

Should I Apply for MCSD GaTAPP?

#2: Ask yourself the "Have I" questions in order.

Have I….	Yes	No	Comment
Earned at least a Bachelor's degree?	Continue to the next question	Not eligible for GaTAPP – See comment	All certification pathways require at least a bachelor's degree
Completed student teaching?	Not eligible for GaTAPP – See comment	Continue to the next question	Contact a Human Resources Partner to discuss employment.
Completed a teacher preparation program? PSC Approved GA Certification Programs	Not eligible for GaTAPP	See comment then continue to the next question if still "No"	Examples of teacher preparation programs (not all inclusive) • Completion of another GaTAPP program • Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) • Bachelors of Science or Arts in Education • Post-Bachelors in Education
Ever held a professional teaching certificate in another state or country?	Not eligible for GaTAPP - See comment	Continue to the next question	Contact a Human Resources Coordinator to discuss employment.
Been issued a GA provisional teaching certificate that will expire within the next 12 months?	Not eligible for MCSD GaTAPP – See Comment	Continue to the next question	MCSD GaTAPP candidates must have or be able to obtain a GA provisional teaching certificate that will be valid for at least the next 18 months (24 months for elementary general education)
Previously held a GA provisional teaching certificate that has already expired?	See comment	Continue to the next question	If you taught each year within the time frame on the expired certificate, you are not eligible for GaTAPP. GaTAPP candidates must be eligible to be issued a provisional certificate by the GA Professional Standards Commission (PSC).
Been "withdrawn failing" from another GaTAPP program?	Not eligible for MCSD GaTAPP- See Comment	Continue to the next question	Contact a Human Resources Partner to discuss your options
Already plan to enroll in another degree, endorsement, or certification program?	Not eligible for MCSD GaTAPP – See Comment	Continue to the next question	MCSD GaTAPP candidates may not be enrolled in another degree, certification, nor endorsement program while enrolled in MCSD GaTAPP. *Potential applicants already in a certification program are encouraged to complete their current program.*
Been reported for or sanctioned for a Code of Educators' Ethics violation?	See Comment	Continue to Chart #3	The Ethics violation status/sanction with the GA Professional Standards Commission (PSC) may determine eligibility for MCSD GaTAPP.

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#3: What certification areas does MCSD GaTAPP currently serve?

	Do I want to teach one of the *"YES" items? "No" items – refer to comment "YES" items – refer to chart #3 **MCSD GaTAPP currently serves candidates for…**			
Grade Level ➡ _Subject_ ⬇	P-5 Elementary	6-8 Middle School	9-12 High School	Comment
Pre-K	YES Must have already met Pre-K requirements	No	No	MCSD Pre-K Information Contact Kimberly Thomas for additional information
Career (Business, computer, medical, etc.)	No	No	No	Discuss pathway options with a Human Resources Partner
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	YES	YES	YES	
General Education Core Content (English, Math, Social Studies, and/or Science)	YES	YES	YES	
Music	YES	YES	YES	
Physical Education (PE)/ Health	No	No	No	Discuss pathway options with a Human Resources Partner
Spanish	No (unless there is a specific school need)	YES	YES	
Special Education (Inter-related General Curriculum Consultative)	YES	YES	YES	
Visual Arts	YES	YES	YES	
Other not listed	No	No	No	Discuss pathway options with a Human Resources Partner

MCSD GaTAPP currently only serves candidates for the "YES" items in designated high needs schools.

#4: Which *schools* may currently accept MCSD GaTAPP candidates?

Elementary (Grades P-5)	Middle School (Grades 6-8)	High School (Grades 9-12)
Allen	Arnold	Carver
Blanchard	Baker	Hardaway
Buckner	Blackmon Road	Jordan
Clubview	Double Churches	Kendrick
Davis	East Columbus	Rainey-McCullers
Dimon	Eddy	Shaw
Dorothy Height	Fort	Spencer
Double Churches	Midland	
Downtown	Richards	
Eagle Ridge	Rothschild	
Forrest Road	Veterans	
Fox		
Gentian		
Georgetown		
Hannan		
Johnson		
Key		
Lonnie Jackson		
MLK		
Midland		
North Columbus		
Reese		
Rigdon Road		
River Road		
South Columbus		
Waddell		
Wesley Heights		
Wynnton Arts		

*Subject to change.

MCSD TAPP candidates commit to 3 years at their assigned school. This includes time in the program.

If I'm a current MCSD employee, can I stay at my current school while enrolled in MCSD GaTAPP?

If the school is included in the list that MCSD GaTAPP serves <u>and</u> the Principal recommends the candidate for a full-time teaching position that aligns with the certification the candidate is seeking via GaTAPP, it is <u>possible</u> that a current employee may stay at the same school while enrolled in GaTAPP. However, there is no guarantee.

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#5: What *GACE assessments do I need and how do I register?

Subject/Certification Seeking	*Required GACE Educator Ethics 360	*Required GACE Content Minimum 220 for Passing at Induction Level GA Certification Fields and Required Content GACE Chart Content GACE Testing Dates	
		To Teach Middle School (Grades 6-8)	To teach Middle School and/or High School (Grades 6-12)
Elementary General Education Elementary Education (To teach grades P-5 only)	Yes	See hyperlink in the first column below Elementary General Education for P-5	n/a
ESOL	Yes	P-12 ESOL	
English	Yes	Middle Grades Language Arts	English
Math	Yes	Middle Grades Math	Math
Science	Yes	Middle Grades Science	Science (other specific GACE may be applicable depending on the science discipline)
Music	Yes	P-12 Music	
Social Studies	Yes	Middle Grades Social Science	History (other specific GACE may be applicable depending on the social studies discipline)
Spanish	Yes	P-12 Spanish	
Special Education (Inter-related General Curriculum Consultative)	Yes	Special Education General Curriculum GACE is not required for application/admissions – must be passed prior to exiting MCSD GaTAPP	
Visual Arts	Yes	P-12 Art Education	

*How do I register for a GACE? Note the GACE Educator Ethics and GACE Content are two different assessments.
GACE Test Taker Support: 855-225-7178 8am-5pm EST Monday-Friday OR gace_inquiries@ets.org.

#6: What is the cost of MCSD GaTAPP?

Prior to Beginning of Teacher Contract		
Item	**Estimated Cost**	**Comment**
Official Transcripts from College/University	$20	Fees vary by institution
GACE GA Educator Ethics	$30	Each of the GACE tests may not be required for all applicants.
GACE Content Tests	$193 (combined tests) $123 per individual test	Fees are paid at the time of registration. Special Education GACE are taken prior to completion of MCSD GaTAPP.
Background Check	$43.25	Conducted through MCSD Human Resources
Essentials of Teaching Training	$275	Non-refundable, approximately 2 weeks of unpaid training prior to beginning a teacher contract. Paid via Money Order or Cashier's Check the first day of Essentials

*During the Program			
Most Certification Areas	$4500	*$250 per month payroll deducted for 18 months until $4500 is paid in full*	
Elementary General Education	$5000	*$208.33 per month payroll deducted for 24 months until $5000 is paid in full*	
All	$500	Per semester beyond the initial the cohort's certification timeline established at the beginning of the program	All candidates will not require extra semesters
Special Education and any content not taken for admission	GACE Content Tests	$193 (combined tests) $123 per individual test	

*Subject to change prior to beginning the program and may vary depending on the certification being sought.

#7: *MCSD GaTAPP Program of Study for Secondary Core Content Certification

(18-36 months)

Certification → Requirement ↓	English Middle Grades Certification	English 6-12 Certification	Math Middle Grades Certification	Math 6-12 Certification	Science Middle Grades Certification	Science 6-12 Certification	Social Studies Middle Grades Certification	Social Studies 6-12 Certification
Training/Courses								
Essentials of Teaching	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
MCSD Best Practices & New Teacher Orientation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Love and Logic	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Monthly Seminars	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
HB671 – Exceptionalities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Science of Reading Awareness	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Differentiated Instruction or Personalized Learning	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Journals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Formative Instructional Practices Modules	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Field Experiences	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Training with Content & PD Specialists	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Training with Learning Innovation Specialists	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Certification → / Requirement ↓	English Middle Grades Certification	English 6-12 Certification	Math Middle Grades Certification	Math 6-12 Certification	Science Middle Grades Certification	Science 6-12 Certification	Social Studies Middle Grades Certification	Social Studies 6-12 Certification
Middle Grades Learner	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Culminating Assessment/ Portfolio (Last Semester)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
IEP Training	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Training with Programs for Exceptional Students (PES)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Other as designated by MCSD, TAPP Administrator/ Supervisor, or Candidate Support Team	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mentoring								
Candidate Support Team	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Coaching Cycles with *TAPP Supervisor*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meetings with Teacher Support Coach/Mentor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other as designated by MCSD, TAPP Administrator/ Supervisor, or Candidate Support Team	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Subject to change and not in sequential order

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#8: *MCSD GaTAPP Program of Study for Elementary Gen Ed, ESOL, Music, Spanish, Special Education, and Visual Arts

Certification → Requirement ↓	Elementary General Education P-5 (24-36 months)	ESOL P-12 (18-36 months)	Music P-12 (18-36 months)	Spanish P-12 (18-36 months)	Special Education Inter-related P-12 (18-36 months)	Visual Arts P-12 (18-36 months)
Training/Courses						
Essentials of Teaching	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
MCSD Best Practices & New Teacher Orientation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Love and Logic	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Monthly Seminars	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
HB671 – Exceptionalities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Science of Reading Awareness	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Science of Reading Demonstration	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Differentiated Instruction or Personalized Learning	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Journals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Formative Instructional Practices Modules	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Field Experiences	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Training with Content & PD Specialists	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Training with Learning Innovation Specialists	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Middle Grades Learner	No	No	No	No	No	No
Culminating Assessment/Portfolio (Last Semester)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
IEP Training	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Training with Programs for Exceptional Students (PES)	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Other as designated by MCSD, TAPP Administrator/ Supervisor, or Candidate Support Team	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mentoring						
Candidate Support Team	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Coaching Cycles with TAPP Supervisor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meetings with Teacher Support Coach/Mentor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other as designated by MCSD, TAPP Administrator/ Supervisor, or Candidate Support Team	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Subject to change and not in sequential order

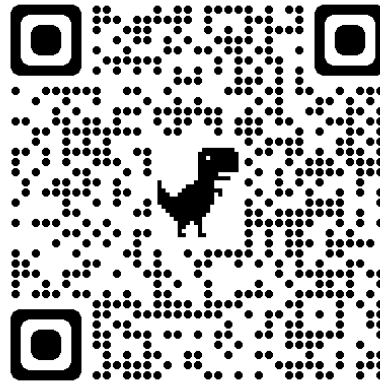# #9: MCSD Georgia Teacher Academy Preparation and Pedagogy (TAPP)

Application Information and Resources/Check-List

Requirements	Submission	Registration	Exemption	Contact	Prep Resources
TAPP Application	On-line MCSD Careers Posting for GaTAPP	n/a	n/a	gatapp@muscogee.k12.ga.us	MCSD TAPP Website
Letter of Interest	Upload with TAPP application	n/a	n/a	Address to MCSD	n/a
Current Resume	Upload with TAPP application	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
References	Complete the information within the TAPP application. The MCSD system will automatically send reference requests via email to those listed.	n/a	n/a	Notify references listed to expect an email reference request. They may need to check their "junk/trash/spam" mail as well.	n/a
Official college transcript(s) from all universities/ colleges attended	Request the college(s) send them directly to mail@gapsc.com If mailing: GA PSC 200 Piedmont Ave.SE Suite 1716 West Tower Atlanta, GA 30334-9032	n/a	Only if ALL official college transcripts are already on file with the PSC and accessible by MCSD TAPP	Registrar of colleges/universities attended	n/a
Educator Ethics Assessment 360	Upload certificate with TAPP application If completed after application submission, email certificate to gatapp@muscogee.k12.ga.us	GACE Registration Guide GA Ethics Assessments	Only if already on file with the PSC and accessible by MCSD TAPP	**GACE Test Taker Support:** 855-225-7178 8am-5pm EST Monday-Friday OR gace_inquiries@ets.org	n/a Assessment is administered on-line at home via modules

Requirements	Submission	Registration	Exemption	Contact	Prep Resources
GACE Content Assessment (not required for Special Education applicants)	Upload score results with TAPP application If completed after application submission, email certificate to gatapp@muscogee.k12.ga.us	GACE Registration Guide GACE Website	Special Education *All others:* Only if already on file with the PSC for the pertinent content and accessible by MCSD TAPP	**GACE Test Taker Support:** 855-225-7178 8am-5pm EST Monday-Friday OR gace_inquiries@ets.org	GACE Content Assessments
Certification	All MCSD TAPP applicants must be eligible to be issued provisional certification by the GaPSC.			Contact Certification at the PSC	Understanding Your GA Certificate

Meeting the admission requirements is not a guarantee for an interview nor acceptance into MCSD TAPP.

https://sites.muscogee.k12.ga.us/gatapp/

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#10: *MCSD GaTAPP Cohort Selection Process

Item/Step	Action
3 *or more* months prior to applying (suggested)	Register for all needed GACE assessments & prepare for tests
2 months *or more* prior to applying (suggested)	Take the required assessments
2-4 weeks prior to applying (suggested)	Request official transcripts from each college attended be sent directly by the college(s) to mail@gapsc.com
Application Window Opens • *February* for next academic year cohort 1 (Essentials of Teaching training in July, contract usually begins August) • *September* for mid-academic year cohort 2 if needed (Essentials of Teaching training in December, contract usually begins January)	Submit application via the MCSD Careers site posting
During Application Window	• HR and/or GaTAPP personnel review applications as they are submitted • Personnel email applicant remaining documentation needed (if applicable)
Once Application is Complete	Personnel schedule an initial interview for the applicant with HR and/or the GaTAPP Administrator for selected applicants
After the Initial Interview	Interviewer(s) review the complete application and interview results to determine whether or not to pre-accept the applicant pending successful hire
If Pre-Accepted	HR personnel sends prospective candidates' resume to Principals at MCSD GaTAPP approved schools with applicable openings The interested Principals contact the candidates for an interview
After the Principals' Interviews	The Principal officially recommends the candidate of choice for hire to HR
After Recommendation for Hire	The applicant completes the hiring process with HR
GaTAPP Essentials of Teaching Training	GaTAPP personnel will communicate the training details to all new cohort members via email

Meeting the admission requirements is not a guarantee for an interview nor acceptance into MCSD TAPP.
All MCSD GaTAPP candidates must work as a full-time teacher at an approved MCSD GaTAPP school.

#11: MCSD GaTAPP Contact
Email: gatapp@muscogee.k12.ga.us
Transition to Teaching Website: https://sites.muscogee.k12.ga.us/gatapp/