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# Work-and-Learn:

# Special Education License

Work-and-Learn Program aims to recruit, prepare, retain and support highly qualified paraprofessionals and Tier 1 and Tier 2 teachers on their journey to become a Tier 3 licensed teacher. It provides an affordable, accessible, and accelerated program to earn a Minnesota teaching license and master’s degree in 2 years.

# WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Individuals who are dedicated to education, are current or prospective employees of one of the partner districts and have a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution.

# WHAT WILL THE PROGRAM LOOK LIKE?

* Participants will be employed as teachers of record or paraprofessionals by school district.
* Participants will take a combination of online and/or face-to-face courses in a cohort model at the University of St. Thomas and district site.
  + One evening a week for a face-to-face class and one evening a week for Online class.
  + No more than two classes at a time with three classes completed per semester (2 - 8 week classes and 1 – 16 week class).
* Cohorts of 18-25 students starting each fall.

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| Year 1 | | | | Year 2 | | | | |
| Fall | **J-Term** | **Spring** | **Summer** | |  | **Fall** | **J-Term** | **Spring** |
| * Standards of Effective Practice * Classroom Engagement * Effective Teaching and Learning * Field Experiences | * Educational Equity & Inclusive Practices * Field Experiences | * Literacy Development * Fundamental courses in Special Education * Field Experiences | * Special Education courses | |  | * Special Education courses * Clinical Practice | * Disability Specific Method courses * Clinical Practice | * Clinical Practice (on the job) * Master’s Research |

# WHAT DOES THE PROGRAM COST? \*

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| Program | Credits |
| Initial Academic Behavior Strategist License Coursework | 31 credits |
| Add on Masters Degree | 3 credits |
| Add on Autism Spectrum Disorder or Emotional Behavior Disorders License Coursework | 8 credits |

* University of St. Thomas tuition for MA degree
* Cost of books is an additional fee and varies by course
* Financial aid available
  + Participants may be eligible for Federal student loan forgiveness while teaching
  + Participants of color may be eligible for Collaborative Urban Educator funding

# AFTER 1ST LICENSE

The University of St. Thomas makes it very easy to add on 1 of 6 additional licenses with 2-3 additional courses.

# HOW TO BEGIN THE PROCESS

Contact Barbara Jo Stahl - [bjstahl@stthomas.edu](mailto:bjstahl@stthomas.edu) with your school’s interest.

The University of St. Thomas will work with planning team members to create a Work-and-Learn serving program specific to your district.

District teachers will be recruited to co-teacher Work-and-Learn courses with University of St. Thomas faculty members.