

## ***MATSU-CSC Teacher Education Academy Partnership***

**Purpose:** This “**Grow Your Own**” Teacher Education program is designed to provide the MATSU school district with the opportunity to cultivate and participate in the training of their students who wish to continue their education to become licensed teachers. This program is available for Elem. Education (grades K-8), Early Childhood Special Education (Birth – Grade 3), Special Education (grades K-12), Middle Grades Education (grades 5-9), Math Education grades 7-12, Science Education (grades 7-12), Business Education (grade 7-12), and Family Consumer Science (Home Econ) Education (grades (6-12).

**Who:** Specifically identified and recruited MATSU graduating high school seniors, or graduates, who desire to move forward with their academic education with the goal of becoming a school teacher.

**What:** Chadron State will provide required course work and enrichment activities via online, face-to-face (via Zoom), and on the job experiential learning, leading to a Bachelor’s in Education Degree, and a Nebraska/Alaska Teaching Certificate. With administrator input, program course work will be tailored to best fit MATSU district practices and expectations. A maximum of 12-13 credit hours of course work will be completed each 16-week semester.

**How:** Program participants will be advised, monitored, and supported by Chadron State faculty/staff, and a CSC Education Program liaison will specifically be assigned to facilitate your progress.

- Program students will be placed in a cohort group where they will move together through their 4-year teacher education program. Cohort students will take their education courses together, thus providing motivation, engagement and support to each other.
- District faculty and administrators may serve as program instructors to better enhance course content, making it more relevant to Alaska education.
- CSC personnel will meet with program students regularly during the academic year, in person, for social and advising gatherings.
- CSC will provide information and assistance with regard to those requesting financial aid services.
- CSC will provide opportunities for cohort students to attend classes here in Nebraska, on our beautiful campus.
- CSC will provide for a faculty-led study abroad travel opportunity to the United Kingdom. Based in London, students will also travel to Scotland/Ireland. Participants will learn about English educational systems, teacher education programming, visit public, private, rural and urban UK schools, and participate in a variety of other cultural activities.
- Program students must maintain a cumulative overall program GPA of 2.75 in order to move into their Junior year.
- Program students must earn a grade of “C” or higher in all Education course work.

**Where/When:** Program students will remain in Alaska for the majority of their education program. As described above, participants will complete their college course work “at a distance” (online, Zoom, etc.) with some face-to-face class sessions held locally.

Program participants will be employed part-time within a MATSU school serving as a para-professional, substitute teacher, or in other capacities. When participants reach their senior

academic year, they will embark on completing their capstone student teaching internship experience. This paid internship is a year-long school-based experience where students will be employed full-time within a MATSU school for an entire academic year. During this time student interns will work as school staff members serving as para-professionals and substitute teachers. They will assist where needed as co-teachers, reading coaches, tutors, committee members, test proctors, etc. They will have opportunities to shadow the school administrator, school nurse, counselor, special education director, office staff, technology specialist, etc., all in an effort to best acquaint you with the structure and operation of the school. In addition, you will participate in all faculty professional development in-service offerings.

The senior level coursework has been pared down considerably with the understanding and assumption that you, as an intern, will be learning “on-the-job”. For example, one section covers classroom management practices. Clearly, one can argue and attest that as a student intern you will be learning more about managing a classroom from being mentored on-the-job by veteran teachers within your school, and in observing them in action. This is the belief and practitioners approach embraced during this senior year experience. However, to ensure and assess concept learning, CSC faculty will be meeting with you once per week for 2 hours (via Zoom), during this senior year experience.

**Graduation:** At the completion of this program you will graduate from Chadron State College with a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Education, and can then apply for teaching licensure resulting in a valid Nebraska and Alaskan teaching certificate. Chadron State’s education program is nationally and state accredited.

**Post-Graduation/Employment:** Upon graduation from this scholarship Bachelor’s Degree program you must agree to become employed as a salaried teacher with the MATSU School District, unless deemed otherwise by district administrators.

**College Loan/Tuition Forgiveness Plan:** Upon accepting employment as a teacher in the MATSU school district your college tuition and fees will be paid back to you for each year you teach in the district. So, by the end of your 5<sup>th</sup> year of teaching, the district will have paid off all of your college loans, tuition, fees, etc. This will leave you debt-free by the age of 27. This is HUGE. Essentially, you will be receiving a free college education! ALSO, please remember that our Financial Aid Representatives will assist you on securing your financial assistance for the four-five years you are in college.

**Things for your consideration:**

- 1) To qualify for this program you must hold at least a high school diploma with a minimum grade point average of 2.50 (C or better).
- 2) To qualify for this program you must agree to be employed part-time with the MATSU school district over the four years of the collegiate program.
- 3) To remain in this program you must maintain a college overall GPA of 3.0.

To learn more, please click on this link and respond to the short questionnaire. This will allow me to better assist you. <https://forms.office.com/r/Na4EHUMQv4>

OR contact Dr. Don R. King for more program information, at [DKing@csc.edu](mailto:DKing@csc.edu)