



# Alternate Route Overview

The following is adapted from the Alternate Route section of the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) website, accessible at: <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/OEL/ARP>.

The Alternate Route is for prospective teachers with a bachelor's degree from an accredited college/university in a non-teacher education field. Currently there are four alternate route program types to obtaining certification in Mississippi:

- **Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI)** – Three programs, each unrelated to the others, (this is the category that contains the TMI Online program)
- **Master of Arts in Teaching Alternate Route (MAT)** – Twelve programs, each unrelated to the others
- **Mississippi Alternate Path to Quality Teachers (MAPQT)** – One program, operating at five different community college venues in the state
- **American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)** – One program (requires additional third party interaction with MAT, MAPQT, or others)

All Alternate Route programs have the following components:

- Testing
- Training program or coursework
- Teaching internship

## Alternate Route Selecting a Program

To select the best alternate route certification program to fit your situation, MDE recommends you ([TMI Online information provided in blue text](#)):

1. Decide what subject and age level you want to teach. This decision will help you choose which alternate route program will work for you.

- [TMI Online offers the following K-12 subjects: art, Chinese, French, German, health, Latin, library/media, music, physical education, Spanish, and special education.](#)
- [TMI Online offers the following 7-12 subjects: biology, business education, chemistry, economics, English, family and consumer science, marketing education, mathematics, physics, social studies, and speech communications.](#)

2. Familiarize yourself with testing requirements (all programs require testing):

- [ACT composite score of 21](#) (all sub-scores must be 18 or higher; SAT equivalent acceptable) or achieve the nationally recommended passing score on the [Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators](#) examination (see Testing Requirements section of this brochure for specific score requirements)
- [Praxis Subject Assessment \(formerly Praxis II\)](#) in the area you want to teach (each program offers specific subject areas; the TMI list is above; specific score requirements for each exam are listed in the Testing Requirements section of this brochure)

3. Narrow your list to one program. Many candidates choose a program based on the following criteria:

- [Testing requirements](#)

While all alternate route programs require passing scores on the Praxis Core (or ACT) and Praxis Subject Assessment (formerly Praxis II), not all programs require passing scores prior to admission. TMI Online **will admit** a candidate into TMI 1 who has **not completed** testing requirements. However, the candidate can't complete TMI 1 and obtain a license without providing passing scores prior to deadline (100 days after TMI 1 course completion or 200 days with purchase of extension). A candidate that does not provide passing scores will fail the program and is not allowed to repeat TMI 1 until all exams are passed

- [Geographical location of the program](#)

TMI Online coursework is done online; field experience is done at a nearby school you select. Only the live seminars (2 in each component) require travel to specific locations on specific days.

## Alternate Route Overview and Selecting a Program, cont.

- Subject areas offered

TMI Online offers all subjects approved for initial licensure through the alternate route except for the 4-6 elementary that is only available through certain MAT programs.

- Cost and time commitment

TMI Online is about 20 percent of the cost of the least expensive MAT program; it is a non-credit certification program so there are no graduate courses for which you will pay tuition.

TMI Online Component 1 (TMI 1) is not the shortest initial license program in the state, but since two terms of each component are offered each year, it is possible to complete both components and secure the standard, renewable license more quickly with TMI Online than any other program.

- Internship requirements

All alternate route programs require an internship. In TMI Online, the internship is associated with the full-time job you must secure in order to enroll in TMI Online Component 2 (TMI 2). Any MDE-accredited public or private school is allowed (no limit on distance from UM campus).

- Grade level

TMI Online certifies candidates in both K-12 and 7-12 subject areas. Additional endorsements can be added to both the three-year license received after TMI 1 and the standard five-year license received after TMI 2. For more information on adding supplemental endorsements to a teach license, visit: <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/OEL/SE>.

- Your personal academic skills and professional background

TMI Online is composed of a total of two online courses (TMI 1 and TMI 2) which require some comfort with online learning and motivation to meet deadlines.

Once testing and the training/coursework required by your alternate route program are completed, you may apply for an initial alternate license to seek full-time employment as a teacher and to complete internship (first year of teaching).

Mentoring will be provided during the internship. You will be paid based on your bachelor's degree status as a first-year teacher (regardless of the highest level degree you have completed). You will be enrolled in the second component of your alternate route program during the internship period. It is possible to delay enrollment in the second component since the initial license is good for three years. However, while you are on the three-year, non-renewable license, you are not eligible for additional pay for higher degrees (master's, specialist, and doctorate). Additionally, you are paid the same (line 0, first year teacher) each year you teach on this license.

Upon completion of the internship and second component of your alternate route program, you are ready to apply for your five-year standard teaching license. Once you have received your five-year standard license, you are allowed to begin moving up the salary scale (each year teaching is a step up, from line 0, to line 1, to line 2, to line 3, etc.). Higher-level degrees are recognized at this point as well (master's degree = AA pay, specialist = AAA pay, doctorate = AAAA pay). Additionally, you should be awarded a bonus year of experience on your pay (i.e. if you taught a full year on the line 0, first-year teacher rate, the next year you will be compensated at line 2, skipping over line 1) for fully completing an alternate route program, and your district may choose to accept previous out-of-state public or non-public school experience when setting your position on the salary scale.

**Note:** There is no alternate route for Elementary Education K-3. You must complete an approved bachelor's degree program in Elementary Education K-3 to earn that license.

# TMI Online General Information

## What is Teach Mississippi Institute Online?

TMI Online is an MDE-accredited alternate route program for college graduates seeking certification to teach in Mississippi (a full list of subject areas and grade levels is included in the Testing Requirements section). It is broken into two components, TMI 1 and TMI 2, both of which are taught online.

### TMI 1 (13-week online course)

TMI 1 is a 13-week (11-unit) online program. The online course covers classroom instruction, effective teaching strategies, classroom management, Mississippi College and Career-Ready Standards (MSCC-RS), planning and instructional methodologies, and use of testing as formative and summative evaluation tools. During the course, candidates will be required to participate in online discussions, take weekly unit quizzes, and submit weekly written assignments or lesson plans. Candidates should anticipate spending six to eight hours per week on the course. In addition to completing all coursework, candidates are required to:

- **Complete 60 hours of field experience/observation in a MS secondary school** (participants already teaching in a Mississippi public school district or a MDE-accredited private school may apply for a 30-hour reduction in field experience hours)
- **Submit a 500-word reflective summary of the field experience**
- **Attend mandatory orientation in Oxford, MS**
- **Attend the mandatory Mississippi College and Career-Ready Standards (MSCC-RS) workshop in Raymond, MS** (option to complete alternate assignment in hardship situations)
- **Provide proof of non-education bachelor's degree**
- **Provide passing scores on the Praxis Core (or 21 ACT, no sub-scores below 18, or SAT equivalent) and a Praxis Subject Assessment (formerly Praxis II) exam**

Upon completion of TMI 1 (all items included above), candidates receive a certificate of completion and are recommended to the Mississippi Department of Education for a temporary, non-renewable teaching license (valid for up to three years, depending on initial date of certification). Additional endorsements may be added to the license. Once the candidate has secured a teaching position, he or she may then join TMI 2.

### TMI 2 (13-week online course and first-year employment)

TMI 2 is a 13-week (11-unit) online course taken during the first year of employment. The online course takes an in-depth view into the teaching profession. It covers inclusion teaching, effective classroom management, differentiated instruction, instruction for special needs, and more. The format of the TMI 2 course is similar to TMI 1 in that candidates will participate in online discussions, take unit quizzes, submit written assignments, and complete a comprehensive final exam. In addition to coursework, candidates are required to:

- **Attend the mandatory first live seminar in Oxford, MS**
- **Attend the mandatory second live seminar in Raymond, MS** (option to complete alternate assignment in hardship situations)
- **Work with a veteran teacher** (at least five years experience) **who serves as a mentor and completes evaluations on candidate progress**

Upon completion of TMI 2, candidates will receive a certificate of completion for the program and be recommended to the Mississippi Department of Education for a five-year standard, renewable teaching license.



## What is the difference between a license and an endorsement?

A teaching **license** is the document that allows you to be employed as an instructor. It is not subject specific; rather the subjects you are allowed to teach are listed on the license as endorsements. To get a teaching license, a candidate must have the following: a bachelor's degree from an accredited college/university, a recommendation from an undergraduate education program or alternate route program (such as TMI), passing Praxis Core (or acceptable ACT or SAT scores), and a passing Praxis Subject Assessment (formerly Praxis II) in an initial license area (listed in the testing information of this document). You will automatically receive an endorsement in the subject area that corresponds to the Praxis Subject Assessment you passed (regardless of the number of college credits you have in that area).

Listed on your teaching license, **endorsements** are the subjects and grade levels you are certified to teach. Your first endorsement will be in the subject area corresponding to the Praxis Subject Assessment you passed to get your license. Additional endorsements can be added using college credit (21 hours, "C" or higher, in an endorsable area), additional approved Praxis Subject Assessments, or completion of an approved program, module, or workshop. For more information (including lists of acceptable Praxis exams and coursework), visit the Supplemental Endorsement page on the MDE website at: <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/OEL/SE>.

## Will I earn college credit in TMI?

TMI Online is a **non-credit certification program**. This means no college credit is awarded for course completion (please note that you will never need to request a transcript from The University of Mississippi for your TMI coursework, as no credit will be listed). The benefit of being a non-credit program is that our program is much more affordable than a college credit-based program (TMI Online is about 20 percent of the cost of the least expensive MAT program). The drawback of a non-credit program is that because the program does not provide college credit, candidates are not eligible for FAFSA-based student aid (loans) through The University of Mississippi.

## What are "Critical Shortage Areas"?

The critical shortage subject areas in Mississippi are **math**, **science** (biology, chemistry, and physics), **foreign language** (French, Spanish, and German), and **special education**. As these are the subject areas in the highest demand by Mississippi school districts, candidates with endorsements in these areas will have greater employment opportunities. The phrase "Critical Shortage Area" also applies to 48 school districts across the state that have difficulty filling all positions. Seeking employment in one of these districts may entitle you to moving assistance and home buying/closing cost assistance. For more information, visit the Critical Shortage Area page on the MDE website at <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/OTC/CSA>.

## What is field experience?

To complete TMI 1, candidates are required to complete sixty hours (60) of field experience in a Mississippi classroom (public or private) setting and write a reflective essay. Program participants who are concurrently teaching in a Mississippi public school district or a MDE-accredited private school may apply for a special exemption that would reduce their requirement to thirty hours (30) of field experience.

The goal of field experience is to learn the teaching profession through observation of, and assistance to, licensed teachers. Candidates may observe as many teachers and schools as they wish, so long as the grade level being observed is the same as the grade level of the endorsement being sought, e.g., Special Education is K-12, so any grade may be observed, but English is 7-12, so only grades 7-12 may be observed.

You may begin your field experience as soon as you receive the TMI Field Experience Packet. This packet is mailed and emailed once a candidate has been admitted to the program. The Field Experience Packet includes the expectations and the professional guidelines candidates should abide by as well as instructions on requesting an introduction letter to set up a field experience opportunity.

## What are the important TMI Online Dates?

<b>TMI 1 Application Deadline</b>	<b>Wednesday, January 27</b>
<b>TMI 1 Background Check Application Deadline</b>	<b>Friday, February 1</b>
<b>TMI 2 Enrollment Deadline</b>	<b>Thursday, February 4</b>
<b>TMI 1 and TMI 2 Orientation</b>	<b>Saturday, February 13</b>
<b>TMI 1 Tuition Payment - \$960 (\$500 minimum due)</b> \$845 tuition \$100 textbook \$15 lunch fee (for Orientation and Live Seminar)	<b>Saturday, February 13</b>
<b>TMI 1 Observation Hours Reduction Request</b>	<b>Monday, February 29</b>
<b>TMI 1 and TMI 2 Live Seminar in Raymond, MS</b>	<b>Saturday, April 9</b>
<b>TMI 1 Coursework Completion Deadline</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 10</b>
<b>TMI 1 Field Experience Due</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 10</b>
<b>Reflective Essay Due</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 10</b>
<b>TMI 2 Coursework Completion Deadline</b>	<b>Sunday, May 15</b>
<b>TMI 1 Conditional Admission Supplemental Materials Deadline</b>	<b>Thursday, September 1, 2016</b>
<b>TMI 1 Conditional Admission Course Extension Request Due</b>	<b>Thursday, September 1, 2016</b>
<b>TMI 1 Conditional Admission Supplemental Materials Final Deadline (with Course Extension)</b>	<b>Thursday, December 15, 2016</b>

TMI 2 start and end dates are included above to demonstrate the similar program length between TMI 1 and TMI 2. A full list of all deadlines (including individual unit deadlines) for TMI 1 and TMI 2 is provided in the program handbook distributed during TMI orientation. The above dates are subject to change.

**Fall 2016 TMI 1 term begins August 20, 2016.**

**The deadline to apply is August 3, 2016.**

Please visit [tmi.olemiss.edu](http://tmi.olemiss.edu)

or email [tmi@olemiss.edu](mailto:tmi@olemiss.edu) for more information.

# TMI Online Program Costs and Financial Aid

## TMI Online Program Costs

Listed below are the cost breakdowns of each component as well as some additional alternate route expenses you should be prepared to cover. Please note that the total cost is a constant, even if you choose not to eat at the seminars, the charges will remain the same.

### TMI 1 Total Fees: \$1,000

- \$40 application fee (nonrefundable)
- \$845 tuition fee
- \$100 textbook and binder fee
- \$15 lunch fee (for Orientation & Live Seminar)

### TMI 2 Total Fees: \$1,500

- \$1,160 tuition
- \$200 mentor fee
- \$125 textbook fee
- \$15 lunch fees (for Orientation & Live Seminar)

### Additional expenses of alternate route not covered by the TMI Online program

- \$150 Praxis Core (combined test, all 3 sections)
- \$90 Praxis Core (individual subtest in math, writing, or reading)
- \$120 to \$160 Praxis Subject Assessment (formerly Praxis II; price varies by exam)
- \$40 Certifiedbackground.com fee (the background check TMI uses, see background check section for substitution information)
- Transportation to and from your field experience site
- Internet Access (this is an online program, you are expected to check emails daily and spend between 6 and 8 hours per week on the course)

## Financial aid and fee payment options

As an applicant to the Teach Mississippi Institute, you may be eligible to apply for financial assistance. Since the TMI program is a non-credit/non-degree seeking program, federal financial aid (i.e. student loans) WILL NOT cover the tuition and fees of our program.

### TMI Fee Payment Information

Both TMI 1 and TMI 2 candidates will make their payment(s) online. Instructions for accessing the payment system will be included on page two of each TMI 1 and TMI 2 acceptance letter.

**Special Note for TMI 1:** Tuition (in full) is due at orientation. However, as long as you pay at least \$500 of your balance by orientation, your enrollment will not be canceled. The remaining balance must be paid by the course midpoint (a \$20 late fee will be added the 15th of each month until balance is paid off).

**Special Note for TMI 2:** Tuition for TMI 2 is divided into four equal payments due throughout the course, though you may pay the bill in full at any time.

## Financial aid and fee payment options, cont.

### WIN Job Centers of Mississippi

The WIN Job Centers of Mississippi offer WIA/ITA job opportunity funding for applicants of alternate route programs such as TMI. When contacting your local WIN Job Center to discuss potential funding of TMI tuition and fees, ask if they have money under their program title “**Alternate Route to Teachers License**”. Please note that WIN Job Centers operate differently from location-to-location and not all offer funding for our program. For a complete listing of all WIN Job Centers, please visit their website at <http://mdes.ms.gov/win-job-centers/>.



### AmeriCorps

The AmeriCorps program provides educational award funding to candidates who have completed previous work under their program. Award monies for the TMI program can only be used to cover tuition and fees of the program (you may not request an amount larger than tuition, if you do, the additional funds will be applied to TMI 2, not sent to you). If you are interested in finding out more about AmeriCorps funding, please visit their website at [www.americorps.gov](http://www.americorps.gov) or [www.nationalservice.gov](http://www.nationalservice.gov).

### Teacher Education Scholars Alternate Route Certification Forgivable Loan (TESA)

The Teacher Education Scholars Alternate Route Certification Forgivable Loan (TESA) program was created during the 2014 legislative session to encourage college graduates to pursue a career in teaching through an alternate route teacher's license. To be eligible, an applicant must hold a bachelor's degree (non-education) from a regionally or nationally accredited postsecondary institution and have a minimum 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) on the last 60 credit hours of baccalaureate work, as reported by the graduating institution. Awards are made on a first-come, first-served basis. All awards are subject to appropriation by the Legislature. For more information, visit the TESA page on the Mississippi Financial Aid website at <http://riseupms.com/state-aid/tesa>.

**UPDATE: The TESA Program requires specific appropriation by the Mississippi Legislature. Unfortunately, an appropriation was not made available for the 2015-16 academic year. The TESA site will be updated if funds are made available in the future, so check back periodically.**

### Other Funding

The Mississippi Department of Education has a listing of potential opportunities to fund alternate route programs or assist you as a future educator (i.e. student loan forgiveness for teachers). For more information about alternate route funding or assistance from the MDE, please visit their website at <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/OTC/SLF>.

**Please note:** any award/grant that requires undergraduate or graduate enrollment, such as the Teach Grant, cannot be used for TMI because TMI is a NON-CREDIT certification program. Make sure you look into the loan repayment programs listed on this site once you have completed TMI and obtained certification.

Financial assistance updates posted at:

[tmi.olemiss.edu/scholarships.html](http://tmi.olemiss.edu/scholarships.html)



# TMI 1 Admission Requirements

## What are the TMI 1 Admission Requirements?

TMI Online has two admissions categories: Full Acceptance and Conditional Acceptance (requirements detailed below). Full acceptance applies to an applicant that provides TMI Online all supplemental completion materials (bachelor's degree, Praxis Core or ACT, and Praxis Subject Assessment). A fully accepted candidate is eligible for a license as soon as all coursework and field experience is completed. Conditional acceptance is for an applicant in the final undergraduate semester or missing one of the MDE required tests. A conditionally accepted candidate cannot obtain a license until coursework and field experience are completed and all missing supplemental completion materials (bachelor's degree, Praxis Core or ACT, and Praxis Subject Assessment) are provided to TMI. Moreover, a conditionally accepted candidate must submit these materials by the posted deadline or fail the program. A one-time extension of three months can be purchased to provide additional time to complete testing requirements.

### Conditional Acceptance

- **Bachelor's degree** -OR- second-semester senior-standing (within 15 hours of a Bachelor's degree) from an accredited university/college
- A minimum **2.75 GPA on the TMI Core Curriculum** (listed below)
- **Background check** with CertifiedBackground.com (or district substitution, see below)

### Full Acceptance

- **Bachelor's degree** from an accredited university/college
- A minimum **2.75 GPA on the TMI Core Curriculum** (listed below)
- **Background check** with CertifiedBackground.com (or district substitution, see below)
- **Passing Praxis Core** test scores (or ACT composite of 21, no sub-score below 18, or SAT equivalent)
- **Passing Praxis Subject Assessment** score in an MDE-approved subject area (see testing information section)

### TMI Core Curriculum (42-44 hours)

**6 hours of Composition:** course must have English or Writing Department course prefix

**6 hours of Social/Behavioral Science:** anthropology, economics, geography, history, journalism, political science, psychology, or sociology

**6 hours Humanities:** African American studies, classics, ethics, gender studies, history, linguistics, literature, modern foreign language, philosophy, religion, Southern Studies, speech

**3 hours Fine Art:** appreciation course in Art, Art History, Dance, Music, Theatre, etc.

**3 hours Math:** any college (not developmental) level math except "Real Number System" or "Geometry, Measurement, and Probability"

**6-8 hours Lab-based Science:** both courses must include or be accompanied by lab credit; astronomy, biology, chemistry, geology, physical science, physics

**12 hours Restrictive Elective Credit:** any college credit (not already counted above) that would fit into one of the categories listed above

Only the grades for the courses used to satisfy the TMI Core above will be calculated in to determine GPA for program admission (2.75 on the above core is required)

# TMI 1 Admission Requirements, cont.

## Background Check Information

All Teach Mississippi Institute candidates must submit to a criminal background check. After TMI Online receives an application, the applicant is sent an email which includes a reminder of the information below (background check is required for admission).

- Option 1: In addition to the email from [tmi@olemiss.edu](mailto:tmi@olemiss.edu) referenced above, everyone will receive an email with a link to the background check directly from CertifiedBackground.com. However, these emails are not required to initiate the background check. Simply visit [CertifiedBackground.com](http://CertifiedBackground.com), create an account, initiate a background check using the package code **TB23**, and pay the \$40 fee.
- Option 2: If you work at an MDE-accredited school (and plan on doing all your observation hours at that school), you can request the district office/principal mail/email a memo on district/school letterhead stating that you have **passed the background search administered by your school district -AND- have permission to complete your observations at the district/school.**

## Transcript Information

TMI requires an official college transcript showing a bachelor's degree (or senior status) from an accredited college or university -AND- all undergraduate coursework (if **ALL** undergraduate coursework and grades are recorded on the primary transcript, community college or other transfer transcripts are not required).

Master's degree transcripts are not required. University of Mississippi graduates do **NOT** need to request a transcript. Institutions can send electronic transcripts to [tmi@olemiss.edu](mailto:tmi@olemiss.edu) to the attention of Jason Wilkins.

**ATTENTION:** If you have attained senior status and are within one semester of your degree, TMI Online will need a copy of your transcript for admission -AND- a copy of the transcript once the degree has been conferred and posted (on the transcript).

## Conditional Acceptance Information

Candidates may be granted a one-time conditional acceptance into the Teach Mississippi Institute without Praxis Core or Praxis Subject Assessment scores. However, in order to complete TMI 1, conditionally accepted candidates must turn in the above items to TMI Online by the date specified on their acceptance letter.

**EFFECTIVE July 1, 2013:** If a candidate fails to submit the required materials, thus failing the TMI 1 course, the candidate may only be allowed to rejoin TMI 1 after all requirements have been met.

## Notification of Admission

When an application is received, an email is sent confirming receipt and providing background check instructions. Throughout the admission process, emails may be sent to prompt applicant for materials or notify applicant of receipt of materials.

Applicants are admitted on a rolling basis. Candidates are notified of their admission via emails: one with an admission letter, one with an invoice, one with field experience information, and if admit is conditionally accepted, an email with an "orientation agreement" which lists all items needed before TMI 1 can be completed. **It is important that the candidate application indicates a working email address.**

# Alternate Route Testing Requirements

## ACT Test

If you have a **21 composite score on the ACT** (with 18 or higher sub-scores on the English, Math, Reading, and Science sections), you are exempt from taking the Praxis Core. TMI Online can accept scores listed on an official high school transcript (sent directly from the school). However, official electronic scores must be sent to the Mississippi Department of Education (ACT Code 9072). If your high school transcripts do not have your ACT, you can send official electronic scores to the University of Mississippi (ACT Code 2250) and notify us. Please note that the scores are not sent to TMI Online using that code; scores are sent to UM. TMI Online cannot access scores until the scores are delivered to UM and entered into the UM campus management system (this can take up to six weeks). If your scores are more than one year old, ACT charges an archive fee as well as a fee for sending scores. If you need to send official electronic scores to both TMI and the MDE that are more than a year old, submit the request to ACT at the same time (it will look like you are being charged the archive fee twice, but if the requests are made at the same time, one of the archive fees will be dropped from your charges).

If you prefer, you are allowed to attempt the ACT instead of taking the Praxis Core. You must take the ACT on a national test date (not a residual testing, it will be a Saturday morning) and you need only sign up for the ACT (not the ACT Plus Writing).

SAT score of 990 (on the 1600 point CR+M SAT, not the 2400 point CR+M+W SAT) can be substituted for the ACT. Email [tmi@olemiss.edu](mailto:tmi@olemiss.edu) for directions on getting SAT scores to TMI Online and the MDE.

## Praxis Attending Institution and Designated Score Recipients

When registering for any Praxis exam, you will be prompted to provide an attending institution (where training is being done) and designated score recipients (where your Praxis score report should be sent). Enter TMI Online's institutional code (**1806**) into both of these sections. If you are taking a Praxis exam outside the state of Mississippi, you should include the Mississippi Department of Education's institutional code of (**7599**) in the designated score recipient section.

Your score report will be posted to your "My Praxis Account" section of the Praxis website. The score report is made available to you in the form of a locked PDF. Be sure to save the locked PDF score report before it is removed (TMI online can accept this file as an official score report).

## Praxis Testing Windows and Additional Attempts

The Praxis Core is given on a continuous basis. If the testing center is open, it is offering the Praxis Core. The Praxis Subject Assessments (formerly Praxis II) is offered in testing windows. This means there are only certain dates available to sign up for an exam. Visit [http://www.ets.org/praxis/register/centers\\_dates](http://www.ets.org/praxis/register/centers_dates) to view testing window dates.

The Praxis Core, or individual sections of the Praxis Core, can only be taken once every 21 days. The Praxis Subject Assessment can be taken only once in any single testing window.

## Praxis Scores

Your test results become available 10-16 business days after a testing window closes (not 10-16 business days after you take the exam). Score reports are posted to candidates' ETS account first, normally about a week before any institution (such as the MDE or TMI) is permitted access. The score report can be saved from the candidate's ETS account as a "locked PDF." This score report is both the candidate's copy, and if emailed as a "locked PDF," can be used as an official score report. Candidates should be sure they save the file as it will disappear from their ETS account page after one year.

## Alternate Route Testing Requirements, cont.

### Praxis Core\*

(\*Test Code to take all three sections in one sitting is 5751)

Content Area	Test Code	Min. Score
Reading	5712	156
Writing	5722	162
Mathematics	5732	150

### Praxis Subject Assessment (formerly Praxis II)

Approved Subject Area	Test Code	Min. Score
Art (K-12)	5134	158
Biology (7-12)	5235	150
Business Education (7-12)	5101	153
Chemistry (7-12)	5245	151
Chinese (K-12)	5665	164
Economics (7-12)	5911	150
English (7-12)	5038	167
Family & Consumer Science (7-12)	5122	153
French (K-12)	5174	153
German (K-12)	5183	154
Health (K-12)	5551	149
Latin (K-12)	5601	152
Library/Media (K-12)	5311	143
Marketing Education (7-12)	5561	151
Mathematics (7-12)	5161	160
Music (K-12)	5113	161
Physical Education (K-12)	5091	145
Physics (7-12)	5265	139
Social Studies (7-12)	5081	150
Spanish (K-12)	5195	160
Speech Communications (7-12)	5221	143
Special Education (K-12)	5354	152

### Praxis Testing Locations

Ellisville, MS  
(601) 578-3389

Flowood, MS  
(601) 664-9960

Hattiesburg, MS  
(601) 266-6123

Memphis, TN  
(901) 678-1457

Memphis, TN  
(901) 756-1425

Meridian, MS  
(601) 484-8724

Metairie, LA  
(504) 834-2155

Mobile, AL  
(251) 345-1704

Monroe, LA  
(318) 345-9246

Monticello, AR  
(870) 460-1454

New Orleans, LA  
(504) 280-8378

Oxford, MS  
(662) 915-6501

Starkville, MS  
(662) 325-6610

Tupelo, MS  
(662) 844-2998

# TMI 1 Completion and TMI 2 Information

## TMI 1 Completion and Applying for License

Upon successful completion of the first component (TMI 1), candidates may apply to the Mississippi Department of Education for a non-renewable temporary license good for up to three years (all license years expire on June 30 each year, so if you apply for a license at Christmas, your license will expire on June 30, two and a half years later). Candidates receive license application instructions via email and mail upon completion of TMI 1. Once the license is issued, a candidate may apply for additional endorsements using the same Education License Management System (ELMS) used to apply for the license.

## Does TMI assist with job placement or recommendations?

No, not directly. Included in the materials emailed and mailed to candidates upon completion are instructions on accessing existing MDE employment resources, including job postings and getting added to the database of available certified teachers. TMI instructors and staff cannot write letters of recommendation for candidates. If a letter of recommendation is needed, a candidate should rely upon instructors/school officials who observed him/her during field experience. However, TMI can write letters of good standing or completion that detail your enrollment or completion of the TMI program to assist you in the job search while the MDE is reviewing your application.

## How do I enroll in TMI 2?

The first step in enrolling in TMI 2 is to secure an appropriate teaching position. Once employed, a candidate may sign up for the next session of TMI 2 by completing a webform to provide employment information. The link to this webform is included in the TMI 1 completion materials AND it will be emailed to all prospective TMI 2 candidates two months prior to the start of each TMI 2 term. Candidates should update TMI Online anytime email address changes.

Successful completion of the second component and a year of employment (the internship) will result in a standard five-year renewable Mississippi teacher's license.



# Application Information

## Application Deadlines

The application deadline for the **Spring 2016** session is **Wednesday, January 27, 2016**. Candidates must submit to a background check no later than **Friday, February 1, 2016**. Completion of this application does not guarantee acceptance to the Teach Mississippi Institute.

## Application Checklist

- Signed Application** – Due by January 27, 2016
- \$40 Application Fee** – Due by January 27, 2016
- Background Check** – Due by February 1, 2016
- College Transcript\***
- Praxis Core Test Scores\***
- Praxis Subject Assessment Test Score\***

\* Candidates may be conditionally accepted into the program and begin coursework prior to passing the Praxis Core, Praxis Subject Assessment, and/or final undergraduate course. However, candidates will not be allowed to complete TMI 1 without providing these supplemental materials prior to deadline (**September 1, 2016** or **December 15, 2016** with purchase of extension).

## Application Summary:

- The application must include a handwritten signature.
- The non-refundable \$40 application fee should be made payable to The University of Mississippi/TMI.
- Applicants must submit a background check (either the memo from school/district discussed in the background check above or a background check through certifiedbackground.com). Applicants will NOT receive notification of acceptance into the program until TMI Online calculates GPA -AND- receives an acceptable background check. The fee for using certifiedbackground.com is \$40 paid directly to the vendor (this \$40 fee is in addition to the application fee).
- All transcripts must be submitted via e-script (if your institution offers it) to **tmi@olemiss.edu** –OR- a sealed envelope bearing the seal or signature of the registrar (not acceptable if opened). If sent by mail, you can either:
  - Ask the institution to mail your transcripts directly to TMI Online, -OR-
  - Ask the institution to mail your transcripts to you (may be stamped “student issued”) then you may mail them to TMI. **If you select this method, do not open the sealed envelope as the transcript will no longer be deemed official and thus we cannot accept it.**
- Test scores must be submitted as originals. Select the Teach Mississippi Institute Recipient Code (1806) when you register for your Praxis exams (add 7599 also if taking Praxis outside of Mississippi) –OR- e-mail the locked PDF of your official Praxis scores to **tmi@olemiss.edu**. If you have not taken both Praxis Exams, make sure you put these institutional codes in when you register for your next exam; scores from the first exam will be included with the second. Printed copies CANNOT be accepted. ACT scores can be sent to UM (ACT Code 2250, but you have to let us know when they arrive at UM) as well as the MDE (ACT Code 9072) in place of a Praxis Core score.
- All candidates in the TMI program must attend the **MANDATORY** orientation on **February 13, 2016** in Oxford at the Jackson Avenue Center. There will be **NO EXCEPTIONS** granted.
- Please make all checks or money orders payable to “University of Mississippi” and mail the completed application to:

**Outreach and Continuing Education**  
**Teach Mississippi Institute**  
**P.O. Box 1848**  
**University, MS 38677**

Please print legibly; application must include Non-Refundable Application Fee of \$40, payable to University of Mississippi

Email:

Enter your primary email address above. TMI is an online program, thus most correspondence is via email. The email you enter should be one that will not be shut off (i.e. no school email if you are about to graduate). You should also add [tmi@olemiss.edu](mailto:tmi@olemiss.edu) to your address book to prevent messages from going to your junk mail folder.

Name: Last First Middle Maiden "Preferred"  
( ) / / Male Female  
Phone Date of Birth (DOB): Month/Day/Year

Mailing Address: Number & Street Apt.# City State Zip Code

Enter your Social Security Number.

**Ethnicity:**  American Indian  Alaskan Native  Asian  
 Black, non-Hispanic  White, non-Hispanic  Hispanic  
 Pacific Islander  Other

**Military Experience:**  Army  Air Force  Navy  USMC  
 Coast Guard  Reserve  MS Nat'l Guard

**Have you received your Undergraduate Degree?**

Yes, I have received my undergraduate degree.

No, but I have achieved second semester senior status in pursuit of my undergraduate degree. I understand that I must complete my undergraduate degree to successfully complete the TMI program.

List the name of all colleges/universities attended in pursuit of your undergraduate degree.

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- Yes  No Are you currently licensed in Mississippi?  
 Yes  No Are you currently addicted or currently dependent on alcohol?  
 Yes  No Are you currently addicted or currently dependent on other habit-forming drugs?  
 Yes  No Are you a habitual user of narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens, or other drugs having similar effects?  
 Yes  No Have you been convicted, pled guilty, or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a felony as defined by federal or state law?  
 Yes  No Have you been convicted, pled guilty, or entered a plea of nolo contendere to a sex offense as defined by federal or state law?  
 Yes  No Have you had a teaching certificate/license denied, suspended, and/or revoked by another state?

#### CHARACTER DETERMINATION:

I understand that a "Yes" answer on any of the questions will require a hearing before the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education Certification and Licensure and Development when I submit my application for a license and could result in denial of a license. I acknowledge that the answers to the above questions are true and correct. I understand that submission of this application does not guarantee my acceptance into the TMI program. I understand that I must submit to a background check only through [CertifiedBackground.com](http://CertifiedBackground.com) to be eligible for acceptance, pending the results of the check. I understand that I need to complete all components of the TMI program and will utilize my license to teach the students of the state of Mississippi.

Signature of Applicant

Date

# tmi@olemiss.edu

TMI 1 Spring 2016 class is February 13 to May 15  
Deadline to apply: January 27, 2016

P.O. Box 1848, University, MS 38677  
Phone: 662.915.7314  
Fax: 662.915.5138