

University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM) Noyce Scholars Program

The UTM Noyce Scholars Program is now accepting applications for May 2025. Classes will begin on May 12, 2025, with an in-person orientation on the UT Martin campus the week prior to classes. Applications are due by April 11, 2025. Complete all three of the following:

1. Apply for admission to the Master of Science in Initial Licensure program at UT Martin. Learn more about the degree here <https://www.utm.edu/academics/majors-and-programs/msed-teaching-initial-licensure-secondary>.

Visit <https://www.utm.edu/admissions-and-aid/graduate.php> to Start Your Application.

2. In addition, Noyce applicants should submit the following documents to Dr. Steve Elliott:
 - Letter of application describing professional goals
 - Begin with the sentence “I am applying for admission to the UTM Noyce Scholars Program.”
 - Describe why you want to be a math or science teacher
 - Date the letter and sign the letter
 - College transcript(s) through the application date
 - Applicant Checklist (Page 2 of this document. Read it. Sign it. Date it.)
 - Statement of financial need (optional)

Each Noyce applicant needs two letters of recommendation from current or former teachers and/or employers. Letters of application should be emailed or mailed directly to Dr. Steve Elliott by the teacher or employer.

Submit documents to Dr. Steve Elliott via email at eelliott7@utm.edu or via mail to the following address:

Dr. Steve Elliott
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
341 Latimer-Smith Building
203 Hurt Street
Martin, TN 38238

3. Applicants must be fingerprinted and submit to a criminal background investigation. Instructions are available on pages 3 & 4 of this document. Direct any questions about fingerprints or the background investigation to Staci Fuqua, Director of the Educator Preparation Program at sfuqua2@utm.edu or 731-881-7215.

(You are welcome to ask questions about any of the requirements below. Contact Dr. Steve Elliott, eelliott7@utm.edu or Dr. Alisa Wilson, awils168@utm.edu)

If I am selected as a University of Tennessee at Martin Noyce Scholar, I agree to the following:

- I am not a K-12 teacher. I have not been a K-12 teacher. I will not become a K-12 teacher while receiving Noyce stipend support.
- I am a U.S. citizen, national or permanent resident alien.
- I will complete a Master of Science in initial licensure degree at The University of Tennessee at Martin, to include paying the required tuition and fees, required coursework, and student teaching.
- I will take and pass the Praxis examination required for my educator license endorsement.
- I will submit an edTPA portfolio and pass the associated assessment.
- I will obtain a Tennessee educator license.
- After obtaining an educator license, I will work full-time as a STEM teacher for two years in a school in a high-need local education agency (LEA). For the purposes of the Noyce Scholars Program, an LEA is high-need if at least one elementary or secondary school in the LEA has:
 - a high percentage ($\geq 50\%$) of individuals from families with incomes below the poverty line;
 - a high percentage ($\geq 34\%$) of secondary school teachers not teaching in the content area in which they were trained to teach; or
 - a high ($\geq 15\%$) teacher turnover rate.
- I give permission to the University of Tennessee at Martin to conduct a Tennessee Bureau of Investigation criminal background check on me.
- I will complete growth mindset training as directed by the principal investigators.
- I will participate in at least 5 of 6 professional learning meetings scheduled during the Noyce recipient's first year of teaching.
- I will initiate at least one post and respond to at least one post on the UTM Noyce Scholarship Program's online support platform during my first year of teaching.
- I will provide evidence of full-time employment as a teacher in a high-need local education agency to the principal investigators by September 1 of each of the two years of required employment as a teacher.
- I will provide the principal investigators with a current address and phone number by September 1 of each of the two years required as employment as a teacher.
- If I fail to complete the requirements before completion of one year of teaching in a high-need LEA, then I will repay the entire \$29,000 stipend to UTM. If I complete one year of required teaching but fail to complete the second year, then I will repay \$14,500 to UTM.

Printed Name	
Signature	
Date	

A. Schedule an appointment with Identgo

<https://www.identgo.com/>

B. After obtaining a UTM userid and password, a Noyce applicant must sign the following statement for admission to the Educator Preparation Program before receiving a stipend.

Graduate- MS Initial Licensure Candidates

To be admitted to the Educator Preparation Program (EPP) for M.S. in Education Initial Licensure-Elementary or Secondary programs, the following requirements must be met:

1. Candidates must establish a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 for EPP program admission.
2. Candidates must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.00 per term until program completion per University Graduate policy.
3. Candidates must demonstrate an acceptable level of written and oral communication skills during an interview process. Students will complete interview process while enrolled in TCED 730 or 780.
4. Candidates must submit to and successfully pass a TBI/FBI criminal background check and sign the background release form and the VECHS Waiver Agreement and Statement.
5. Candidates must provide a passing score on all Praxis content area exams by completion TCED 730/780 which is during first term enrolled.
 - MSIL-Elementary must take and pass all Praxis Elem. Educ. Content Knowledge: subtests (Reading/LA, Math, Science, and Social Studies).
 - MSIL-Secondary must take and pass the Praxis exam for the content area for which they are seeking licensure.

When enrolled in TCED 730/780, the candidate must complete the following assignments:

- Praxis Test Assignment-- Students will be required to register for the content exam required for their designated major and content area. The instructor will provide an assignment in Canvas requiring the candidate to upload a copy of the registration confirmation which must include the test name & test code, test date, test time, and testing location.
- 240Tutoring Assignment-- Students will be enrolled in 240Tutoring and will be required to complete all test prep modules and score at least a 85% on one of three practice tests within 240Tutoring. Completion of the 240Tutoring assignment will be required in order to satisfactorily complete TCED 730/780.

Upon receipt of a passing Praxis score for the identified content area exam, the EPP office will issue a refund directly to the student for the cost of the content area exam. The refund is only issued one time.

NOTE: If the candidate does not pass the required Praxis content exam, the candidate will not be admitted to the EPP and will be permitted to attempt the exam a second time at the expense of the candidate. If the candidate does not pass the Praxis content exam after two attempts, the candidate will be counseled to a different major outside of the Educator Preparation Program (EPP).

Acknowledgment of the EPP Admission Requirements

The Tennessee State Department of Education (TDOE) requires candidates to meet and complete certain criteria before taking upper-division education courses. These requirements ensure candidates are prepared to become a teacher after graduation. The Educator Preparation Program (EPP) is responsible for facilitating, documenting, and providing proof to the TDOE that each candidate has completed all of these requirements.

All students, undergraduate, and graduate, seeking a degree in education leading to licensure, must be admitted to Educator Preparation Program.

*By signing this document, I acknowledge that I have read the EPP requirements and understand that it is my responsibility to complete each requirement before being admitted to the Educator Preparation Program.