

General Guidelines:

Applied Literacy is a program option, leading to a Master of Science in Education degree. This option is available to ETEP graduates and will be offered by the existing Literacy Education program faculty. The purpose of this concentration is to provide an opportunity for ETEP students to complete their Master's degree in a focused area (literacy). The concentration in Applied Literacy builds upon the curriculum and experiences of ETEP, gives novice teachers increased skill in literacy, and leads to further opportunities for specialist certification, ESL endorsement, and/or a Certificate of Advanced Study in Literacy.

After graduating from ETEP with initial teacher certification, student can complete the 18 to 21 credits required for the Master's degree in approximately 1 ½ years. (Students have five years from matriculation in ETEP to complete the Applied Literacy degree.) Certification as a Literacy Specialist and endorsement in English as a Second Language require 12 and 9 additional credits beyond the degree, respectively. A student can combine the requirements to receive both of these credentials within a 30-credit Certificate of Advanced Study (CAS) degree in Literacy or English as a Second Language. (Please note that a separate application process will be required for the CAS degree. Please contact the Office of Graduate Admissions for more information.)

Application Instructions for Applied Literacy:

To apply for this program, please submit an Application for Admission to Applied Literacy, a nonrefundable application fee of \$25.00, a brief (1 to 2) page statement explaining your reason for choosing to enter the Applied Literacy program, and one letter of recommendation from a mentor teacher or administrator who has observed your work with students to the Office of Graduate Admissions. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

Application questions can be directed to:
Office of Graduate Admissions - USM
39 Exeter St.
Portland, ME 04104
(207) 780-4386
usmadm@usm.maine.edu