

Earn Your **ESL Licensure** While You Teach

DESE-approved pathways for educators on emergency or provisional licenses — designed for working teachers, delivered locally, and built to move you to full Initial licensure in English as a Second Language.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FALL RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS · SOUTHCOAST COMPACT AGREEMENT

Three Pathways to ESL Licensure

MAT — Master of Arts in Teaching, Initial Licensure in ESL

A full master's degree leading to Initial ESL licensure (PreK–6 or 5–12). Emphasizes WIDA standards, culturally responsive pedagogy, and strategies for multilingual learners, with field-based experiences embedded in the district.

Format: Hybrid · evening/weekend **Practicum:** ~400 hrs supervised **Outcome:** Master's + Initial ESL license

30 cr
18 MONTHS

Integrated MAT + PRPIL Pathway

For staff teaching under a Provisional license. Pairs the MAT with the Performance Review Program for Initial Licensure (PRPIL), a DESE-approved, portfolio-based route. Earn the degree and complete licensure at the same time. PRPIL requires 3 years as teacher-of-record.

PRPIL: < 6 months · portfolio-based **MAT artifacts** double as PRPIL evidence

2 steps
LICENSURE ROUTE

ESL Certificate (Non-Degree)

A focused, fast-track credential for staff who want ESL preparation without committing to the full master's. Fully stackable toward the MAT if you later choose to continue.

Format: Hybrid · working-teacher schedule **Stackable** into MAT

12 cr
< 12 MONTHS

Estimated Costs

PATHWAY	EST. TUITION
MAT ESL (30 cr @ \$595/cr)	≈ \$17,850
PRPIL (portfolio program)	≈ \$2,500
ESL Certificate (12 cr)	≈ \$7,140
MTEL exams (per test)	\$278–\$417

FRPS-specific support: **20% SouthCoast Compact discount** for Fall River Public Schools teachers, plus **Baycoast Bank 0% loans**. TEACH Grant (ESL = shortage area) and Teacher Loan Forgiveness also available — many candidates approach \$0 out-of-pocket at graduation.

Getting Started

- Inquire & advise.** Connect with the UMassD program advisor to match a pathway to your license status.
- Apply.** Rolling admissions — submit transcripts, statement, and references.
- Enroll.** Fall, Spring, and Summer entry points in a SouthCoast cohort.
- Complete & license.** Finish coursework, practicum/PRPIL, and MTEL to earn Initial ESL licensure.

Figures are estimates for planning purposes only and are subject to change. Tuition is calculated at the current per-credit graduate rate; total cost varies by transfer credits, MTEL attempts, and financial aid. Program structure, credit counts, and licensure requirements follow current DESE regulations. Confirm all costs and requirements with the UMass Dartmouth School of Education and the DESE licensure office.

Ready to start your path
to **ESL licensure**?

Contact for more information

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