

# Faculty of Education Graduate Program Guidelines for Applications

# At a Glance

### **Deadlines and Important Information**

- The cost to apply to our program is \$110 (as of 2019).
- Do your research—get to know the program to which you are applying by visiting education.uoit.ca/graduate.
- Review the program options:
  - Master of Education (MEd) (includes course-only and project options)
  - o Master of Arts in Education (MA)
  - Graduate Diploma
- Think about why you are a good match for this program and what you would like to gain from it.
- Read the tips below very carefully.
- Read the <u>Statement of Intent (SOI)</u> suggestions below very carefully.
- Read the suggestions about references below and watch the References video.
- The firm deadlines for submitting all materials for your application are midnight on the following dates (for domestic applicants):
  - o October 1 for January entry (MEd & Graduate Diploma)
  - February 1 for May entry (MEd & Graduate Diploma)
  - May 1 for September entry (MA, MEd & Graduate Diploma)

# **Application and Program Options**

### **MEd Standard Application**

#### For students who

- have a four-year degree from a recognized institution with an overall average of B (GPA 3.0) and a B average in the last two full-time years.
- If you do not have this requirement, see non-standard application (below).

#### **Possible outcomes**

- If all the elements of your application are solid (SOI, technology and education experience, and references), you may be accepted directly into the MEd program.
- It is also possible that we will ask you to start in the <u>Diploma Program</u> to see if you are a good fit for our program. After successfully completing a minimum of 2 courses (with requisite grades) you can formally reapply to the MEd program AND get credit for the courses you have already completed.

### **MEd Non-Standard Application**

#### For students who

 do not meet the standard academic criteria, but have significant relevant professional experience.

#### **Key things to note**

- Include a detailed CV or resume.
- You will need to make a strong case for your educational AND technology experience.

#### **Possible outcomes**

- If all the elements of your application are exemplary (SOI, technology and education experience, and references), you may be accepted directly into the MEd program.
- It is also possible that we will ask you to start in the <u>Diploma Program</u> to see if you are a good fit for our program. After successfully completing a minimum of 2 courses (with requisite grades) you can formally reapply for the MEd Program AND get credit for the courses you have already completed.

### **MA Application**

#### For students who

- have a very strong academic standing: B+ to A- (GPA 3.3) or higher.
- have solid teaching/technology background because student may be required to be a Teaching Assistant (TA).
- Have solid research experience because student may be required to be a Research Assistant (RA).

#### Key things to note

- MA applicants can apply for September entry only.
- Full-time MA students are funded.
- You must include a detailed CV or resume.
- You will need to make a strong case for your educational AND technology experience.

## **Graduate Diploma Application**

#### For students who

- wish to pursue graduate-level courses without pursuing a full master's degree.
- wish to complete a Graduate Diploma for personal or professional advancement.
- are granted entry to the Diploma program as a possible pathway to a full master's degree.

# Tips and Guidelines

# Statement of Intent (SOI)

- We need to assess whether you are a match for our program (communication skills, technology skills, and educational and professional experience).
- Provide a clear, thoughtful explanation of why our graduate program at UOIT is a good fit for you.
- Provide detailed examples of how you have used technology in significant and meaningful ways.
- Provide a clear summary of your experiences as an educator or facilitator of instruction.

- We are looking for well-written, organized, focused statements and proper paragraphs.
- Try to keep your SOI to one or two pages—this may mean making judicious choices about what to include and how to organize your ideas.
- Make sure your SOI is free of spelling and grammatical errors—you may wish to check it with <a href="Grammarly">Grammarly</a>.

#### **Curriculum Vitae**

- While not required for a standard MEd application, you might wish to include a CV, particularly if it will help us understand your technological and education background and skills.
- CVs are required for non-standard applications (see above) and MA applications.
- Organize your CV with clear and informative headings, emphasizing your achievements that are most relevant to our graduate program.

# References Video Clip (3:18)

- References may be academic or professional.
- Select references who can assess your potential to succeed in our graduate program.
- **Appropriate references** might include but are not restricted to: previous professors or instructors, program directors, supervisors, superintendents, principals.
- Give the reference a clear deadline if we have not received your letters of reference by the firm deadline, we cannot process your application.
- Make sure your reference understands the program to which you are applying.
- Tell your references NOT to rate skills/areas that they are unable to assess.
- Ask your reference to:
  - clearly identify how he/she knows you and for how long;
  - o explain how the applicant (you) can contribute to our graduate program at UOIT;
  - o consider key skills such as:
    - critical thinking, reasoning and problem solving
    - written and oral communication
    - reliability and dependability
    - resilience and adaptability
    - capacity for improvement
    - social skills and ability to collaborate with others
    - cultural sensitivity and competence.
- Good references provide details and evidence of claims made about you.
- Review the <u>Letters of Recommendation page</u> on the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies website.