



# Vocational Technical Educator Licensure, 2020-2021

A valid license or waiver is required for employment as a teacher in a Chapter 74 vocational technical program. The specific requirements for employment experience, occupational licensure and academic coursework requirements are different for each license field. Refer to the DESE [Chapter 74 Guidance](#) for [Preliminary](#) or [Professional](#) Vocational Technical Teacher Licensure, or use the [Licensure Requirements Tool](#).  
Updated September 14, 2020

## COVID-19 Temporary Changes 2020-2021 School Year Only

### Emergency License

Valid only for the 2020-21 School Year.

- Bachelor's Degree
- Application for [Emergency License in ELAR](#)

### Automatic License Extensions – Emergency Order

Any active educator license as of March 18, 2020, that expires during the state of emergency [will remain valid](#) until 90 days after the end of the state of emergency. No action is required by the educator or district.

### Hardship Waiver

Valid for one year only.

Educator [application in ELAR](#) for the license and:

- Submit diploma or transcripts
- Evidence of 75% of prior work experience requirement
- Possession of valid occupational license or certification
- For a second-year waiver, [demonstration of progress](#) toward obtaining the license.

District application in ELAR for hardship waiver with:

- Proof of job posting
- List of licensed applicants (if any)
- An explanation of why the district wants to hire unlicensed candidate

Emergency regulations related to temporary substitute teachers and assignments will not apply to educators licensed under 603 CMR 4.00 Vocational Technical Education. DESE has indicated that [internal postings](#) will be sufficient for certain waiver applications for the 2020-21 school year only.

## General Chapter 74 License Requirements 603 CMR 4.07

### Preliminary License

Valid for five years of employment. May be [extended one time](#) for additional five years.

- Degree transcript or Diploma
- Passing score on [Vocational Technical Literacy Skills Test](#) or [Communications and Literacy MTEL](#)
- Passing score on written and performance [vocational subject-area test](#)
- Possession of valid occupational license or certification
- Documentation of [employment experience](#)

### Professional License

Valid for five calendar years and must be renewed.

- [Three years of employment](#) under same Preliminary Vocational Teacher license
- Completion of [district induction program](#)
- Possession of valid occupational license or certification
- Six Professional Education approved courses (18 credits) on pedagogy in Vocational Technical Education or accepted [substitute](#)
- [Sheltered English Immersion](#) (SEI) Endorsement (as of July 1, 2021)
- Academic Coursework (one of the following):
  - Possession of a bachelor's degree
  - 18 academic college credits: 3 credits in English, 3 credits in mathematics, 3 credits in science and 9 additional credits in English, math, science, or coursework related to the vocational subject
  - Possession of a degree higher than the one required to obtain the corresponding license at the Preliminary stage

Note: The information in this document is for reference purposes only. Please check the specific requirements for your license(s) at [www.doe.mass.edu/licensure](http://www.doe.mass.edu/licensure).

MTA members may request licensure assistance by sending an email to [licensure@massteacher.org](mailto:licensure@massteacher.org).

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