



# Academic Educator Licensure 2023-24

A valid license or waiver is required for employment as a teacher in a Massachusetts public school. The specific requirements for academic coursework, preparation and MTELEs differ for each license field and stage. All license applications and renewals require an ELAR account. Refer to the DESE General Requirements or the Licensure Requirements Tool for the details for each license.

Revised September 2023

## General Academic License Requirements

### Provisional License

Valid for **five total years** of employment

- Transcripts submitted to ELAR
- Passing score on Communications and Literacy MTEL option
- Passing score any required content MTELEs
- If necessary, competency review and/or panel review requirements

### Initial License

Valid for **five years** of employment. May be extended one time for five years.

- Submit identical requirements as Provisional license
- Completion of an approved educator preparation route
- SEI Endorsement (Core Academic Teachers only)

### Professional License

Valid for **five calendar years**

- Three years of employment under same Initial license
- Completion of district induction program
- Master's Degree with 12 credits in field of license or National Board Certification (603 CMR 7.04(2)(c))

### Professional Renewal

Renew every **five calendar years**

- Document 150 Professional Development Points
- IPDP or five years of Educator Evaluation Plans

## MTEL Pilot Alternative Options

### Communications & Literacy

Candidates will have multiple test-based options to satisfy the Communications & Literacy requirement.

### Subject Matter Knowledge

Candidates may be eligible for alternative or supplementary assessments. See also MTEL Flex

### Subject Matter Attestation

Candidates enrolled in participating preparation programs are eligible for program-based options.

## Employment

### Emergency License

- NO NEW Emergency Licenses will be issued after November 7, 2023.
- "Old" Emergency licenses issued before December 12, 2021 in most fields were extended until June 30, 2024.
- "Old" Special Education and ESL Emergency licenses issued before December 12, 2021 must be extended via paper application.
- "New" Emergency licenses issued after May 27, 2022 are valid for one calendar year and may be renewed two times in ELAR with demonstration of progress.
- Employment under Emergency License may be counted toward Professional Teacher Status under MA G.L. Ch. 71 Sec. 41.

### Temporary Substitute Teacher/Long Term Substitute

- An educator who is employed for fewer than 90 consecutive school days in the same role for an educator who is absent.
- After 90 consecutive school days in the same role the educator must either be licensed or working under a hardship waiver.
- See 603 CMR 7.02 Definitions

### Assignment Out of License/Role

- An educator may be employed for a maximum of 20% of their time in a role where they do not hold a license.
- See 603 CMR 7.15(9) General Provisions for Employment

### Hardship Waiver

Valid for **one year**

A **district request** to employ an educator who does not hold the appropriate license for a role. 603 CMR 7.15 (13). Educators need apply for the license in ELAR and submit transcripts. Districts need to submit:

- Proof of job posting & list of licensed applicants (if any)
- An explanation of why the district wants to hire unlicensed candidate
- District application in ELAR