

Charting Your Path to **EDUCATOR LICENSURE**



Lesley
UNIVERSITY

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What License Do You Need?

Provisional license (optional)

You need this license if you are hired by a public school system and have no prior teaching license. You, the candidate, pursue this license on your own. Lesley does not endorse for the license.

You are licensed for a total of five years of employment as teacher of record in MA, regardless of the number of Provisional licenses you hold. You should start an approved program leading to Initial license while teaching under this license.

Initial license

You need this license to teach in a public school setting. An Initial license program strengthens your pedagogical and content area skills. Lesley endorses candidates who complete an approved Initial license program.

This license is valid for five years of teaching. A Professional license is required after teaching under the Initial license for five years. You may begin coursework toward your Professional license immediately while teaching under the Initial license.

Initial license is renewable one time only at the discretion of the MA ESE Commissioner; requires 5 years (or in 5th year) of employment under valid Initial license and submission of required materials, including the Verification of Initial Extension Plan and School Based Employment forms.

Professional license

You need this license after teaching under an Initial license for five years as the teacher of record in a public school. Lesley endorses candidates who complete an approved Professional license program.

This license is valid for five calendar years and is renewable every five years. You may begin coursework toward this license as soon as you obtain your Initial license. Your Professional license must be at the same level and subject as your Initial license. See also 'Adding Another Initial license and Moving an Existing Initial license to Professional (last column, far right).

Renewal of Your Professional license

Renew Professional license(s) every five calendar years. You, the candidate, apply for renewal on your own.

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MA ESE) Requirements to Obtain Each License

You must have...

- › B.A. or B.S. degree*
- › Successful completion of Massachusetts Tests for Educator License (MTELs)

Some licenses may have additional requirements.

You must have...

- › B.A. or B.S. degree*
- › Successful completion of Massachusetts Tests for Educator License (MTELs)
- › Completion of an approved program of study for an Initial license in MA or another state. Those prepared outside the US can request a DESE panel review.
- › Sheltered English Immersion Endorsement (SEI) is required for core academic teachers (www.doe.mass.edu/retell)

You must have...

- › Master's degree*
 - › Initial license in the field and grade level
 - › Completion of three years of public or private school teaching experience under the Initial license, a one-year mentor induction plan (concurrent with year one), and 50 hours mentoring beyond the first year
 - › Sheltered English Immersion (see above)
- If you have a Master's Degree:**
- › Sheltered English Immersion Endorsement required within one year of having an English language learner in your classroom.

You must have...

- › Professional license
- › District-approved Individual Professional Development Plan that aligns the needs of you, the district, and students, and includes a activities for required professional development points (PDPs).

Lesley University Graduate Education Licensure Programs

Provisional license: Additional Requirements

While pursuing a Provisional license in Early Childhood or Elementary, you should begin a seminar or course in working with children with disabilities. For Moderate or Severe Disabilities licenses, you must demonstrate many competencies through coursework or experience. Any coursework taken for this license should be part of an approved Initial licensure program.

Master's Degree leading to Initial license

Lesley offers Master of Education (M.Ed.) degrees leading to Initial licensure in Digital Literacy and Computer Science, Early Childhood, Elementary, English as a Second Language (ESL), Middle School, High School, Moderate and Severe Disabilities, and Visual Art. For those with a prior initial license, we also offer Master's degrees leading to an Initial license for Reading Specialist, Instructional Technology Specialist, School Counselor, and School Adjustment Counselor.

Once you have your Initial license, you should begin the process to earn a Professional license.

Master's Degree leading to Professional license

For the educator with a Bachelor's degree and an Initial license, Lesley offers Approved Master's programs leading to Professional Licensure. Programs include Early Childhood, Elementary, Science, and Mathematics.

— or —

12-Credit Post-Master's Option for Professional license

Prerequisite: Massachusetts Initial Teaching License and a Master's Degree

For those who already hold Master's degrees, 12 credits of related subject matter coursework from your Master's degree can be used to meet part or all of the requirements for the Professional license in that same field. This is an individual option listed in the Massachusetts state regulations and not an approved program. Those interested in taking advantage of this option should consult with an academic advisor in the Graduate School of Education before enrolling in courses. Lesley does not endorse candidates for this option.

Once you have your Professional license, you will need to renew every 5 years.

License Renewal and Professional Development

To keep your license current, you must renew every five years after earning the Professional license, through a variety of professional activities. For instance, one 3-credit graduate course, appropriate to the license, is 67.5 Professional Development Points (PDP) of a required 90 PDPs.

Earn at least 15 PDPs in: subject matter knowledge; Sheltered English Instruction/English as a Second Language pedagogy (professional skills and knowledge); training in strategies for effective schooling for students with disabilities/instruction of students with diverse learning styles. The remaining required PDPs may be earned through any combination of "elective" activities that address other educational issues and topics that improve student learning, additional content, or pedagogy. The renewal of each additional area license(s) will require 30 PDPs, of which 15 out of the 30 must be content related.

**Bachelor's and Master's degrees must be from a regionally-accredited institution. Foreign coursework must be evaluated by a nationally-accredited agency. See the Foreign Degree and Credit Equivalency page on the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's website.*

Special Opportunities for Non-Degree Initial License Candidates

Lesley offers two types of license-only programs: a second license that moves an Initial to the Professional level (Specialist Teacher of Reading; Instructional Technology Specialist; English as a Second Language; and Special Education); and a first Initial license (Elementary; Middle School; High School).

Adding Another Initial license and Moving an Existing Initial license to Professional

Completing an approved licensure program for Reading Specialist or Moderate Disabilities will enable candidates to add another Initial license and use 12 of those credits to advance some Initial licenses to Professional.

Licensure in Other States

All Lesley University educator licensure programs comply with current Massachusetts educational requirements, as specified. In addition, Massachusetts participates in the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) Interstate Agreement, which makes it possible for an educator to have their Massachusetts license/s recognized across the United States. Depending on your professional goals, where you reside or plan to teach, and the licensure structures that exist within that state, there are diverse pathways to licensure that may be relevant. In accordance with Lesley University's institutional participation in SARA (State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement) and with federal regulations, Lesley University strongly encourages prospective applicants who intend to pursue licensure in a state other than Massachusetts review the Lesley University Licensure and Credentialing page for more information.

Professional Development at Lesley

Take advantage of Lesley's many institutes, conferences, continuing education, and professional development offerings. See the Professional Development and Continuing Education page on Lesley's website.

Massachusetts Educator License Preparation

AT LESLEY UNIVERSITY

To Get Started

- Set up an ELAR (Educator Licensure and Renewal) account at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Check ELAR for your unique identifier, MEPID (MA Personnel ID)
- You will need an MEPID to register for MTELEs
- Submit MEPID number to Lesley University through LOIS
- Login into ELAR to apply for educator license, submit documentation, (documents such as transcripts), and check your licensure status

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Undergraduate degree and an Initial Teacher License

- ▶ Early Childhood (PreK-2)
- ▶ Elementary (1-6)
- ▶ Secondary English (5-12), General Science (5-8), History (5-12), Mathematics (5-8, 8-12), Social Sciences (5-12)
- ▶ Moderate Disabilities (PreK-8)

Graduate School of Arts and Social Sciences

Master's degree, Initial license, License Only

- ▶ School Social Worker/School Adjustment Counselor (All)
- ▶ School Counselor (PreK-8, 5-12)

Graduate School of Education

Master's, Dual Licenses, License Only, Initial and Professional

- ▶ Digital Literacy and Computer Science (5-12)
- ▶ Early Childhood (PreK-2)
- ▶ Elementary (1-6)
- ▶ English as a Second Language (PreK-6; 5-12)
- ▶ Instructional Technology Specialist (All)
- ▶ Secondary English (5-12), General Science (5-8), History (5-12), Humanities (5-8), Mathematics (5-8, 8-12), Mathematics/Science (5-8), Social Sciences (5-12), Biology (8-12); Chemistry (8-12); Earth and Space Science (8-12); Physics (8-12)
- ▶ Moderate Disabilities (PreK-8, 5-12)
- ▶ Reading Specialist (All)
- ▶ Severe Disabilities (All)
- ▶ Visual Art (PreK-8, 5-12)

Endorsements

- ▶ Autism
- ▶ Bilingual
- ▶ Sheltered English Immersion (earned with initial Teacher license program)
- ▶ Transition Specialist

Lesley University Certification and Educator Licensure: lesley.edu/certification