Charting Your Path to Educator Licensure
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<th>What License Do You Need?</th>
<th>Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MA ESE) Requirements to Obtain Each License</th>
<th>Lesley University Graduate Education Licensure Programs</th>
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<td><strong>Provisional license (optional)</strong></td>
<td>You need this license if you are hired by a 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.</td>
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<td><strong>You must have...</strong></td>
<td>B.A. or B.S. degree*</td>
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<td>Successful completion of Massachusetts Tests for Educator License (MTELs)</td>
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<td>Initial license must be at the same level and subject as your Initial license. 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 list.</td>
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<td>Alternatively, 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. 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.</td>
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<td><strong>Renewal of Your Professional license</strong></td>
<td>Renew Professional license(s) every five calendar years. You, the candidate, apply for renewal on your own.</td>
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<td><strong>You must have...</strong></td>
<td>Professional license</td>
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<td>District-approved professional development plan that aligns your needs, the district's needs, and the area of your license, and that includes a plan for the necessary professional development points (PDPs);</td>
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<td>With recent changes made for Professional license, the teacher has more flexibility in creating a plan.</td>
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<td><strong>License Renewal and Professional Development</strong></td>
<td>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 150 PDPs.</td>
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<td>Earn at least 15 PDPs in: pedagogy, Sheltered English Instruction/English as a Second Language; training in strategies for effective schooling for students with disabilities and instruction of students with diverse learning styles. Remaining 105 PDPs may be earned through any combination of related elective activities.</td>
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*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 to 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).

**Licensure in Other States**

All Lesley University educator licensure programs comply with current Massachusetts laws, regulations, and guidelines. In addition, Massachusetts signed the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) Interstate Agreement 2015-2020, which makes it possible for an educator to have their Massachusetts licenses recognized across the United States. Check individual state websites for specific requirements.

**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 to see MTEL scores, check whether transcripts were sent, check status of applications. The state will assign a unique identifier, MEPID (MA Personnel ID), which will be visible in ELAR. Please submit MEPID number to Lesley University through LOIS.

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)

Master's degree, Initial license, License Only
- School Social Worker/School Adjustment Counselor (All)
- School Counselor (PreK-8, 5-12)

Master's, Dual Licenses, License Only, Initial and Professional
- Digital Literacy and Computer Science (5-12)
  (new license area; pending state approval)
- 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
- Sheltered English Immersion (earned only with initial Teacher license program)
- Transition Specialist

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