

Licensure Information for Students and Applicants



Specialist Teacher Licensure and Endorsement Program

Lesley University's programs specified in the tables below are approved by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and meet current educational requirements for Specialist Teacher or Endorsement in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as designated. Lesley University is accredited by the New England Commission for Higher Education (NECHE). All Lesley University endorsements for Massachusetts Specialist Teacher require that candidates hold an Initial License (for Reading Specialist) or in a designated content area. Specialist licensure requires at least one year of teaching experience. All Lesley University programs leading to Specialist Teacher Licensure or the Bilingual Endorsement are Massachusetts-based and require practicum or field experience in Massachusetts. **If you have any questions after reviewing the information below, please contact us at cert_off@lesley.edu.**

Provided below is Lesley University's determination, as of the date of this disclosure, whether Lesley's ***Specialist Teacher Licensure and Endorsement Program*** degree programs meet or do not meet the educational requirements for graduates to apply for the respective licenses or endorsements in each U.S. state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. States and territories for which Lesley University has not yet made a determination are identified as such below.

→ Check Your State ←

State-by-State Listing: Specialist Teacher Licensure and Endorsement Programs

A. Lesley University has determined that the programs specified below **meet** the current educational requirements for Specialist Teacher and Endorsement in the following state: Massachusetts.

Programs Approved for Reading Specialist Licensure by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Requires Initial License and at least one year of teaching:

Program	MA Teacher Licensure
<i>Reading Specialist, Licensure Only</i>	Reading Specialist, All Levels
<i>M.Ed. Reading Specialist</i>	Reading Specialist, All Levels
<i>Reading Specialist CAGS</i>	Reading Specialist, All Levels

Bilingual Education Endorsement requires demonstrated fluency in a second language, per DESE requirements. Please note per DESE guidance: In order to be properly qualified and hired into a role utilizing the Bilingual Endorsement, candidates must hold Provisional, Initial or Professional license in a Core Content Area (ESL does not qualify as a Core Content Area).

Program	MA Endorsement
<i>Bilingual Education Endorsement</i>	Level depends on prerequisite license

B. Lesley University has determined that the Programs Approved for Reading Specialist Licensure **meet** the current educational requirements for comparable licensure/certification in the states and territories listed under the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) Interstate Agreement.

Current NASDTEC member states, territories, and jurisdictions include: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, , Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

- Massachusetts is a member state and a signatory of the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement, which facilitates the transfer of educator licensure between member states, but not necessarily *immediate* reciprocity. Depending on your professional goals, where you plan to seek licensure or employment, and the licensure structures that exist within that state, there are diverse pathways to licensure that may be relevant and some may require additional coursework, required tests, assessments, and/or classroom experiences.
 - To research the requirements for educator licensure for the state in which you intend to seek licensure, visit the NASDTEC website at <https://www.nasdtec.net/page/Interstate> or the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) website at <https://www.nc-sara.org/resource-directories-and-guides> for contact information and website links. We advise you to become familiar with and understand the state requirements for educator licensure for the state in which you intend to seek licensure or seek employment.
- Per the NASDTEC website: “The NASDTEC Interstate Agreement facilitates the mobility of educators among the states and other jurisdictions that are members of NASDTEC and have signed the Agreement. Although there may be conditions applicable to individual jurisdictions, the Agreement makes it possible for an educator who completed an approved program and/or who holds a certificate or license in one jurisdiction to earn a certificate or license in another state or jurisdiction.”
- See this New York Department of Education website for licensure information specific to New York: <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/certificate/teachrecother.html>
 - The New York Department of Education website states that eligibility of licensure applicants from other states, including those who complete teacher programs at a college or university in another state, cannot be determined until an application has been submitted and a review of applicant credentials has been completed. In addition, New York requires that applicants from other states complete an educator program that is comparable to a New York State-registered teacher preparation program completed at a New York state college or university based on the Department’s review and may require licensure applicants to be assessed through an individual evaluation, which requires completion of college coursework aligned to the license competencies. Applicants who intend to pursue educator licensure in New York are strongly encouraged to explore the requirements specific to the license sought.

C. Lesley University has determined Programs Approved for Reading Specialist Licensure specified in the tables in Section A **meet** the current educational requirements for licensure and/or certification in comparable fields for candidates who have completed a Massachusetts-approved educator preparation program and hold a Massachusetts Initial license in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine Mississippi, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas.

- While these states are NASDTEC members, they require licensure applicants to have completed a Massachusetts approved program and hold the Initial Massachusetts license (full certification) prior to being eligible to apply for licensure in that state.
 - To research the requirements for educator licensure for the state in which you intend to seek licensure or employment, visit the NASDTEC website at <https://www.nasdtec.net/page/Interstate> or the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) website at <https://www.nc-sara.org/resource-directories-and-guides> for contact information and website links. We advise you to become familiar with and understand the state requirements for educator licensure for the state in which you intend to seek licensure or employment.
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D. Lesley University has not determined if the Bilingual Endorsement program specified in the tables in Section A meets the educational requirements for endorsement in any state other than Massachusetts.

Student Location

A determination of a student's location is made at the time of the student's application for admission. For students who apply to Lesley University's on-campus programs, Massachusetts will be their location. For students who apply to Lesley University's online and low-residency programs, the local address entered by students in their applications for admission will be their location. If students applying to online or low-residency programs do not enter a local address, the permanent address entered by students in their applications for admission will be their location.

Periodic Review of Licensure Regulations and Moving to a New State

It is important for all applicants and students to understand the specific requirements of the state in which they intend to apply for licensure and plan to practice, and to periodically review the requirements in order to be aware of any future changes to those requirements. If a student's plans for where they intend to seek initial licensure or plan to practice change, they must become aware of the requirements for licensure for the new state.

Throughout the Program, students are required to keep the University informed of any changes in their location (state) via the Address Change Form available on the [Lesley Support Hub's webpage](#).

Lesley University has attempted to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information provided at the time this guide was created and updated. Please be aware that state licensure is a matter of individual state legislation and is outside of the control of educational institutions; therefore, the information presented in this guide is subject to change.