Pathways to Licensure Teachers

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Licensure Options

Minimum Requirements to be in a classroom:

- Bachelor's degree (exceptions for trade, vocational, technical) for teachers.
- Associate's degree or college junior in a preparation program for substitute license.

Tiered License Structure

Wisconsin Licensing System for Teachers, Pupil Services, and Administrators

TIER I

1-Year License with Stipulations

- WI program
- OOS program
- DSPS Speech/Language
- District Requested
- WIP Intern

3-Year License with Stipulations

1-Year Administrator License

Guest Teacher License Charter School License

Short-Term Substitute License

Long-Term Substitute License

Experience-Based License for technical & vocational education subjects

TIER II

Provisional License

A first-time Provisional License requires:

- · Bachelor's degree or higher
- Completion of a PI 34.040 eligible licensure method. (State approved program, license based on reciprocity, license based on equivalency, Montessori Pathway, etc.)

On-going Provisional Licenses

- The license holder hasn't obtained 6 semesters of successful experience under the Provisional License.
- The license holder returns to the profession after an absence of 5 or more years.
- Statutory stipulations remain.

TIER III

Lifetime License

To first become eligible, complete 6 semesters of experience in the area of the Provisional license.

To maintain a Lifetime License, the license holder must remain employed in education in at least one of the Lifetime License areas.

Invalidated Lifetime License

When a Lifetime License is invalidated, the educator must apply for a Provisional License and work for 6 semesters under that license before becoming eligible for the Lifetime License again.

TIER IV

Master Educator License

A first-time Master Educator License requires:

- Successful completion of the National Board Certification or Wisconsin Master Educator Assessment Process.
- That the applicant holds a valid Tier III-Lifetime License.
 For WMEAP, the teacher must have at least 5 years of teaching experience at the Tier III-Lifetime License level.

To maintain a Master Educator License, the license holder must remain employed in education in at least one of the Master Educator License areas.

Invalidated Master Educator License

When a Master Educator License is invalidated, the educator must apply for a license. The license issued depends on whether the educator meets the requirements of that Licensing Tier.





Earning a Tier II Provisional License

https://dpi.wi.gov/licensing/pathways-licensure

WI Approved Program

American Board

Comparable program from another State

License via reciprocity

Montessori License

WI Approved Programs

https://dpi.wi.gov/licensing/epp

Program are approved by the department and are offered at WI colleges/universities, CESAs and other non-IHE based entities.

Approved programs offer comprehensive training and include all statutory requirements, clinical placements for full and valid license.

Application: T001-1020.

American Board

- https://www.americanboard.org/wisconsin/
- Available subjects/grades: grades 5-12 biology, chemistry, English, history, math, physics or science.
- Grades 1-8: elementary education
- Grades K-12: reading teacher, special education
- Authorized pathway under s.118.197
- Self-paced process that is typically completed in 7-10 months.
- Application: T001-1025

Out of State Approved Program

The person eligible to apply via this pathway has the following:

- 1. Completed a comparable approved program at a college/university program located in another state, including all testing requirements in that state as verified on the PI-1612-T.
- 2. may hold the license, but isn't necessarily required if the OOS approved program can endorse that they would be eligible.
- 3. Application: T001-1025

Reciprocity

• The person eligible to apply via this pathway has the following:

Holds a full and valid teaching license earned in another state AND

Has at least a year of regularly contracted experience as a teacher working under that license OR has that experience in WI.

- Authorized under s.118.193
- Application: T001-1025

Options to Hire Those Without License

BA degree: tier I 1-year license with stipulations/tier I charter school license

Associate's degree: tier I 3-year substitute license

Tier I Experience-based license

Special education aide: 18-years old at minimum. May also need to satisfy ESSA qualifications.

1-year License with Stipulations

- BA degree from an <u>accredited institution</u> of higher education;
- PI-1624-LWS1 form completed by the hiring district
- Renewals require LWS1 form + <u>PI-1624-PROG</u> form completed by the approved program verifying progress.
- Application: T001-1115

Charter School License

- BA degree from an accredited institution of higher education;
- Documentation of content knowledge via a major or minor on a transcript OR passing score on the appropriate Praxis II content knowledge exam for the licensure area requested.
- Application: T400-1015 (Part I of II) is submitted. If approved, applicant completes Part II (T400-1520).

3-Year Substitute - Option 1

- Holds an associate's degree or higher from an accredited college or university; and
- completed an acceptable <u>substitute teacher training</u>
- Application: <u>T910-1910</u>

3-Year Substitute - Option 2

- No degree required, but status in an approved program
- Eligibility to obtain: at least 20 years of age, enrolled in a WI approved educator preparation program that awards a bachelor's degree, has successfully completed a minimum number of credits to have achieved junior status, and has completed 15 hours of classroom observation
- Application: <u>T910-1975</u>

Experience-Based Career & Technical Ed.

- Available in CTE subjects of agriculture, technical education, family consumer education, marketing, business education and the vocational licenses required for work-based learning.
- No degree required, but may contribute to the 100 points needed on the <u>PI-1623 form</u>.
- Experience-based CTE license
- Application: T643-1029 (initial license)

Additional Options

For those holding tier II license or higher assigned to teach out of field:

- License via content test under PI 34.052
- 3-year license with stipulations

Scenario #1

- Candidate 1's experience teaching is as a short-term substitute teacher with a WI school district. This year she has been hired to be a 7th grade special education teacher. She has a non-teaching BA degree and this will be her first time requesting a LWS1.
- Which of the following pathways are an option for this candidate?
 - American Board
 - Enroll with an approved program

Scenario #2

• Candidate 2 holds a tier III lifetime license in elementary 1-8, he has been teaching science for the past three years in grades 7 and 8 in the district, but this year he has been reassigned to teach science at the high school.

Which of the following pathway(s) are an option for this candidate?

License via content test

Enroll in an approved program

American Board (ABCTE)

Three-year license with stipulations

Resources

- Latest licensing news (e.g. bulletins, school district phone call & blog)
- Check application status
- https://dpi.wi.gov/licensing/general/what-can-i-teach

Got Questions?

If you have questions about licensing in general or for a specific person, submit your questions to:

https://dpi.wi.gov/support/contact-us