Language Credentialing

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Initial License (MA)

Description
The Initial License for all applicants who have completed a teacher program.
License Valid for 5 years
Employment: Not Required

Reciprocity
The following states may accept this route:
Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

State Information
State: Massachusetts
Contact Name: Office of Educator Licensure
Contact Phone: 781-338-6600
For more information please visit the state website: http://www.doe.mass.edu/licensure/

Notes
MTEL - Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure

Minimum Academic Background
In most states, teachers must have a minimum academic background for certification.
The following is required for this route:
BA Degree + Completed State Approved Teacher Education Program

Basic Skills
In most states, teachers must verify basic skills in English (Reading and Writing) and Mathematics through coursework, exams, or degree evaluations.
The following is required for this route:
English:
Exam(s):

- MTEL Communication and Literacy Skills

Teacher Preparation
In most states, teachers are required to complete training in education methods through a teacher program.
The following is required for this route:
State Approved Teacher Education Program
Student Teaching

Content Language and English Language Proficiency
In most states, teachers are required to submit evidence of content language proficiency and English language proficiency through coursework, exams, or degree evaluations.
The following is required for this route:
Content Language Proficiency:

Exam(s):

- MTEL Subject Matter Test (Chinese-Mandarin, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish)

Will NOT Accept Scores from Out of State

Notes:
Completing an approved teacher program and a Competency Review are required for languages where a subject matter test is not offered by MTEL. Contact the DoE to set up the Competency Review. Additional languages: Armenian, Cambodian, Cape Verdean, Hungarian, Ukrainian.

Applying to the State
In most states, teachers must apply to the state Individually or through their local School District, or Teacher Program Institution. Requirements for the application are outlined below:

Application Submission: Individual
Online at: https://gateway.edu.state.ma.us/elar/common/EducatorWelcomePagePageControl.ser
Form at: http://www.doe.mass.edu/Educators/e_license.html?section=k12
Form Mailing Address:
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Office of Educator Licensure 75 Pleasant Street Malden, MA 02148

Copy of Academic Transcripts: Required

Copy of International Records: Required
Transcript Evaluation Required
URL: http://langcred.org/resources/transcript-evaluation/?fwp_agency_accepted_by_states=massachusetts

Background Check
Required
Varies by District

Renewal: Renewable
Renewal information found at http://www.mass.gov/edu/government/departments-and-boards/ese/programs/educator-effectiveness/licensure/academic-prek-12/advancing-or-renewing-a-license.html The Initial License may be extended once in order to fulfill requirements for Professional License. Downloaded form at: http://www.doe.mass.edu/recert/application.pdf http://www.doe.mass.edu/educators/employmentform.pdf Conditions for extension: 1. Have been employed for five years under a valid initial license 2. Official letter by a principal, superintendent, or head administrator validating five years of employment under your Initial license. 3. Submit a letter or form outlining plans to complete the requirements for Professional licensure in the next 5 years.

Notes:
Application packet link: http://www.doe.mass.edu/educators/app/packet.pdf Applicant may find the form under "Applying Online" Processing time is estimated.
Before being hired by any Massachusetts school system, applicant must undergo a criminal background check.
The Initial License may be extended once in order to fulfill requirements for Professional License.

GENERAL NOTES FOR THIS ROUTE
Old website: http://www.doe.mass.edu/educators/e_license.html Good for checking world language requirements.