



**Graduate School of Education (GSOE)**  
Initial Licensure Programs

Lesley University's Graduate School of Education (GSOE) offers Master of Education (M.Ed.), Licensure Only, and Certificate for Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS) programs that prepare students for Initial Licensure in the field of education. Lesley's M.Ed., Licensure Only, and CAGS Programs specified in the tables below are approved by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and meet current educational requirements for Initial Educator Licensure in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as designated. Lesley University is accredited by the New England Commission for Higher Education (NECHE). All Lesley University programs leading to Initial Licensure are Massachusetts-based and require a pre-practicum and practicum in Massachusetts.

If you have any questions after reviewing the information below, please contact us at [cert\\_off@lesley.edu](mailto:cert_off@lesley.edu).

**State-by-State Licensure Information:**

A. Lesley's M.Ed., Licensure Only, and CAGS Programs specified in the chart below meet the current educational requirements for Initial Licensure in the following state: Massachusetts.

**Approved for Initial License  
by Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education**

Degree	MA Teacher Licensure	Credits
<b>M.Ed. Art Education</b>	Teacher of Visual Arts (PreK-8 or 5-12)	39
<b>M.Ed. Digital Literacy and Computer Science</b>	Digital Literacy and Computer Science (5-12)	34
<b>M.Ed. Early Childhood</b>	Early Childhood (PreK-2)	40
<b>M.Ed. Early Childhood with ESL</b>	Early Childhood (PreK-2)	46
<b>M.Ed. Elementary Education (1-6)</b>	Elementary Education (1-6)	40
<b>M.Ed. Elementary Education with ESL</b>	Elementary Education & ESL (1-6)	46
<b>M. Ed. High School Preparation</b>	One of the following: Biology (8–12); Chemistry (8–12); Earth Science (8–12); English (5–12); Mathematics (8–12); Physics (8–12); History/Social Sciences (5–12)	34
<b>M.Ed. Inclusive Education: Moderate Disabilities</b>	Teacher of Students with Moderate Disabilities (PreK-8 or 5-12)	41
<b>M.Ed. Inclusive Education: Moderate Disabilities</b>	Teacher of Students with Moderate Disabilities (PreK-8 AND 5-12)	50
<b>M.Ed. Inclusive Education: Moderate Disabilities &amp; Severe Disabilities</b>	Teacher of Students with Moderate Disabilities (PreK-8) and Severe Disabilities (All Levels)	50
<b>M.Ed. Inclusive Special Education: Severe Disabilities (All Levels)</b>	Severe Disabilities (All Levels)	41
<b>M.Ed. Middle School Education</b>	One of the following: English (5–12); General Science (5–8); History/Social Science (5–12); Humanities (5–8); Mathematics (5–8); Mathematics/Science (5–8)	34 or 37
<b>M.Ed. TESOL, ESL and Bilingual Education</b>	ESL (PreK-6 or 5-12)	33



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**B.** Lesley University has determined the M.Ed., Licensure Only, and CAGS Programs listed in Section A above are eligible for comparable licensure/certification in the states and territories listed below under the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) Interstate Agreement. Massachusetts is a member state and a signatory of the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement, which facilitates the transfer of educator licensure between member states (not necessarily immediate reciprocity). 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 and some may require additional coursework, required tests, assessments, and/or classroom experiences.

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.” For more information, including state specific requirements, please see: <https://www.nasdtec.net/page/Interstate>

*Individuals who plan to seek educator licensure/certification outside of Massachusetts are strongly encouraged to contact the appropriate state department of education to identify additional requirements and the process for seeking reciprocity in that state.*

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

A comparable license for the states above in **bold** requires applicants to have completed a Massachusetts approved program *and* hold the associated Initial Massachusetts license.

**C.** Lesley University has not yet determined if the programs listed above are eligible for comparable licensure in New Mexico, New York, and South Dakota. These states are not current NASDTEC signatories. Applicants and current students interested in licensure in these states are directed to the following state specific guidance for pathways to licensure.

- New Mexico: <https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/licensure/>
- New York: <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/certificate/teachrecother.html> South Dakota: <https://doe.sd.gov/certification/>

**Please note:** 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.

Licensure Information for Students and Applicants



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*Individuals who intend to pursue educator licensure in one of the states listed in Category C, including New York are strongly encouraged to request guidance from state departments of education or licensing boards to determine any additional requirements for attaining equivalent licensure in that state.*

**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 you intend to apply for licensure and to periodically review the requirements in order to be aware of any future changes to those requirements. If you move to a new state, you should be aware that the requirements for licensure may differ from the state in which you previously resided, and you are advised to become familiar with and understand the requirements of the new state. Students are expected to keep the University informed of any changes of location via the [Address Change Form](#) available on the Registrar's Office webpage.

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