**Educator Licensure and Preparation Program Approval** **Regulations**

**603 CMR 7.00**

This document shows the proposed amendments to 603 CMR 7.00 by ~~strikethrough~~ (language deleted) and underline (new language).

Proposed changes made following public comment are in ***bold italics***

Changes: The proposed amendments would create teachers of students with moderate and severe (PreK-2) licenses and a provisional license for school nurses and allow individuals who hold initial and professional licenses to obtain a provisional license in certain special education fields or in English as a second language.

The full regulations can be found at: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/603cmr7.html>

**Presented to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for initial action: April 25, 2023**

**Period of public comment: through June 2, 2023**

**Final action by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education anticipated: June 27, 2023**

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### 7.04: Types of Educator Licenses, Requirements for Licensure, Licenses Issued, and Requirements for Field-Based Experience

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(2) **Requirements for Teacher Licensure**.

1. (a) **Provisional**. This is available only for licenses under 603 CMR 7.04 (3) (a)
   1. Possession of a bachelor's degree.
   2. Passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test.
   3. Passing score on the subject matter knowledge test(s) appropriate to the license sought, based on the subject matter knowledge requirements set forth in 603 CMR 7.06, where available.
   4. Competency Review for candidates seeking the following licenses:
      1. Teacher of students with moderate disabilities, teacher of students with severe disabilities, teacher of the deaf and hard-of-hearing, and teacher of the visually impaired.
      2. Fields for which there is no subject matter knowledge test available.
   5. Additional requirements for the early childhood, elementary, teacher of studentswith moderate disabilities, and teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing (Oral/Aural) and teacher of the visually impaired licenses:
      1. Seminars or courses on, or demonstrated knowledge of, ways to prepare and maintain students with disabilities for general classrooms; for example, use of strategies for learning and of behavioral management principles.
      2. Passing score on the Foundations of Reading test.
   6. Additional requirements for the teacher of students with severe disabilities, and teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing (American Sign Language/Total Communication) licenses: Seminars or courses on, or demonstrated knowledge of, ways to prepare and maintain students with disabilities for general classrooms; for example, use of strategies for learning and of behavioral management principles.

7. Evidence of sound moral character.

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(3) **Licenses Issued**. The following licenses will be issued and will be valid for employment at the grade levels indicated:

(a) **Teacher Licenses and Levels**

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23. Teacher of Students with Moderate Disabilities

PreK-2; PreK–8; 5–12

24. Teacher of Students with Severe Disabilities

PreK-2; All

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### 7.11: Professional Support Personnel Licenses

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(2) **School Nurse** (Levels: All)

**(a) Provisional License**

1. Valid license to practice as a Registered Nurse in Massachusetts.
2. A bachelor's or master's degree in nursing.
3. Passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test.
4. ***Completion of training within the orientation program for delivery of school health services as defined by the Department of Public Health and identified by the Department.***

**(b) Initial License**.

1. Valid license to practice as a Registered Nurse in Massachusetts.
2. A bachelor's or master's degree in nursing.
3. A minimum of two full years of employment as a Registered Nurse in a child health, community health, or other relevant clinical nursing setting.
4. Completion of an orientation program based on the requirements for delivery of school health services as defined by the Department of Public Health.
5. Passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test.

**(c) Professional License.**

1. Possession and maintenance of a valid license to practice as a Registered Nurse in Massachusetts.
2. Possession of an Initial license.
3. Three years of employment as a school nurse.
4. Completion of one of the following:
   1. Achievement and maintenance of certification or licensure by a nationally recognized professional nursing association as a school nurse, community health nurse, or a pediatric/family/school nurse practitioner.
   2. A master's degree program that may include credits earned in a master's degree program for the Initial license in community health, health education, nursing, or public health.

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7.15: General Provisions

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(2) **Additional Licenses**. Licensed educators may earn additional licenses as follows:

1. (a) **New Field** (available only for licenses under 603 CMR 7.04 (3) (a)):
   1. Teachers holding an Initial or Professional license in one field may earn a license of the same type and at the same level in a new field, except as provided in 603 CMR 7.15 (2) (a) 2. and 3. by:
      1. Achieving a passing score on the appropriate subject matter knowledge test(s) of the MTEL, or
      2. Passing a competency review for those licenses for which there is no subject matter test.
   2. Additional requirements for earning a license as an early childhood, English language as a second language, or elementary teacher: completion of a practicum/practicum equivalent or internship of 150 hours in the role of the license sought in an appropriate classroom.
   3. Additional requirements for earning a license as teacher of students with moderate disabilities, teacher of students with severe disabilities, teacher of the deaf and hard-of-hearing, or teacher of the visually impaired are completion of both:
      1. A competency review, and
      2. A practicum/practicum equivalent or internship of 150 hours in the role of the license sought in an appropriate classroom.

(b) **New Level** (available only for licenses under 603 CMR 7.04 (3) (a) and (d) 1.

1. Teachers holding an Initial or Professional license at one grade level may obtain a license of the same type and in the same field at a new grade level by:
   1. Achieving a passing score on the appropriate subject matter test(s) at the new level or by passing a competency review for those licenses for which there is no subject matter test.
   2. Completing one of the following:
      1. A seminar, institute, or course approved by the Department addressing the curriculum and developmental characteristics of the age group appropriate to the license sought.
      2. A practicum/practicum equivalent or internship of 150 hours in the role of the license in an appropriate classroom.
2. Teachers holding a teacher of students with moderate disabilities license at the PreK-2 level may obtain a teacher of students with moderate disabilities license at the PreK-8 level by achieving a passing score on the general curriculum test and may obtain a teacher of students with moderate disabilities license at the 5-12 level by achieving a passing score(s) on subject matter test(s) based on subject matter knowledge requirements set forth in 603 CMR 7.06, as applicable.
3. Teachers holding a teacher of students with severe disabilities license at the PreK-2 level may obtain a teacher of students with severe disabilities All levels license by achieving a passing score on the general curriculum test.
4. School counselors holding an Initial or Professional license at one grade level may obtain a license of the same type and in the same field at a new grade level by completing one of the following:
   1. A seminar, institute, or course approved by the Department addressing the curriculum and developmental characteristics of the age group appropriate to the license sought.
   2. A practicum/practicum equivalent or internship of 150 hours in the role of the license sought in an appropriate classroom.

(c) **New Field and Level**. Teachers holding an Initial or Professional license in one field may earn a license of the same type in a new field and a new grade level by meeting the requirements set forth in 603 CMR 7.15 (2) (a) and (b) 1.

**(d) New Provisional license in Special Education.** Teachers holding an Initial or Professional license in any field ***and*** who have at least two years of experience modifying curriculum for students with disabilities, may obtain a provisional license in teacher of students with moderate disabilities ***and*** teacher of students with severe disabilities ***as follows:*** ***~~teacher of the deaf and hard-of-hearing, or teacher of the visually impaired as follows~~***.

(1) Teacher of students with moderate disabilities (PreK-8) ***~~, teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing (Oral/Aural) and teacher of the visually impaired~~*** licenses:

a. Passing a competency review

b. Passing score on the Foundations of Reading test

c. Passing score on the General Curriculum test

d. Seminars or courses on, or demonstrated knowledge of, ways to prepare and maintain students with disabilities for general classrooms; for example, use of strategies for learning and of behavioral management principles.

(2) Teacher of students with moderate disabilities (5-12) license:

a. Passing a competency review

b. Passing score on the Foundations of Reading test.

c. Passing score on subject matter test(s) based on subject matter knowledge requirements set forth in 603 CMR 7.06, as applicable.

d. Seminars or courses on, or demonstrated knowledge of, ways to prepare and maintain students with disabilities for general classrooms; for example, use of strategies for learning and of behavioral management principles.

(3) Teacher of students with moderate disabilities (PreK-2) license:

a. Passing a competency review

b. Passing score on the Foundations of Reading test

c. Passing score on the Early Childhood test **~~or the General Curriculum test~~**.

d. Seminars or courses on, or demonstrated knowledge of, ways to prepare and maintain students with disabilities for general classrooms; for example, use of strategies for learning and of behavioral management principles.

(4) Teacher of students with severe disabilities (All), ***~~and teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing (American Sign Language/Total Communication~~***) license~~s~~:

a. Passing a competency review

b. Passing score on the General Curriculum test

c. Seminars or courses on, or demonstrated knowledge of, ways to prepare and maintain students with disabilities for general classrooms; for example, use of strategies for learning and of behavioral management principles.

(5) Teacher of students with severe disabilities (PreK-2) license:

a. Passing a competency review

b. Passing score on the Early Childhood test **~~or the General Curriculum test~~**.

c. Seminars or courses on, or demonstrated knowledge of, ways to prepare and maintain students with disabilities for general classrooms; for example, use of strategies for learning and of behavioral management principles.

(e) New Provisional licenses in English as a Second Language. Teachers holding an Initial or Professional license in any field ***who have at least two years of experience in second language acquisition and sheltering content for English learners*** may earn a provisional license in English as a Second Language by achieving a passing score on the English as a Second Language test.