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Licensure Requirements

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▣ Academic PreK–12 Education

Testing requirements for the Academic PreK–12 licenses include a test of communication and literacy skills as well as tests of subject matter knowledge. The tests are designed to ensure that Massachusetts educators can communicate adequately with students, parents/guardians, and other educators and that they are knowledgeable in the subject matter of the license sought. With a license, candidates may be legally employed in Massachusetts public schools.

As part of the current license requirements, candidates seeking a first Massachusetts Academic PreK–12 license (except a temporary license) must achieve a passing score on both subtests of the Communication and Literacy Skills test AND any relevant Academic PreK–12 subject matter test(s). The MTEL are the only tests that satisfy the communication and literacy skills and subject matter test requirements for a Massachusetts PreK–12 license. Note that candidates who have taken and passed certain tests in other states (e.g., Foundations of Reading, General Curriculum) may request to have their test results evaluated against the qualifying score for the corresponding MTEL test to [determine their passing status on this test](#).

Educator License	Testing Requirements
Academic PreK–12 (first Massachusetts license)	1. Communication and Literacy Skills test (01) AND 2. any relevant Academic PreK–12 subject matter test(s)

You may [apply for an educator license at any time](#), before or after taking the MTEL. However, candidates seeking their first Massachusetts license must achieve a passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test before their license application can be reviewed.

For general information about which test(s) are required for a license:

- Visit the [Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, MTEL](#) website.
- [Contact the Department's Office of Educator Licensure](#).

Professional Support Personnel License	Level	Subject Matter Test	Test Code
School Guidance Counselor	PreK-8, 5-12	Subject matter test not required	N/A
School Nurse	All	Subject matter test not required	N/A
School Psychologist	All	Subject matter test not required	N/A
School Social Worker/School Adjustment Counselor	All	Subject matter test not required	N/A