

# Pathways to Licensure Teachers

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March 9-10, 2023



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
**Public Instruction**  
Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent

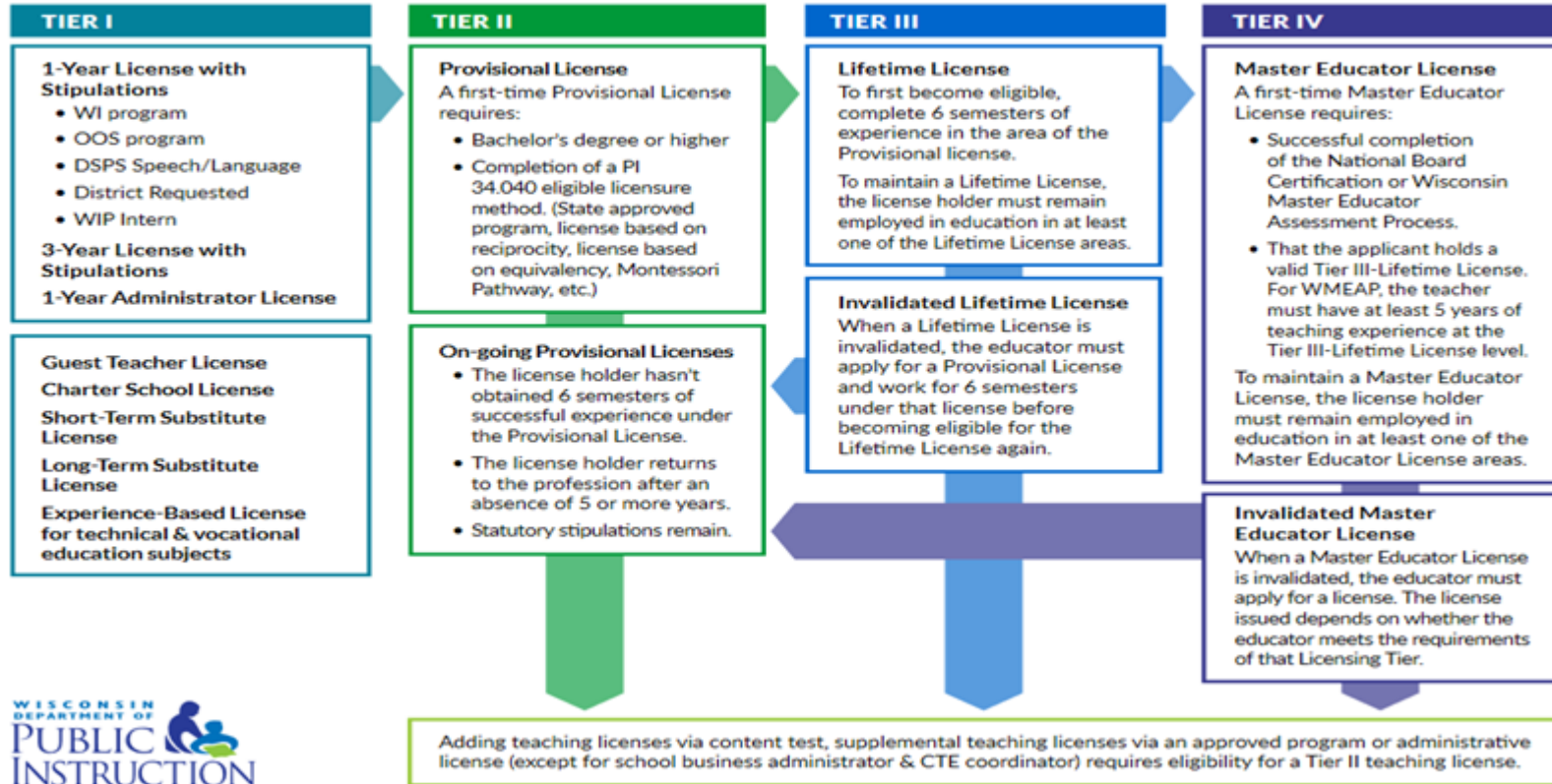
# Licensure Options

## 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.
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# Tiered License Structure

## Wisconsin Licensing System for Teachers, Pupil Services, and Administrators



# 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
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# 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 [accredited institution](#) of higher education;
- [PI-1624-LWS1](#) form completed by the hiring district
- Renewals require LWS1 form + [PI-1624-PROG](#) 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 [substitute teacher training](#)
  - **Application:** [T910-1910](#)
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# 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:** [T910-1975](#)

# 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 [PI-1623 form](#).
- [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>

