

Minnesota Education Teacher Licensure Testing Information

[Minnesota Teacher Licensure Examinations](http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/) (<http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/>)

Introduction:

The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) is responsible for overseeing the teacher testing requirements set forth in [Minnesota Statute 122A.185](#) and is continually monitoring, updating, and analyzing the testing program. The testing requirements for the Minnesota Teacher Licensure Exams (MTLE) vary between tiers, licensure preparation, licensure field(s), in-state or out-of-state/country, and initial versus additional licensure field(s). Although there may be other requirements that must be met for licensure, this document contains *only* the testing requirements.

Licensure Fields Not Subject to Testing:

- School Administrator
- School Nurse
- School Social Worker
- School Counselor
- School Psychologist
- Speech Language Pathologist

Minnesota Testing Requirements:

Tier 1: An attempt of field specific MTLE **content area** tests are required for the first renewal (second Tier 1 license) only. Testing is not required before the initial (first Tier 1) license is issued. The content test may be for the first Tier 1 or second Tier 1 licensure field held, if different. Passing scores are not required.

Tier 2: No testing required for Tier 2 licenses.

Tier 3: **Minnesota** teacher licensure preparation program and Minnesota Licensure via Portfolio completers:

- No testing required.

Out-of-State/Out-of-Country (OOS/OOC) teacher licensure completers:

- Teachers that
 - Have completed a licensure program OOS/OOC **AND**
 - hold or held a license in the same state/country are **not** required to take tests.
- Teachers that have
 - completed a licensure program OOS/OOC but do not hold or have not held the license in that state/country **AND**
 - have passed the required tests for licensure in the same state/country are **not** required to take tests.
 - If no testing was required in the state/country of preparation, then no testing is required.
- Teachers that
 - have completed a licensure program OOS/OOC but do not hold or have not held the license in that state/country **AND**
 - have not passed the required licensure tests for that state/country are required to evidence passing scores on both the MTLE pedagogy tests aligned with the licensure area **AND** the MTLE field specific content area tests.
 - All MTLE tests must be passed and official results posted **before** the application is submitted.

- Teachers that
 - have not completed a teacher preparation licensure program but hold or have held a license OOS/OOC **AND**
 - have had two or more years of teaching experience as the teacher of record in the same subject area as shown on the OOS/OOC license are required to evidence passing scores on both the MTLE pedagogy tests aligned with the licensure area **AND** the MTLE field specific content area tests.
 - All MTLE tests must be passed and official results posted **before** the application is submitted.

Tier 4: No additional testing required.

Testing Format:

The testing format is multiple choice (MC), constructed response (CR), or both (MC/CR).

Pedagogy Tests:

Required for:

- **Tier 3 initial applicants who have:**
 - held a Tier 2 license for three years **AND**
 - taught all three years in the same licensure field as shown on the Tier 2 license
- **OOS/OOC initial Tier 3 licenses if the teacher:**
 - has not completed a teacher preparation program **BUT**
 - has received an OOS/OOC license **AND**
 - completed two or more years of teaching experience as the teacher of record in the same licensure area shown on the OOS/OOC license
- **OOS/OOC initial Tier 3 and Tier 4 licenses if the teacher:**
 - has completed a teacher preparation program **BUT**
 - has not received an OOS/OOC license **AND**
 - has not completed testing for the same licensure field in their state/country

Each pedagogy test has two required subtests. Please check the MTLE website for current minimum passing scores.

- The pedagogy test is aligned to the licensure scope sought.
- If a license for grades K-12 is being sought, the applicant must choose **either** the elementary **or** secondary pedagogy test; taking both are not required.
- If a license for both early childhood education and elementary education are being sought, the applicant must choose **either** the early childhood **or** the elementary pedagogy tests; taking both are not required.
- All pedagogy exams are available in multiple languages.

These licensure fields do NOT have a required pedagogy test; however, individuals with these licenses must pass a pedagogy test, if required, to add another license field:

- Adult Basic Education
- American Indian Language, History, and Culture
- Parent and Family Education

Test Name	Subtest	Test Code	Test Length	Test Fee	Test Format
Early Childhood Pedagogy (Birth – Grade 3) Also available in Hmong, Somali and Spanish	1	219	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	2	220	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Elementary Pedagogy (Kindergarten to Grade 6) Also available in Hmong, Somali and Spanish	1	012	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	2	013	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Secondary Pedagogy (Grades 5-12) Also available in Hmong, Somali and Spanish	1	209	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	2	210	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC

Content Area Tests:

Required for:

- **Tier 3 initial applicants who have:**
 - held a Tier 2 license for three years AND
 - taught all three years in the same licensure field as shown on the Tier 2 license
- **OOS/OOC initial Tier 3 licenses if the teacher:**
 - has **not** completed a teacher preparation program BUT
 - has received an OOS/OOC license AND
 - completed two or more years of teaching experience as the teacher of record in the same licensure area shown on the OOS/OOC license
- **OOS/OOC initial Tier 3 and Tier 4 licenses if the teacher:**
 - has completed a teacher preparation program BUT
 - has **not** received an OOS/OOC license AND
 - has **not** completed testing for the same licensure field in their state/country

Each content area test has two required subtests, with the exception of elementary education, which has three content area tests. Please check the MTLE website for current minimum passing scores.

These licensure fields do NOT have a required content area test:

- Adult Basic Education
- American Indian Language, History, and Culture
- Bilingual Education
- Career and Technical Education
- Driver and Traffic Safety
- Parent and Family Education
- Teacher Coordinators of Work Based Learning
- World Languages, except for Chinese, French, German and Spanish (see testing below for these languages)

**These licensure fields have a content area test.
ALL SUBTESTS ARE REQUIRED.**

Licensure Field	Test Name	Sub Test	Test Code	Test Length	Test Fee	Test Format
Agricultural Education Grades 5-12	Agricultural Education	1	086	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Agricultural Education	2	087	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Business Grades 5-12	Business	1	082	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Business	2	083	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Chemistry Grades 9-12	Chemistry	1	058	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Chemistry	2	059	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Communication Arts and Literature Endorsement Grades 5-8	Middle Level: Communication Arts and Literature	1	196	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Middle Level: Communication Arts and Literature	2	197	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Communication Arts and Literature Grades 5-12	Communication Arts and Literature	1	202	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Communication Arts and Literature	2	203	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Computer, Keyboarding, and Related Technology Endorsement Grade level matches current license	Computer, Keyboarding, Related Technology	1	130	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Computer, Keyboarding, Related Technology	2	131	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Dance Grades K-12	Dance	1	213	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Dance	2	214	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Early Childhood Education Grades Birth-3 rd grade	Early Childhood Education	1	204	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Early Childhood Education	2	205	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Earth and Space Science Grades 9-12	Earth and Space Science	1	060	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Earth and Space Science	2	061	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC

Licensure Field	Test Name	Sub Test	Test Code	Test Length	Test Fee	Test Format
Elementary Education Grades K-6 Also available in Hmong, Somali and Spanish	Elementary Education	1	191	60 minutes	\$52.50	MC
	Elementary Education	2	192	60 minutes	\$52.50	MC
	Elementary Education	3	193	60 minutes	\$752.50	MC
English as a Second Language Grades K-12	English as a Second Language	1	194	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	English as a Second Language	2	195	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Family and Consumer Science Grades 5-12	Family and Consumer Science	1	215	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Family and Consumer Science	2	216	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
General Science Grades 5-8	Middle Level: Science	1	036	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Middle Level: Science	2	037	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Health Grades 5-12	Health	1	056	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Health	2	057	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Instrumental Music Grades K-12	Instrumental and Vocal Classroom Music	1	106	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Instrumental Classroom Music	2	206	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Library Media Specialist Grades K-12	Library Media Specialist	1	102	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Library Media Specialist	2	103	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Life Science Grades 9-12	Life Science	1	062	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Life Science	2	063	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Mathematics Endorsement Grades 5-8	Middle Level: Mathematics	1	217	75 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Middle Level: Mathematics	2	218	75 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Mathematics Grades 5-12	Mathematics	1	207	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Mathematics	2	208	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Physical Education Grades K-12	Physical Education	1	112	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Physical Education	2	113	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC

Licensure Field	Test Name	Sub Test	Test Code	Test Length	Test Fee	Test Format
Physics Grades 9-12	Physics	1	064	75 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Physics	2	065	75 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Pre-Primary Endorsement Age 3-Pre-K	Preprimary	1	198	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Preprimary	2	199	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Reading Teacher Endorsement Grades K-12	Reading Teacher	1	211	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Reading Teacher	2	212	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Social Studies Grades 5-12	Social Studies	1	052	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Social Studies	2	053	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Social Studies Endorsement Grades 5-8	Middle Level Social Studies	1	032	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Middle Level Social Studies	2	033	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Special Education: All Fields Birth-12	Special Education Core Skills	1	200	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Special Education Core Skills	2	201	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Technology Grades 5-12	Technology	1	080	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Technology	2	081	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Theater Grades K-12	Theater	1	108	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Theater	2	109	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Visual Arts Grades K-12	Visual Arts	1	221	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Visual Arts	2	222	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
Vocal Music Grades K-12	Instrumental and Vocal Classroom Music	1	106	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	Vocal Classroom Music	2	185	60 minutes	\$78.50	MC
World Language and Culture: Chinese Grades K-12	World Language and Culture: Chinese	1	158	120 minutes	\$78.50	CR
	World Language and Culture: Chinese	2	159	120 minutes	\$78.50	CR

Licensure Field	Test Name	Sub Test	Test Code	Test Length	Test Fee	Test Format
World Language and Culture: French Grades K-12	World Language and Culture: French	1	160	120 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	World Language and Culture: French	2	161	120 minutes	\$78.50	CR
World Language and Culture: German Grades K-12	World Language and Culture: German	1	162	120 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	World Language and Culture: German	2	163	120 minutes	\$78.50	CR
World Language and Culture: Spanish Grades K-12	World Language and Culture: Spanish	1	164	120 minutes	\$78.50	MC
	World Language and Culture: Spanish	2	165	90 minutes	\$78.50	CR

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

Content and Pedagogy Testing:

What content tests do I take for a specific special education field, such as ABS?

Special education applicants who require testing must take the special education core skills test, which includes two subtests. Both subtests are required.

Where can I take the World Language Content Subtest 2?

The World Languages Content Subtest 2 is only available in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. More information about testing dates can be found on the MTLE website.

Can I add a science field by MTLE test?

Applicants that hold a high school science license and have taught science for at least three years at the 7-12 grade level may add a science licensure field (9-12 grade only) by test if the specific MTLE science content exams are passed. **Teachers that have taught middle-level (5-8) science only are not eligible to add a secondary licensure field via test.** For more information, see the Science Licensure document on the PELSB website.

Are there special testing requirements for deaf or hard-of-hearing (DHH) or American Sign Language (ASL) teachers?

A teacher who is renewing a Tier 1 DHH license is required to provide evidence of an attempt of the special education core skills content tests, the SLPI exam or the ASLPI exam. Passing scores are not required.

A teacher who is renewing a Tier 1 ASL license is required to provide evidence of an attempt of the SLPI exam or the ASLPI exam. Passing scores are not required.

Initial Tier 2, Tier 3 and Tier 4 DHH and ASL teacher applicants must provide evidence of achieving either an Intermediate Plus or higher on the SLPI or a 3+ or higher on the ASLPI examination before applying.

What if one or more of the content or pedagogy tests are not yet passed?

- If testing is required for licensure, all the required tests must be taken and passed before applying.
- Please note that there is a 30 day waiting period between test attempts.

Do I have to pay for the content and/or pedagogy subtest(s) again if I do not pass?

Examinees who do not pass a subtest may retake that subtest until it is passed. Each subtest requires a payment and must be attempted a minimum of two times. After two or more failed attempts of a specific subtest (noted by individual code), an examinee may be eligible for a fee voucher to take the same test. The retake policy can be found under [Testing Policies - Retake Policy](#). Beginning with tests taken on August 23, 2021, examinees who have failed a good-faith attempt on a subtest two or more times may be eligible for a fee voucher for subsequent attempts. Contact MTLE customer service BEFORE signing up for tests. You will receive your voucher via email within two to four weeks of the score report date.

Are there any testing accommodations provided?

[Minnesota Statute 122A.185](#) allows an individual to produce documentation of a disability in the form of an evaluation, 504 plan, or an individual education program (IEP) in order to receive the same testing accommodations on the teacher licensing examinations that were received during their secondary or post-secondary education.

Some tests are available in different languages. Please sign up for the language of your choice when registering for these tests. To request accommodations for any of the exams, please visit the [Alternative Testing Arrangements](#) website. Candidates may also register for extended testing sessions through the MTLE website. Requests must be made **before** scheduling exams.

Testing Information Located on the MTLE Website:

How can someone register for a required test?

Once [registered for a test through the MTLE website](#), the candidate is able to immediately schedule a test date and test site.

How can someone prepare for an MTLE test?

The MTLE website has a series of designated pages for each test field. On these pages, you will find a breakdown of content by subtest, a link to specific objectives and descriptive statements about the content on each subtest, along with a set of sample questions and answers. [Additional preparation materials are available on the MTLE website](#).

When are the computer-based MTLE tests offered in Minnesota?

Computer-based tests are available by appointment, year round, Monday through Saturday (excluding holidays) at test centers across the state and nationwide. Test appointments may be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. [Date and seat availability on the MTLE website](#).

Contact Information

[Contact information for the MTLE](#) can be found on the MTLE website.

Phone: (800) 557-3759

Monday-Friday: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. central time, excluding holidays

Sat: 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. central time, excluding holidays

What is the contact information for PELSB?

Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board
1021 Bandana Boulevard East, Suite 222
Saint Paul, MN 55108-5111

PELSB@state.mn.us

Phone: 651-539-4200

General questions about the MTLE or score reports may be referred to the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board. The [Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board](#) will always have the most up-to-date testing information. (<https://mn.gov/pelsb>)