MINNESOTA
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR
LICENSING AND STANDARDS BOARD

Licensure Field Scope Restrictions –Tier 2 to Tier 3 While Holding a Tier 2 License Pathway

https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/8710.0314/

When the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) receives a Tier 2 to Tier 3 pathway application, it is reviewed for equivalency to a similar approved Minnesota licensure program and grade level.

Minnesota teacher preparation programs require student teaching and/or supervised practicums at each grade level of a licensure field scope (grade levels). However, the Tier 2 to Tier 3 pathway option is based on three years of Minnesota teaching experience while holding a Tier 2 license in the same licensure field. Some Tier 2 to Tier 3 pathway program completers do not have Minnesota teaching experience at all the grade levels required for a full scope of licensure based on the teaching experience completed while holding the Tier 2 license. Please note that any Minnesota teaching experience as the teacher of record while holding a Tier 1 license, out-of-field permission, or community expert will not be considered for the licensure scope.

In situations where field-specific teaching experience has not been gained at all grade levels, PELSB is able to restrict the scope of the licensure field to match the teaching experience. PELSB is also able to issue a license within two grade levels of a license scope for which past rules have been adopted. PELSB can only issue a Minnesota licensure scope that has been approved. The table below shows the licensure scope of full Minnesota approved licensure programs and provides the Tier 2 to Tier 3 Pathway completer the scope options that PELSB may issue.

Full MN Approved Licensure Scope	Tier 2 to Tier 3 Pathway Program Completer Scope Options
Birth to Age 6 Required: Infant/Toddler (birth-age three), PreK Ages three through five), Primary (kindergarten through age 6) i.e. ECSE	Age 3-PreK, PreK
Birth – Grade 3 Required: Infant/Toddler, PreK, Kindergarten-Grade 3 i.e. Early Childhood Ed	Birth to Age 6, PreK, PreK -K, PreK-Grade 3, K-3
Kindergarten – Grade 6 Required: Primary and Intermediate Elementary i.e. Elementary Ed	Kindergarten, K-3, 4-6
Grades 9-12 Required: High School i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Life, Earth and Space, Career Pathways such as Law Enforcement, Firefighting, etc.	Grades 9-12

Full MN Approved Licensure Scope	Tier 2 to Tier 3 Pathway Program Completer Scope Options
Kindergarten-Grade 12 Required: Primary, Middle, and High School i.e. ABS, EBD, PE, Music, etc	Kindergarten, K-3, K-6, K-8, Grades 5-8, Grades 5-12, Grades 7-12
Birth to Grade 12 Required: Infant, PreK, Primary, Middle, and High School i.e. ASD, BVI, DHH, PHD	B-Age 6, Age 3-PreK, PreK, PreK-K, Kindergarten, B-Grade 3, K-3, Grades 4-6, K-6, K-8, K-12, Grades 5-8, Grades 5-12, Grades 7-12
Grades 5-8 Required: Middle School i.e. General Science stands alone, all other MN 5-8 programs are endorsements	Grades 5-8
Grades 7- 12 Required: Middle and High School i.e. All CTE programs – no other current MN 7-12 programs. Does not include CTE for Agricultural Ed (5-12), Business (5-12), or FACS (5-12)	Grades 7-12

If a teacher receives a job offer from a Minnesota public school/charter school in a position that is outside the grade level of the Minnesota licensure field held, the teacher and hiring district can request an out-of-field permission (OFP) which allows the teacher to teach at that grade level. The OFP is submitted by the district and does not have a fee associated with it. Once a teacher has at least two school years of teaching experience in the licensure field as the teacher of record, at the missing grade level, the teacher can apply to expand the scope of the license.

Please note: Tier 2 license holders are granted the full scope of the licensure field when the Tier 2 license is issued. This provides flexibility for the teacher and the districts when hiring, moving or adding grades to the license holders' duties. In this way, the Tier 2 teacher and the district do not need to apply for another Tier 2 license if only the grade level of the position changes.