



January 23, 2025

OPI 2024 Educator Licensure Annual Report

This report is a summary of educator licensure activity for 2024 as identified in the areas of:

Tables include:

- 1) Licenses issued for: renewals, upgrading from one class to another, and adding an endorsement
- 2) Those obtaining their initial Montana educator license; the class of license and endorsement(s) area
- 3) Internships and Emergency Authorizations of Employment issued to school districts and the subject areas
- 4) A list of academic and character denials and the licensure request that was denied
- 5) A list of the license class and endorsement areas that were unusual cases
- 6) A five- year view of the number of newly hired educators in the critical shortage areas
- 7) A five- year view of licensure history, new hires, and renewals

[Please see the tables below.](#)

Montana Educator Licenses

Montana OPI 2024 Educator Licensure Annual Report

Data/ Report compiled by Crystal Andrews, Senior Manager of Accreditation and Licensure

Montana offers eight different license types. Brief descriptions of each are noted below.

- **Class 1 – Professional Teacher’s License.** Those who hold a master’s degree in education or an endorsable teaching area from a regionally accredited college or university or obtained certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
- **Class 2 – Standard Teacher’s License.** Those who hold a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university and completed an approved educator preparation program including appropriate supervised teaching experience and either holds a current standard, unrestricted out-of-state educator license and two years of successful teaching experience or a minimum passing score on the Praxis Subject Assessment or a passing score on a student teaching portfolio or a 3.00 or higher coursework GPA.
- **Class 3 - Administrative License.** Categories are: Superintendent; Elementary Principal; Secondary Principal; K-12 Principal; Supervisor; Special Education Supervisor.
- **Class 4 - Career and Technical Education.** These licenses are specific to career and technical education. There are three types of Class 4 licenses:
 - Class 4A. Those holding a valid Montana teaching license, but without an appropriate career and technical education endorsement.
 - Class 4B. Issued to individuals with a certificate of completion from an apprenticeship program or associate degree, or a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university, but do not hold a valid Montana teaching license with the appropriate career and technical education endorsement.
 - Class 4C. Those individuals who hold at least a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma and meet the minimum requirements for endorsement.
- **Class 5 - Provisional License.** May be issued to applicants that need to complete course work for full licensure. Categories are: Elementary; Secondary, K-12 and P-12 Special Education Levels; Superintendent; Elementary Principal; Secondary Principal; K-12 Principal; Supervisor; Specialist. There are three types of Class 5 licenses:
 - Class 5A. Issued to individuals seeking their initial Montana educator license who meet all licensure requirements except need successful completion of the Montana required* Praxis test.
 - Class 5B. Issued to individuals who hold a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university but have not completed an approved educator preparation program.

- Class 5C. Issued to individuals seeking a license in Montana whose degree is more than five years old, do not hold a current standard, unrestricted educator license, and have not earned 60 professional development units within the five-year period preceding the effective date of the license.
- **Class 6 - Specialist License.** Categories are: School Counselor and School Psychologist.
- **Class 7 – Native American Language and Culture Specialist.** Based upon verification by the authorized representative of a tribal government that has a memorandum of understanding with the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- **Class 8 - Dual Credit Postsecondary Faculty License.** Required (unless already licensed as Class 1, 2 or 4) whenever a college or university faculty member is teaching a dual credit course at the institution for which one or more students will earn both high school and college credit.

**Montana does not require the Praxis test for educator licensure however it is one pathway to show content knowledge for a Class 2 license.*

1. Renewal License Table

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Description of Type of License on pages 2-3

Renewal License Table											
Endorsement Area	1	2	3	4A	4B	4C	6 PS	6 SC	7	8	Total
Agriculture 5-12	6	14									20
Agriculture Business 5-12					1						1
Agriculture Mechanics 5-12						1					1
Art K-12	32	66								1	99
Assiniboine K-12									1		1
Auto Body 5-12						2					2
Automotive Technology 5-12				1		3					4
Biology 5-12	33	35								3	71
Blackfeet K-12									3		3
Building Maintenance 5-12											0
Building Trades 5-12				4	1	3					8
Business Education 5-12	37	34								1	72
Chemistry 5-12	13	13								4	30
Chippewa K-12									1		1
Communication 5-12	5	2									7
Comp. and Info. Systems 5-12	4	5									9
Computer Coding 5-12				2							2
Comp. Inf. Systems 5-12				1	1						2
Computer Science 5-12	4	6									10
Cree K-12									1		1
Crow K-12									3		3
Culinary Arts 5-12				1	2						3
Dakota K-12											0
Diesel Mechanics 5-12						1					1
Drafting 5-12				1	2	1					4
DC- Anthropology 5-12										1	1

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Endorsement Area	1	2	3	4A	4B	4C	6 PS	6 SC	7	8	Total
DC- Business Comm. 5-12										1	1
DC- Communication 5-12										1	1
DC- Philosophy 5-12										1	1
Early Childhood P-3	24	45									69
Earth Science 5-12	7	5								1	13
Economics 5-12	3	1									4
Electronics 5-12				2							2
Elementary K-8	528	920									1448
Engineering 5-12											0
English 5-12	84	116								2	202
English Second Lang. K-12	15	9									24
Family and Con. Science 5-12	12	20									32
French K-12	8	8									16
Geography 5-12	1	3									4
German K-12	5	2									7
Graphic Arts 5-12				4	1						5
Health K-12	3	5									8
Health and Physical Ed. K-12	73	117									190
Health Prof.- Biotech. 5-12				3							3
Health Prof.- Therap. 5-12				8							8
History 5-12	42	73								2	117
Industrial Mechanics 5-12				1							1
Indus. Trades and Tech. Ed. 5-12	11	19									30
Journalism 5-12	3										3
Latin 5-12	1										1
Library K-12	55	64									119
Livestock Production 5-12					1	1					2
Marketing Education 5-12	3	2									5
Mathematics 5-12	79	87								2	168
Metals 5-12				1	1	1					3

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Endorsement Area	1	2	3	4A	4B	4C	6 PS	6 SC	7	8	Total
Middle Grades 4-8		1									1
Music K-12	38	64									102
Physical Education K-12	1	3									4
Physics 5-12	9	7								1	17
Plant and Soil Sciences 5-12				2		1					3
Political Science 5-12	14	14								1	29
Principal 5-12			22								22
Principal K-12			223								223
Principal K-8			26								26
PSC Early Childhood K-8		2									2
PSC Gifted and Talented K-8	1										1
PSC Tech. in Education K-12	2										2
Psychology 5-12	7	9								3	19
Reading K-12	110	145									255
ROTC Instruction 5-12											0
Russian K-12											0
Salish K-12											0
School Counseling K-12	1							74			75
School Counselor K-12	44	8									52
School Psychologist K-12							38				38
Science (BF) 5-12	49	50								1	100
Small Engines 5-12				3		1					4
Social Studies (BF) 5-12	51	69									120
Sociology 5-12	3									4	7
Spanish K-12	15	20									35
Special Education P-12	150	175									325
Sp. Ed. Hearing Imp. P-12	1	1									2
Sp. Ed. Vision Imp. P-12	3										3
Superintendent K-12			81								81
Supervisor- History 5-12			1								1

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Endorsement Area	1	2	3	4A	4B	4C	6 PS	6 SC	7	8	Total
Supervisor- Art K-12			1								1
Supervisor- Sp. Ed. P-12			13								13
Theater 5-12	3	4									7
Traffic Education 5-12	19	13									32
Videography 5-12											0
Welding 5-12				1	1	1					3
Totals	1612	2256	367	35	11	16	38	74	9	30	4448

2. Upgrade License Table

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Description of Type of License on pages 2-3

Upgrade License Table						
Endorsement Area	1	2	3	6 PS	6 SC	Total
Art K-12		2				2
Biology 5-12	2					2
Business Education 5-12		1				1
Chemistry 5-12	1					1
Early Childhood P-3		2				2
Elementary K-8	16	22				38
English 5-12	8	3				11
Family and Con. Science 5-12	2					2
French K-12	1					1
German K-12		1				1
Health and Physical Ed. K-12	2	3				5
History 5-12	3	4				7
Mathematics 5-12	4	2				6
Music K-12	1	1				2
Physics 5-12		1				1
Political Science 5-12	1					1

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Endorsement Area	1	2	3	6 PS	6 SC	Total
Principal 5-12			1			1
Principal K-12			4			4
Principal K-8			1			1
Reading K-12		1				1
School Counseling K-12					8	8
School Counselor K-12					3	3
School Psychologist K-12				3		3
Science (BF) 5-12	4	2				6
Social Studies (BF) 5-12	3	3				6
Spanish K-12	1					1
Special Education P-12	11	9				20
Superintendent K-12			3			3
Theater 5-12		1				1
Totals	60	58	9	3	11	141

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3. Add Endorsement Table

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Description of Type of License on pages 2-3

Add Endorsement License Table					
Endorsement Area	1	2	3	5	Total
Early Childhood P-3				2	2
Elementary K-8				8	8
English 5-12	1				1
Library K-12		1		1	2
Mathematics 5-12				1	1
Music K-12	1				1
Social Studies (BF) 5-12				1	1
Special Education P-12	1			12	13
Supervisor- Sp. Ed. P-12			1		1
Totals	3	1	1	25	30

4. New License Table

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Description of Type of License on pages 2-3

New License Table												
Endorsement Area	1	2	3	4	5A	5B	5C	6 PS	6 SC	7	8	Total
Agriculture 5-12	1	14					1					16
Agriculture Business 5-12				3								3
Agriculture Mechanics 5-12				7								7
Art K-12	2	8				5						15
Assiniboine K-12										1		1
Auto Body 5-12												0
Automotive Technology 5-12												0
Aviation 5-12												0
Biology 5-12	4	3				2					1	10
Building Maintenance 5-12												0
Building Trades 5-12						3						3
Business Education 5-12	3	5				5						13
Business Marketing 5-12				6								6
Carpentry/ Fine Woodworking				2								2
Chemistry 5-12	1	1				1						3
Chippewa K-12												0
Computer Coding 5-12											1	1
Comp. and Info. Systems 5-12				4								4
Computer Science 5-12		2				1						3
Cree K-12												0
Crow K-12										1		1
Culinary Arts 5-12				4								4
Diesel Mechanics 5-12				1								1
Drafting 5-12				1								1
DC- Communications 5-12											2	2
DC- Health 5-12											1	1

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Endorsement Area	1	2	3	4	5A	5B	5C	6 PS	6 SC	7	8	Total
Early Childhood P-3	8	28			1	3	3					43
Earth Science 5-12	3											3
Elementary K-8	75	278			4	63	18					438
Emergency Medical Technician 5-12				2								2
Engineering 5-12												0
English 4-8	1											1
English 5-12	19	36			2	10	1					68
English Second Lang. K-12	13	9										22
Family and Consumer Sciences 5-12	1	4				2					1	8
Fire and Disaster Services 5-12				2								2
French K-12	2											2
German K-12		1										1
Graphic Arts 5-12				1								1
Gros Ventre K-12												0
Health and Physical Education K-12	3	26			1	12						42
Health Professions- Biotechnology 5-12				2								2
Health Professions- Informatics 5-12												0
Health Professions- Therapeutics 5-12				1								1
Health Science Education 5-12				1								1
Heavy Equipment Operations 5-12												0
History 5-12	3	16									1	20
Industrial Mechanics 5-12				1								1
Indus. Trades and Tech. Ed. 5-12		2										2
Italian K-12		1										1
Journalism 5-12	1	1										2
Library K-12	2	7										9
Livestock Production 5 -12				5								5
Machining 5-12				1								1
Mathematics 5-12	19	24				5	2				1	51
Metals 5-12				1								1

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Endorsement Area	1	2	3	4	5A	5B	5C	6 PS	6 SC	7	8	Total
Music K-12	4	23				1	1					29
Physical Education K-12	1	3					1					5
Physics 5-12	2					1						3
Plant and Soil Sciences 5-12				1								1
Political Science 5-12		7										7
Principal K-12			17									17
Psychology 5-12	2											2
Reading K-12	2	21					1					24
ROTC Instruction 5-12				2								2
Salish K-12												0
School Counseling K-12						20	1		21			42
School Psychologist K-12						5		5				10
Science (Broadfield) 4-8	1	1										2
Science (Broadfield) 5-12	6	16				14						36
Small Engines 5-12				1								1
Social Studies (Broadfield) 4-8	1											1
Social Studies (Broadfield) 5-12	7	33			1	2	4					47
Sociology 5-12	1	1										2
Spanish K-12	7	7				2	1					17
Special Education P-12	27	48				35	4					114
Sp. Ed. Hearing Imp. P-12	2	1										3
Sp. Ed. Vision Imp. P-12	1											1
Stagecraft 5-12				1								1
Superintendent K-12			2									2
Supervisor- Sp. Ed. P-12			1									1
Theater 5-12				2								2
Traffic Education 5-12		1		1								2
Videography 5-12				1								1
Welding 5-12				4								4
Totals	225	628	20	58	9	192	38	5	21	2	8	1206

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5A. Internship Table- By Subject January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Endorsement Description	License Count
Teaching Internship	38
Business Education 5-12	1
Elementary K-8	5
English 5-12	2
Family and Consumer Science 5-12	3
Health and Physical Education K-12	1
Library K-12	9
Reading K-12	1
Special Education P-12	16
Principal K-12	16
Principal and Superintendent K-12	3
School Counselor K-12	9
Special Education Endorsement Project P-12	21
Superintendent K-12	12
Total	99

5B. Internship Table- By Educator Preparation Program January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

EPP Description	License Count
Montana State University- Billings	31
Montana State University- Bozeman	22
Rocky Mountain College	5
University of Montana	31
University of Montana- Western	10
Total	99

6. Internship and Emergency Authorization Table - By District

SY 2024-25 July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025

District Name	# of Intern.	# of EAEs	District Name	# of Intern.	# of EAEs	District Name	# of Intern.	# of EAEs
Absarokee		1	Deer Lodge		1	Kalispell	2	1
Arrowhead		2	Dupuyer		2	Kircher		2
Ashland		1	Ekalaka	1	2	Lame Deer		4
Augusta		1	Elder Grove	1	1	Lavina		2
Bainville		4	Elliston		1	Lewistown	2	1
Belgrade	1	4	Elysian		1	Lima		1
Big Sandy		1	Ennis		1	Livingston	3	4
Big Sky	1	1	Fair-Mont Egan		1	Lockwood	3	4
Big Timber		2	Fairview	1	2	Lodge Grass		1
Billings	3	4	Fortine		1	Miles City	1	9
Bonner	1	1	Frenchtown	2	1	Missoula	4	3
Broadus		2	Fromberg	1	6	Moore		2
Broadview		3	Frontier		3	Nashua	1	1
Brockton		1	Galata		1	North Star		1
Browning		23	Geraldine		2	Philipsburg		1
Butte Central		1	Glendive	1	6	Plains		2
Cayuse Prairie		2	Grass Range		1	Plentywood		6
Centerville	1	2	Great Falls Cent Cath		1	Plevna	1	4
Chester-Joplin Inv.	2	3	Great Falls	3	5	Pondera		1
Choteau	1	1	Hardin		6	Poplar		2
Circle		2	Harlem		1	Powell		1
Colstrip	3	5	Harrison	1	1	Power		1
Columbus	1	1	Hays-Lodge Pole		2	Rapelje	1	1
Culbertson		1	Heart Butte	2	1	Red Lodge		1
Custer	1	3	Helena	4	3	Richey	1	2
Cut Bank		4	Huntley Project		2	Roberts		1
Darby		1	Independent		2	Ronan		2

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District Name	# of Intern.	# of EAEs	District Name	# of Intern.	No EAEs	District Name	# of Intern.	No EAEs
Roundup	1	1	Anaconda	4		Whitefish	2	
Savage		1	Ayers	1		Total	99	
Scobey		5	Baker	2				
Seeley Lake		1	Belt	1				
Shelby	1	2	Box Elder	1				
Shepherd	1	5	Bozeman	2				
Sheridan	1	2	Butte	2				
Shields Valley		1	Cascade	1				
Sidney		2	Ctrl MT Learn Res Ctr	1				
Stanford		1	Charlo	1				
Stevensville		1	Dodson	1				
Sunburst		1	Eureka	1				
Sweet Grass County		2	Evergreen	1				
Terry	1	5	Fort Benton	1				
Three Forks		1	Greenfield	1				
Trail Creek		1	Havre	3				
Trout Creek		4	Hellgate	2				
Troy		3	Highwood	1				
Valier		1	Jordan	1				
Victor	1	1	Lolo	2				
West Yellowstone		4	Lone Rock	2				
Whitewater		1	Manhattan Christian	1				
Wibaux		2	Prickly Pear Coop	1				
Willow Creek	1	1	Ryegate	1				
Winnett		1	Shodair Spec. Hos.	1				
Wolf Point	1	16	Swan River	1				
Total		261	Twin Bridges	1				

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7. Emergency Authorization Table - By Endorsement January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Endorsement Description	License Count
Agriculture 5-12	3
Art K-12	7
Business Education 5-12	9
Chemistry 5-12	2
Computer Science 5-12	1
Early Childhood P-3	8
Elementary K-8	139
English 5-12	17
English Second Lang. K-12	2
Family and Consumer Science 5-12	11
German K-12	2
Health and Physical Education K-12	8
History 5-12	6
Industrial Technology Education 5-12	3
Library K-12	9
Mathematics 5-12	19
Middle Grades 4-8	1
Music K-12	19
Physical Education K-12	7
Reading K-12	1
School Counselor K-12	11
Science (BF) 5-12	12
Social Studies 5-12	9
Spanish K-12	5
Total	311*

*Being a year-long report, the data is for both the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school year for Table 7.

8. Emergency Authorization Table- SY 2024-25 July 1, 2024 to January 10, 2025

Endorsement Description	License Count
Agriculture 5-12	4
Art K-12	7
Business Education 5-12	8
Chemistry 5-12	2
Computer Science 5-12	1
Early Childhood P-3	8
Elementary K-8	120
English 5-12	15
English Second Lang. K-12	1
Family and Consumer Science 5-12	8
German K-12	2
Health and Physical Education K-12	8
History 5-12	2
Industrial Technology Education 5-12	3
Library K-12	8
Mathematics 5-12	15
Music K-12	19
Physical Education K-12	5
Reading K-12	1
School Counselor K-12	11
Science (BF) 5-12	11
Social Studies (BF) 5-12	8
Spanish K-12	5
Total	272**

**The total for Table 8 is greater than Table 6 for EAE's due to multiple endorsements being issued to one EAE.

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9. Denial Table

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Academic	Licensure Request	Reason for Denial	Cases
	Adding endorsement(s) to a current license	1) Did not pass Praxis exam, applied using the 2+ years teaching experience and passing the Praxis exam pathway. 2) Did not complete an EPP for elementary education, cannot use other pathways for elementary education.	2
	Class 1 Professional License	Did not complete an EPP for special education, cannot use other pathways for special education.	1
	Class 3 Administrative License	Did not complete an EPP for special education; does not have a degree in special education, does not qualify for special education supervisor.	1
Character	Licensure Request	Reason for Denial	Cases
			0
Total Number of Denial Cases			4

10. Unusual Case Table

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

License	Reason for Unusual Case	Cases
Class 5	Bachelor's from an unaccredited college/university but enrolled in an accredited EPP	2
Class 5	Requested a second Class 5 since the first was not used	1
Various	DOJ could not read fingerprints, two attempts (four cards), name-based search utilized	5
Various	Cannot obtain university recommendation; utilized transcripts, or letter from program, or letter from state	5
Add End.	Used experience plus Praxis exam, one year of experience was licensed but misassigned	1
Total Number of Unusual Cases		14

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11. New License History in Fields of Critical Endorsement Shortages Five-Year Study 2020-2024

License Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Art	28	42	28	31	15
Career & Technical Education	26	35	58	83	58
Elementary	470	580	452	507	438
English	73	116	69	98	69
Health	60	58	34	32	42
Library	3	7	1	7	9
Mathematics	54	51	54	52	51
Music	37	45	27	41	29
Principal	16	17	26	18	17
School Counselor	31	55	27	32	42
School Psychologist	21	29	9	16	10
Science (BF)	35	47	27	46	38
Social Studies (BF)	61	73	46	62	48
Special Education	93	138	98	127	118
Superintendent	1	8	3	7	2
Supervisor (Special Education)	1	0	2	1	1
World Languages	29	31	19	34	23
Total	1039	1332	980	1194	1010

12. Licensure History New Hires and Renewals for Last 5 years

