



FAQ FOR LICENSURE ARM 10.57 UPDATES

Effective May 28, 2022

Continue to check as new information is added!

All ARM for Licensure can be found [here!](#)

EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATIONS:

1. An emergency authorization cannot be issued for a Special Education teacher Correct?? Correct, this will be added to the new rule changes effective May 28th.

2. I have always held the understanding that educators who have a current license in another state or a Montana license in another endorsement area are unable to be the subject of an EA. Is this correct? Correct. New rule has cleaned this language up a bit so that it is clearer.

New rule: *(c) The individual for whom the emergency authorization is being sought shall: (i) have previously held a teacher or specialist license; or (ii) provide acceptable evidence of academic qualifications or significant experience related to the area for which the EAE is being sought; or (iii) provide evidence of experience as a paraprofessional; or (iv) provide evidence to be assigned as a student teacher engaged in “supervised teaching experience” as defined in ARM 10.57.102(16).*

3. Is there a date before which a district cannot apply for an Emergency Authorization? Meaning, Can I apply for an EA for SY2022-2023 on the 24th of May?

There is not a specific date in rule. Paper applications will no longer be accepted, and the applications will be in the new licensure system. With the flexibility provided with the new rules it is our hope that more licensed teachers start applying and the need for EAEs are at a minimum. Rule still states, the position must have been advertised at least far enough in advance to reasonably enable qualified applicants— interpretation meaning long enough into the summer when applicants are applying. Submitting an EAE before the end of the current school year—for next year does not seem like a reasonable effort. The OPI will not begin reviewing EAEs before July 1st.

4. Do districts still submit a letter about background checks? No. Background checks need to be completed by the applicant through the Department of Justice and have the results submitted to the OPI. This is the process for all types of licensure and authorization of employment.

5. Can a student teacher be issued an EAE? Yes. Under new rule, paraprofessionals and/or student teacher’s that are assigned in a “student teaching experience” qualify for an EAE.

6. **Where can I find the EAE application?** A district can find the EAE application on the new licensure system- TeachMontana. Paper applications will no longer be accepted.

CLASS 1 PROFESSIONAL TEACHER'S LICENSE:

1. **I was told that after the 27th of May, any educator with a master's degree in any content area or educational specialization is eligible for a class 1 license in any endorsement area? Is this accurate??** Yes, it is accurate. The years are no longer a part of rule for Class 1. You can upgrade to a Class 1 license if you hold a Class 2 and a master's degree.

CLASS 2 STANDARD TEACHER'S LICENSE:

1. **Can I use renewal units if I do not have a current out-of-state license?** Yes. Applicants whose degree is more than five years old and who do not have current out-of-state licensure must have earned 60 professional development (no longer called renewal) units within the five-year period preceding the effective date of the license.

CLASS 3 ADMINISTRATIVE LICENSE:

1. **Can a school counselor qualify for an administrative license now?** Yes. Under new rule, there is a pathway for school counselors to obtain a supervisor, principal and/or superintendent license. [See ARM 10.57.413](#)

CLASS 4 CTAE LICENSE:

1. **Can a person with an associate degree obtain a Class 4 license?** Yes. Under new rule, a Class 4B license may be issued to an individual with a certificate of completion from an apprenticeship program, OR associate degree, OR bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

2. **How many hours of verified related work experience do you need?** To obtain an endorsement on a Class 4 license, an applicant must provide verification of a minimum of 5,000 hours of documented, relevant work experience.

CLASS 5 PROVISIONAL LICENSE:

1. **What are my options for a provisional license?** There are three types of provisional licenses. A Class 5A will be issued to those individuals seeking their initial Montana educator license who meet all licensure requirements except for successful completion of the Montana required Praxis test. This license is valid for one year and is non-renewable. A Class 5B will be issued to those individuals who hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university but have not completed an approved educator preparation program (formerly known as the Class 5). NEW: A Class 5C will be issued to those seeking a license in Montana whose degree is more than five years old, do not hold a current standard,

unrestricted educator licensure, and have not earned 60 professional development units within the five-year period preceding the effective date of the license.

2. Do you have to be employed in Montana in order to qualify for a provisional license?

An applicant needs to have a current Montana address or job offer from a P-12 school in Montana.

3. Do I need anything from a university to get a Class 5A license to add an

endorsement? No. If you currently have a Class 1 or 2 license and two years or more teaching experience— you can get a Class 5A license for the Praxis exam. This will give you one year to take and pass the exam. All you will need is a Professional Plan of Intent with the OPI.

CLASS 6 SPECIALIST LICENSE:

1. **Do the internship hours have to be in a school setting?** Yes. Internship hours for a school counselor or psychologist must be in a P-12 school setting.

2. **How many internship hours are required?** For School Counselor- 600 hours in a P-12 school setting and for School Psychologist- 1200 hours, of which 600 hours were in a P-12 school setting.

CLASS 7 NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE LICENSE:

1. **Can I teach anything in my school with a Class 7 license?** No. A school district may assign an individual that holds a Class 7 license to a specialist area within the field of American Indian language and culture. No other teaching license or endorsement is required for duties within the prescribed field. So, no other teaching assignment is acceptable with a Class 7 license.

2. **Who do I have sign off on my Class 7 license?** A Class 7 license will be issued based upon verification by the authorized representative of a tribal government, that has a memorandum of understanding with the OPI.

CLASS 8 DUAL CREDIT POST SECONDARY FACULTY LICENSE:

1. **Do I have to be employed by a college or university to get a Class 8?** Yes, a Class 8 license shall not be valid unless the licensee is in an employment relationship with an accredited college or university.

2. **What are some of the parameters around obtaining a Class 8 license?** You will need verification of faculty employment and recommendation from the Chief Academic Officer or appropriate official. You plan to teach in a subject covered by the P-12 endorsement areas and will teach a subject in which the applicant has a major or minor.

ADDING AN ENDORSEMENT:

1. Can I now take the Praxis to get an endorsement added to my license? Yes, one pathway is evidence of two years of teaching experience while appropriately licensed documented by a recommendation from a P-12 school employer on a form prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and proof of a minimum passing score on the PRAXIS Subject Assessment applicable to the requested endorsement as established by the Office of Public Instruction and approved by the Board of Public Education: on the endorsement-related content area exam. Only where content area exam(s) have been identified may endorsements be added with this method.

Pathway information: To add an additional endorsement to a Class 1 or 2 license, an applicant must submit verification of one of the three pathways in ARM 10.57.301 (a-c). Please note- this is not available for early childhood (P-3), elementary education (K-8), reading (K-12), English as a second language (K-12); School Administrator (Superintendent, Principal, or Supervisor); Specialist (School Psychologist or School Counselor); and initial endorsements in Special Education fields.

2. How do I remove an endorsement from my current license? An endorsement may be dropped from a license at the end of its valid term if licensure requirements pursuant to these rules are met.

3. What are the pathways for adding an endorsement? There are three pathways for adding an endorsement to a current Class 1 or 2 license (only). 1- Attend a program and get a University Recommendation from the EPP. 2- You hold a major or minor in the content area. 3- You have 2 or more years of teaching experience (in any area) and take the Praxis in the content area.

4. Can you add an endorsement to any license? No. You can only add an endorsement to a Class 1 or 2 license.

RECIPROCITY FOR MILITARY SPOUSES AND DEPENDENTS:

1. What documentation will be required to show proof of military spouses/dependents? A copy of the front/back of the U.S. Department of Defense/Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card.

2. How will I show proof in the new system? You will be able to upload a copy in TMT.

3. What other documentation is required? A copy of your current out-of-state teaching license.

4. Who qualifies for the military spouse/dependent reciprocity? The applicant must be the spouse or dependent of an active-duty member of the United States armed forces who has been transferred to Montana, is scheduled to be transferred to Montana, is domiciled in Montana, or has moved to Montana on a permanent change-of-station basis.

FEES

1. **Have there been any changes to licensure fees under new rule?** There have not been any changes to educator licensure fees currently. See the [Licensure Fee Schedule](#) for fee amounts and the refund policy.
2. **Is there a fee now to upgrade my license?** It depends. If you upgrade your license and renew at the same time, then there is a fee. Any time you extend your license and the expiration date changes, there will be a fee.