

Legislative Update from the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB)

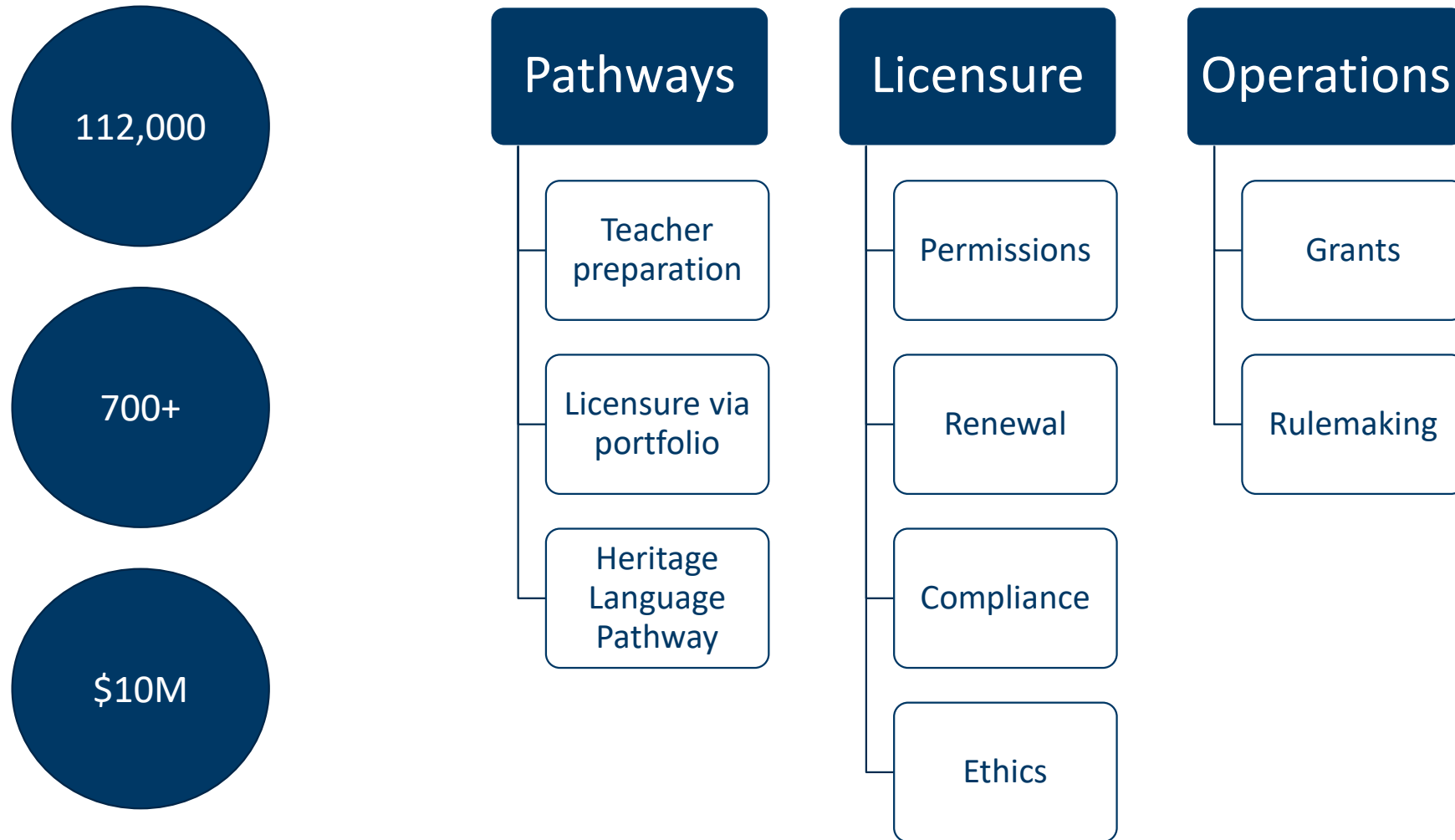
Michelle Hersh Vaught, J.D., Chief of Staff

May 20, 2024

Ensure all Minnesota students have high
quality educators in their schools



Overview



2024 Overview

Work Groups

- Special Education Licensure
- Teacher and Paraprofessional Compensation
- English Learner Programs
- Paraprofessional Qualifications

Programs

- Student Teaching stipends
- Aspiring Teachers of Color
- Heritage Language Cohort

Operations

- IT funding
- Reports

Teacher licensure

- Special education
- Tier 4

Teacher preparation

- Reading audit
- Ableism and disability justice

Other

Special Education Licensure Working Group

- Appointments by July 1, 2024
- Tasked with: Review current statutory and rule requirements for special education teachers and make recommendations of changes needed in order to streamline requirements for out-of-state teachers.
- Report due by February 1, 2025

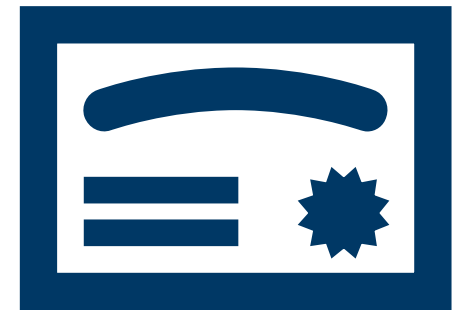
Teacher and Paraprofessional Compensation Working Group

- Purpose: Advise legislature on strategies and recommendations to provide competitive compensation to teacher and paraprofessionals
- Appointments must be made by September 1, 2024
- Reports due by February 14, 2025

Budget, Article 5, section 22

Task Force on English Learner Programs

- Purpose:
 - Analyze how public schools use English learner revenue,
 - Consider how microcredentials or other certification may be used; and
 - Make recommendations to help students become more proficient in English.
- MDE to lead
- Report due February 15, 2025
- Article 1, section 19.



Budget, Article 1, section 19

Paraprofessional Qualifications

- Purpose: Examine Minnesota's standards for paraprofessionals
- PELSB and MDE
- Release work plan by July 1, 2024

Student Teaching Pilot Program

- Student teaching stipends
- Survey regarding impact of the stipend
- Reports due February 1, 2025 and July 1, 2025
- \$6,543,000 appropriated

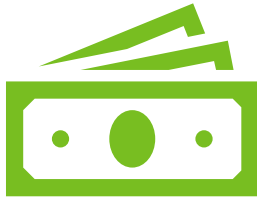


Budget, Article 5, section 20

- Providers:
 - St. Cloud State University
 - Bemidji State University
 - Minnesota State University – Mankato
 - Winona State University
 - Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
 - University of Minnesota – Duluth
 - University of Minnesota – Crookston
 - Augsburg University

Aspiring Teachers of Color Scholarship Program

- \$1,000,000 appropriated and transferred to OHE



Budget, Article 5, section 24

Minnesota Aspiring Teachers of Color Scholarship Pilot Program

If you have questions about this program, please contact the staff member listed on this page via email. If a staff member is not listed, please email info.ohe@state.mn.us and provide a detailed description of your question.

Minnesota Aspiring Teachers of Color Scholarship Pilot Program provides postsecondary financial assistance to eligible undergraduate and graduate students who are preparing to become teachers, have demonstrated financial need, and belong to racial or ethnic groups underrepresented in the state's teacher workforce.

Heritage Language and Culture Teacher

- A teacher with a familial connection to their community's language and culture, who is proficient in the language and engaged in the culture, and uses this connection to support students as they learn academic content, become proficient in the language, and engage with the culture of that particular community.
- Prioritize participation by:
 - Most common languages of Minnesota's students
 - Lack of teacher preparation programs

Policy, Article 3, Section 17

Information Technology

- \$2,767,000 appropriated and available until June 30, 2027



Budget, Article 10, section 5

Teachers of Color and Indigenous Teachers Report

- Topic: Summary of each program receiving state money that seek to increase the diversity of the state's teacher workforce
- Due November 3, 2025

Supply and Demand Report

- Topic: Supply and demand of teachers
- Due November 1, 2025

Policy, Article 3, sections 1-2

Special Education Licensure

- Tier 1 limited to a total of three years
- Tier 2 must demonstrate progress toward a professional license

Tier 4

- National Board Certification
- Licensure via Portfolio

Exemptions for exams

- National Board Certification

Policy, Article 3, Sections 5 and 9

2023 Teacher Licensure

Expanded BA Exemptions

- Visual and performing artists
- Native speakers

Tier 2

- Enrolled or master's

Testing

- Exemptions from content and pedagogy exams
- Removal of basic skills examination

[View entire list](#)

2023 Legislative Updates: Changes to Tier 4 Licensure

The 2023 Legislative Session ended on May 22.

June 16, 2023 | [Legislative Changes](#), [General](#)

Changes to Tier 4 Licensure

Three years of teaching experience

Effective August 1, teachers seeking a Tier 4 license will no longer be required to complete three years of teaching specifically in Minnesota. Instead, teachers can utilize teaching experience from other states or countries to satisfy the three-year requirement.

Summative evaluation

Effective August 1, teachers seeking a Tier 4 license will no longer be required to demonstrate that the teacher's most recent summative evaluation did not place the teacher or otherwise keep the teacher in an improvement plan.

Content, Pedagogy, and Basic Skills Exams

Effective August 1, a number of teachers seeking a Tier 4 license may be exempt from taking content and pedagogy exams. Teachers will no longer need to take content and/or pedagogy exams if one of the following are met:

ard News...

Teaching Assignments

- School district must remove a teacher from an instructional assignment if the teacher has been criminally charged with child abuse, sexual abuse, or any crime requiring registration as a predatory offender.

Teacher Evaluation

- Clarify the annual evaluation process for teachers must include a rubric of performance standards for teacher practice that is based on the standards of effective practice (Minnesota Rules 8710.2000).

Policy, Article 3, Sections 12, 14, and 15

Reading Audit

- Audit teacher preparation programs in early childhood education, elementary education, and special education
- Report findings by January 15, 2025 and August 1, 2026

Ableism and Disability Justice

- Encouraged to include instruction on ableism and disability justice



*Policy, Article 3, Section 3 and Article 4,
Section 18*

Updated Tiered Licensure Infographic Coming Soon

Licensure Requirements in MN: August 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

TIER 1 REQUIREMENTS

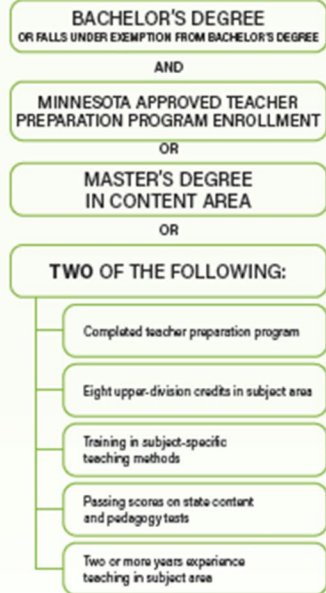


*All licensure fields require a BA degree unless the teacher falls under a specific exemption.

- Good for one school year and can be renewed three times.
- Applicant must have a job offer from a Minnesota public school district. District and applicant apply jointly. District must show it could not find a teacher holding a Tier 2, Tier 3, or Tier 4 license for the position.
- These teachers are in the teacher bargaining unit. They are not earning credit toward probation and do not have continuing contract rights.

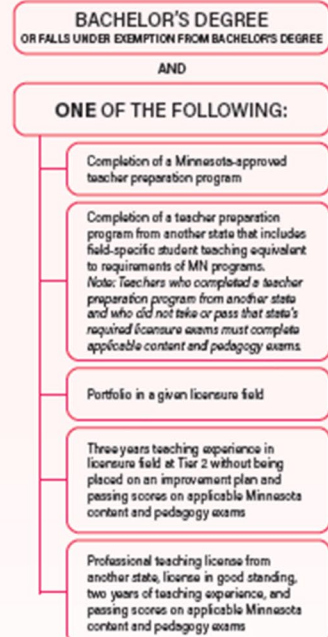
TIER 2 REQUIREMENTS

New eligibility requirements will go into effect July 1, 2024 and are not reflected here.



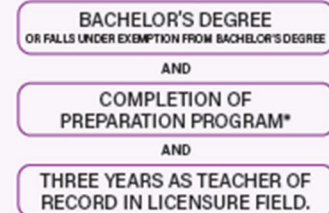
- Good for two school years and can be renewed three times.
- Applicant must have a job offer from a Minnesota public school district. District and applicant apply jointly.
- These teachers are in the teacher bargaining unit and are not probationary. However, if these teachers get to Tier 3, then two years of successful teaching at Tier 2 can count toward the Tier 3 requirement of three years of probation. Teachers at Tier 2 do not have continuing contract rights.

TIER 3 REQUIREMENTS



- Good for three years and can be renewed indefinitely.
- Teacher applies for the license.
- These teachers are in the bargaining unit and must complete three years of probation. If a teacher at Tier 3 got to Tier 3 via Tier 2, two years of teaching at Tier 2 can count toward the three-year probationary requirement. Teachers at Tier 3 have continuing contract rights after completion of the probationary period.

TIER 4 REQUIREMENTS



*Teachers who completed a teacher preparation program from another state and who did not take or pass that state's required licensure exams must complete applicable content and pedagogy exams.

- Good for five years and can be renewed indefinitely.
- Teacher applies for the license.
- These teachers are in the bargaining unit. Teachers at Tier 4 have continuing contract rights after completion of the applicable probationary requirement.



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Contact us



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<https://mn.gov/pelsb/>

122A.2451, subdivision 9

Subd. 9. **Reports.**

(a) An approved alternative teacher preparation provider must report to the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board on items that are defined in statute regarding program candidates, completion, and effectiveness or other items that are required under section [122A.09](#).

(b) The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must submit a biennial report on the alternative teacher preparation program and providers to legislative committees having jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education policy and finance by January 15 of each odd-numbered year.

122A.185, subdivision 4

Subd. 4. **Remedial assistance.**

School districts may make available upon request appropriate and timely remedial assistance that includes a formal diagnostic component to those persons employed by the district who did not achieve a qualifying score on a board-adopted skills examination, and who received a Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 license under section [122A.181](#), [122A.182](#), or [122A.183](#), respectively, to teach in Minnesota.