

World Language Teaching License in Massachusetts

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Program Director, Modern Foreign Language Education
and Curriculum & Teaching



Interested in becoming a world language teacher?

- Public school teaching requires a **teaching license** in the state where you want to teach
- In Private or Charter schools, a teaching license is often optional

The Teaching License in MA

Which license am I seeking?

- Foreign Language [*language*] - 5-12
- Foreign Language [*language*] - PK-6

The Teaching License in MA

What languages are there licenses for?

- American Sign Language (ASL)
- Arabic
- Armenian
- Cape Verdean
- Chinese
- Creole Haitian
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hebrew
- Hmong
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Japanese
- Khmer
- Korean
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish
- Ukranian
- Vietnamese

The Teaching License in MA

What level license?

- Provisional
- Initial
- Professional

The Provisional Teaching License

- Valid for 5 years (non-renewable)
- Three criteria:
 - Bachelor's degree or equivalent
 - Passing score on the "Communications & Literacy Skills" MTEL (Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure)
 - Passing score on the "Subject Matter" MTEL in your language (if available)

Licensure Requirements Tool

Determine the requirements for a particular license

Please do not use your web browser's BACK or FORWARD buttons during the data entry process, as this may result in you having to re-en

Please select the field, then the level, and then the type of license for which you are seeking the requirements.

* **Category:** Academic: Teacher

* **Field:** Foreign Language - [French]

The license field represents the category and subject matter area of a particular license. For example, in the teacher category, Administrator School Principal/Assistant Principal and

* **Grade:** 5-12

Each license is valid for employment at a particular grade level or several grade levels.

* **Type:** Provisional

There are four types of **Academic PreK-12 licenses** (temporary, provisional, initial, and continuing). The type of license you select depends on your background, experience, license(s) already held, whether you have taken and required performance assessments (ex. PAL), and whether you hold the Shell

* **Tell us about yourself:** My first Teaching license in MA.

<https://gateway.edu.state.ma.us/elar/licensurehelp/LicenseRequirementsCriteriaPageControl.ser>



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The Provisional Teaching License: Pros & Cons

Pros:

- You can immediately obtain a teaching license

Cons:

- No teacher training
- License expires in 5 years
- You have 5 years to achieve the Initial license (with additional requirements)

The Initial Teaching License

- Valid for five years (renewable once)
- Four criteria:
 - Bachelor's degree or equivalent
 - Passing score on the "Communications & Literacy Skills" MTEL (Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure)
 - Passing score on the "Subject Matter" MTEL in your language (if available)
 - **Completion of a "Massachusetts Foreign Language Approved Program"** (in your language)

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The Initial Teaching License: Pros & Cons

Pros:

- Complete a teacher training program (“endorsed program”) where you complete a student teaching
- The teaching license is more stable and valid for a longer amount of time

Cons:

- Takes longer to get the Initial license (compared to Provisional)
- There will be a cost associated with your teacher training program

The Professional Teaching License

- *Only* for teachers who have the Initial license and have taught for at least three years under their license
- You must have a Master's degree or complete 12 graduate credits in your subject matter (i.e. your language) and/or related pedagogy

The MTEL

Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL)

- Communications & Literacy Skills
 - Reading sub-test
 - Writing sub-test
- Subject Matter test (in different languages)



www.doe.mass.edu/mtel

Which languages have MTELEs?

- Chinese (Mandarin)
- French
- German
- Italian
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish

Communication and Literacy Skills (01)

The Communication and Literacy Skills test includes two subtests. Candidates must take and pass both subtests. You may take one or both subtests at one test appointment.

Format	Computer-based test (CBT); <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading subtest: 42 multiple-choice questions• Writing subtest: 35 multiple-choice questions, 7 short-answer sentence correction items, and 2 open-response assignments
Time	4 hours (one or both subtests). Read more about registering for subtests. 15 minutes additional time for CBT tutorial and nondisclosure agreement
Test Dates	By appointment year-round, Monday through Saturday (excluding some holidays) Check appointment availability 
Test Centers	Located in Massachusetts and nationwide Find the nearest test center 
Qualifying Score	240 on each subtest
Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading subtest only: \$76• Writing subtest only: \$85• Both subtests: \$112 Review fee and payment information.
Score Reporting	Review CBT score report release dates.
Testing Policies	When you register, you must agree to abide by all testing rules and policies. Review them now.
Prepare	View the preparation materials available for this test.

Tests may include questions that will not count toward candidates' scores. These questions are placed on the test to collect information about how well they perform under actual testing conditions.

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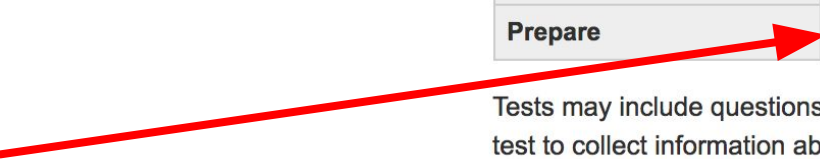
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The MTEL

French (26)

Format	Computer-based test (CBT); 100 multiple-choice questions and 2 open-response assignments (1 requires an oral response)
Time	4 hours 15 minutes additional time for CBT tutorial and nondisclosure agreement
Test Dates	By appointment during testing windows. View testing windows by test center location. To find specific test dates, use the seat availability tool .
Test Centers	Offered at specific test centers in Massachusetts. View testing windows by test center location. For more information on test centers, use the seat availability tool .
Qualifying Score	240
Fee	\$139 Review fee and payment information.
Score Reporting	Review CBT score report release dates.
Notes	This test includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• speaking and listening items that require use of a microphone and headset• written assignments that may require use of an on-screen character selector for inserting special characters into written responses Review the downloadable interactive tutorial to see the instructions for microphone and headset use and to practice using the on-screen character selector.
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- March
- May
- July
- September
- November

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Score Reporting	Review CBT score report release dates.
Notes	This test includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• speaking and listening items that require use of a microphone and headset• written assignments that may require use of an on-screen character selector for inserting special characters into written responses Review the downloadable interactive tutorial to see the instructions for microphone and headset use and to practice using the on-screen character selector.
Testing Policies	When you register, you must agree to abide by all testing rules and policies. Review them now.
Prepare	View the preparation materials available for this test.

Tests may include questions that will not count toward candidates' scores. These questions are placed on the test to collect information about how well they perform under actual testing conditions.

French (26)

Format	Computer-based test (CBT); 100 multiple-choice questions and 2 open-response assignments (1 requires an oral response)
Time	4 hours 15 minutes additional time for CBT tutorial and nondisclosure agreement
Test Dates	By appointment during testing windows. View testing windows by test center location. To find specific test dates, use the seat availability tool .
Test Centers	Offered at specific test centers in Massachusetts. View testing windows by test center location. For more information on test centers, use the seat availability tool .
Qualifying Score	240
Fee	\$139 Review fee and payment information.
Score Reporting	Review CBT score report release dates.
Notes	This test includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• speaking and listening items that require use of a microphone and headset• written assignments that may require use of an on-screen character selector for inserting special characters into written responses Review the downloadable interactive tutorial to see the instructions for microphone and headset use and to practice using the on-screen character selector.
Testing Policies	When you register, you must agree to abide by all testing rules and policies. Review them now.
Prepare	View the preparation materials available for this test.

Tests may include questions that will not count toward candidates' scores. These questions are placed on the test to collect information about how well they perform under actual testing conditions.

No MTEL option?

What if there is no MTEL for my language?

Example: Arabic

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Provisional License

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Provisional

The following list displays all possible paths available to receive the license you have selected. The specific requirements to satisfy each path are also listed. The paths available to you will vary depending upon any current licenses you hold. To find out more about a specific requirement, click the requirement.

2003 : Massachusetts general requirements

- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of significant literary and non-literary texts, the arts, and history of at least one other country or people with which the target language may now be associated](#)
- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of the other arts \(historical traditions, genres, and major artists\) associated with the country of origin of the target language](#)
- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of the political, social, and intellectual history of the country or culture with which the target language is or was originally associated](#)
- › [Coverage of: Knowledge of culturally and historically significant literary and non-literary texts and authors associated with the country of origin of the target language; literary traditions, periods, and genres](#)
- › [Possession of a bachelor's degree](#)
- › [Coverage of: Spoken and written command of a standard version of the target language \(the version used by a formally educated speaker of the language\)](#)
- › [Coverage of: Theories of, and differences between, first and second language acquisition](#)
- › [Achieve a passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test](#)
- › [Coverage of: Similarities and differences between the target language and English](#)

1. Bachelor's degree
2. Passing score on the Communications & Literacy Skills MTEL
3. "Competency Review" in Arabic

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Provisional License

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Provisional

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2003 : Massachusetts general requirements

- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of significant literary and non-literary texts, the arts, and history of at least one other country or people with which the target language may now be associated](#)
- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of the other arts \(historical traditions, genres, and major artists\) associated with the country of origin of the target language](#)
- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of the political, social, and intellectual history of the country or culture with which the target language is or was originally associated](#)
- › [Coverage of: Knowledge of culturally and historically significant literary and non-literary texts and authors associated with the country of origin of the target language; literary traditions, periods, and genres](#)
- › [Possession of a bachelor's degree](#)
- › [Coverage of: Spoken and written command of a standard version of the target language \(the version used by a formally educated speaker of the language\)](#)
- › [Coverage of: Theories of, and differences between, first and second language acquisition](#)
- › [Achieve a passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test](#)
- › [Coverage of: Similarities and differences between the target language and English](#)

1. Bachelor's degree

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Provisional License

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Provisional

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- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of significant literary and non-literary texts, the arts, and history of at least one other country or people with which the target language may now be associated](#)
- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of the other arts \(historical traditions, genres, and major artists\) associated with the country of origin of the target language](#)
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1. Bachelor's degree

2. Passing score on the Communications & Literacy Skills MTEL

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Provisional License

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Provisional

The following list displays all possible paths available to receive the license you have selected. The specific requirements to satisfy each path are also listed. The paths available to you will vary depending upon any current licenses you hold. To find out more about a specific requirement, click the requirement.

2003 : Massachusetts general requirements

- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of significant literary and non-literary texts, the arts, and history of at least one other country or people with which the target language may now be associated](#)
- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of the other arts \(historical traditions, genres, and major artists\) associated with the country of origin of the target language](#)
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- › [Coverage of: Theories of, and differences between, first and second language acquisition](#)
- › [Achieve a passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test](#)
- › [Coverage of: Similarities and differences between the target language and English](#)

3. "Competency Review"

1. Bachelor's degree

2. Passing score on the Communications & Literacy Skills MTEL

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Provisional License -- “Competency Review”

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Provisional

The following list displays all possible paths available to receive the license you have selected. The specific requirements to satisfy each path are also listed. The paths available to you will vary depending upon any current licenses you hold. To find out more about a specific requirement, click the requirement.

2003 : Massachusetts general requirements

- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of significant literary and non-literary texts, the arts, and history of at least one other country or people with which the target language may now be associated](#)
- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of the other arts \(historical traditions, genres, and major artists\) associated with the country of origin of the target language](#)
- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of the political, social, and intellectual history of the country or culture with which the target language is or was originally associated](#)
- › [Coverage of: Knowledge of culturally and historically significant literary and non-literary texts and authors associated with the country of origin of the target language; literary traditions, periods, and genres](#)
- › [Coverage of: Spoken and written command of a standard version of the target language \(the version used by a formally educated speaker of the language\)](#)
- › [Coverage of: Theories of, and differences between, first and second language acquisition](#)
- › [Coverage of: Similarities and differences between the target language and English](#)

- Submit a score report with a minimum score of Advanced Low for the:
- ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI)
 - ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test (WPT)

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Provisional License -- “Competency Review”

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Provisional

The following list displays all possible paths available to receive the license you have selected. The specific requirements to satisfy each path are also listed. The paths available to you will vary depending upon any current licenses you hold. To find out more about a specific requirement, click the requirement.

2003 : Massachusetts general requirements

- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of significant literary and non-literary texts, the arts, and history of at least one other country or people with which the target language may now be associated](#)
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- › [Coverage of: Introductory knowledge of the political, social, and intellectual history of the country or culture with which the target language is or was originally associated](#)
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- › [Coverage of: Theories of, and differences between, first and second language acquisition](#)
- › [Coverage of: Similarities and differences between the target language and English](#)

For all other areas, you must submit either documentation of **coursework**, a **seminar** or **workshop**, or **school-based mentoring or coaching**.

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Initial License

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Initial

The following list displays all possible paths available to receive the license you have selected. The specific requirements to satisfy each path are also listed. The paths available to you will vary depending upon any current licenses you hold. To find out more about a specific requirement, click the requirement.

2003 : Massachusetts general requirements

- › [Completion of a Massachusetts Foreign Language - \[Arabic\] 5-12 Approved Program](#)
- › [Subject matter test pending. Completion of an approved program for this field/level will satisfy this requirement](#)
- › [Possession of a bachelor's degree](#)
- › [Achieve a passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test](#)

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Initial License

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Initial

The following list displays all possible paths available to receive the license you have selected. The specific requirements to satisfy each path are also listed. The paths available to you will vary depending upon any current licenses you hold. To find out more about a specific requirement, click the requirement.

2003 : Massachusetts general requirements

- › [Completion of a Massachusetts Foreign Language - \[Arabic\] 5-12 Approved Program](#)
- › [Subject matter test pending. Completion of an approved program for this field/level will satisfy this requirement](#)
- › [Possession of a bachelor's degree](#)
- › [Achieve a passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test](#)

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Initial License

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Initial

The following list displays all possible paths available to receive the license you have selected. The specific requirements to satisfy each path are also listed. The paths available to you will vary depending upon any current licenses you hold. To find out more about a specific requirement, click the requirement.

2003 : Massachusetts general requirements

- › [Completion of a Massachusetts Foreign Language - \[Arabic\] 5-12 Approved Program](#)
 - › [Subject matter test pending. Completion of an approved program for this field/level will satisfy this requirement](#)
 - › [Possession of a bachelor's degree](#)
 - › [Achieve a passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test](#)
- 

No MTEL option?

Arabic: Initial License

Academic: Teacher, Foreign Language - [Arabic], 5-12, Initial

The following list displays all possible paths available to receive the license you have selected. The specific requirements to satisfy each path are also listed. The paths available to you will vary depending upon any current licenses you hold. To find out more about a specific requirement, click the requirement.

2009 : Massachusetts general requirements

- [Completion of a Massachusetts Foreign Language - \[Arabic\] 5-12 Approved Program](#)
[Subject matter test pending. Completion of an approved program for this field/level will satisfy this requirement](#)
- [Possession of a bachelor s degree](#)
- [Achieve a passing score on the Communication and Literacy Skills test](#)

The BU Wheelock Master's of Teaching (MAT) program in Modern Foreign Language Education is the only approved program in MA for Arabic licensure!

Endorsed Programs



Find a Prep Program

Find a Preparation Program

*What kind of educator do you want to be?

Academic: Teacher



Foreign Language - [French]



*At what level do you wish to teach?

5-12



*What type of program do you wish to attend?

Post-Baccalaureate



What is your location preference?

--ALL--



[https://gateway.edu.state.ma.us/elar/licensurehelp/
ProgramSearchPageControl.ser](https://gateway.edu.state.ma.us/elar/licensurehelp/ProgramSearchPageControl.ser)

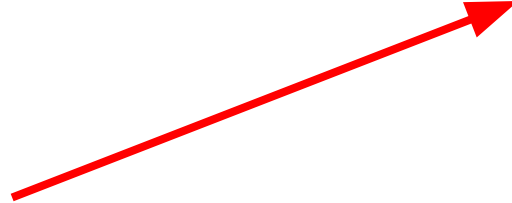


Endorsed Programs

Preparation Plan Programs: Post-Baccalaureate

Organization ▲	Field	Level	Type	Program Category	Approval Status	Radial Distance
UMass/Boston 100 Morrissey Boulevard Boston MA 02125 Telephone: (617) 287-7492 WebSite: www.umb.edu Contact: Aimee C D'avignon	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Initial	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A
Gordon College 255 Grapevine Road Wenham MA 01984 Telephone: (978) 867-4814 WebSite: www.gordon.edu Contact: Janet Arndt	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Professional	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A
Framingham State University 100 State Street Framingham MA 01701 Telephone: (508) 626-4859 WebSite: www.framingham.edu Contact: Mary Grassetti	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Initial	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A
Gordon College 255 Grapevine Road Wenham MA 01984 Telephone: (978) 867-4814 WebSite: www.gordon.edu Contact: Janet Arndt	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Initial	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A

Endorsed Programs



Brandeis University 415 South Street Waltham MA 02454 Telephone: (781) 736-2002 WebSite: www.brandeis.edu Contact: Marya Levenson	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Initial	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A
Boston University 2 Silber Way Boston MA 02215 Telephone: (617) 353-3240 WebSite: www.bu.edu/education Contact: Donna Lehr	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Initial	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A
Mount Holyoke College 50 College Street So. Hadley MA 01075 Telephone: (413) 538-2390 WebSite: www.mtholyoke.edu Contact: Sandra Lawrence	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Initial	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A
UMass/Amherst 813 N. Pleasant Street Amherst MA 01003 Telephone: (413) 545-7680 WebSite: www.umass.edu Contact: Raymond Sharick	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Initial	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A
Simmons University 300 The Fenway Boston MA 02115 Telephone: (617) 521-2553 WebSite: www.simmons.edu Contact: Helen Guttentag	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Initial	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A
Boston College 140 Commonwealth Avenue Campion Hall 102 Chestnut Hill MA 02467 Telephone: (617) 552-4214 WebSite: www.bc.edu Contact: Christine Power	Academic: Teacher:FL - French	5-12	Initial	Post-Baccalaureate	Approved	N/A

Are you ready?

- Find and apply for an endorsed teacher education program
 - If you plan to start at the **Initial** teaching license
- Create an **ELAR** account on the **DESE** website
 - “Educator License & Renewal”
- Register for your **MTEs**
- Submit your application for licensure in **ELAR**)
 - You can do this before you take your MTEL

<https://gateway.edu.state.ma.us/elar/common/EducatorWelcomePagePageControl.ser>

Good luck!

If you have questions, I am happy to help!

critz@bu.edu

[http://www.bu.edu/wheelock/academics/graduate/
mat/foreign-language/](http://www.bu.edu/wheelock/academics/graduate/mat/foreign-language/)