

Educator Licensure and License Renewal

Design Principles & Policy Options

For Discussion Purposes Only

Design Principles

Entering the Profession

To enter the profession, teacher and principal candidates will have strong knowledge of content, demonstrated classroom skills and ability to advance student learning, and the skills and disposition required to meet the needs of Massachusetts students to ensure our students are ready for success after high school.

Continuing in the Profession

To continue in the profession, educators will show evidence that they have made an impact on student learning, evidence of strong knowledge of what they teach and demonstrated pedagogical competency to deliver content. The requirements for advancement and renewal will support the continuous growth of educators.

Pathways to Leadership

The licensure process will permit knowledgeable, talented, and dedicated aspiring leaders (teachers and administrative system leaders) the opportunity to make a positive impact on Massachusetts students. The process will add value and create advancement and pathway opportunities for aspiring leaders (teachers, school and system leaders). As professionals continue in the licensure process, the requirements for advancement will support the continuous growth of educators.

Efficient Processes

To ensure an accessible process for all that helps to get effective teachers and principals in classrooms, schools and school systems across the Commonwealth, licensure needs to be efficient and utilize resources effectively. The system must be sustainable and allow flexibility to meet and adapt to changing conditions in the profession and across the Commonwealth.