

IOWA

Institutional Authorization

Western Governors University is authorized to provide its educational programs in Iowa through a state authorization reciprocity agreement (NC-SARA). More information about NC-SARA is available on their [website](#).

Licensure Pathway

Candidates applying for a teaching license in Iowa do so primarily through the reciprocity pathway. Licensing through reciprocity means that candidates must first acquire a Utah teaching license before applying for licensure in their state. Not all states require reciprocity for all programs. Those enrolled in an advanced program will use the direct licensure pathway. Direct licensure is available when a state allows candidates to be licensed upon completion of a program that is approved in the state of Utah. Candidates apply for licensure upon WGU confirming completion of an out-of-state program. They are not required to obtain a Utah license. Complete details on licensure requirements in the state of Iowa can be found in the [licensure handbook](#).

Educational Prerequisites

WGU's education preparation programs satisfy the applicable educational prerequisites for professional licensure in Iowa for the following licenses:

WGU Program	License
BA Elementary Education** MAT Elementary Education**	Teacher - Elementary Classroom (K-6)
BA Special Education and Elementary Education (Dual Licensure)**	Teacher – Elementary Classroom, K-6 and Instructional Strategist I K-8 Mild to Moderate
BS Mathematics Education (Secondary)^ MAT Mathematics Education (Secondary)^ MA Mathematics Education (Secondary)*^	Mathematics (5-12)
BS Science Education (Secondary Biological Science) MA Science Education (Secondary Biological Science)*	Biological Science, (5-12)
BS Science Education (Secondary Chemistry) MA Science Education (Secondary Chemistry)*	Chemistry (5-12)
BS Science Education (Secondary Earth Science) MA Science Education (Secondary Earth Science)*	Earth Science (5-12)
BS Science Education (Secondary Physics) MA Science Education (Secondary Physics)*	Physics (5-12)
MAT Science Education (Secondary)	Biological Science, (5-12) <i>or</i> Chemistry (5-12) <i>or</i> Earth Science (5-12) <i>or</i> Physics (5-12)
MAT English Education (Secondary)	English Language Arts (5-12)
Endorsement English Language Learning (PreK-12)* MA English Language Learning (PreK-12)*	English as a Second Language (ESL) K-12

*Advanced programs are for already licensed teachers who want to add an additional teaching area or field to their licenses. These programs are not intended for aspiring teachers seeking initial licensure.

^These programs meet most but not all of the educational prerequisites for licensure in Iowa. Iowa requires a course in computer programming for the secondary mathematics standard license. WGU programs do not include this coursework. If a candidate has not completed a course in computer programming prior to enrolling at WGU, Iowa will issue a Regional Exchange license which will allow the candidate to teach for a year while completing this course at an Iowa institution.

**These programs meet most but not all of the educational prerequisites for licensure in Iowa. Iowa requires certain content coursework for elementary education and special education. Please see these links for more information: [K-6 Elementary](#) and [K-8 Instructional Strategist I](#). If a candidate has not completed this coursework, Iowa will issue a Regional Exchange license which will allow the candidate to teach for a year while completing the coursework at an Iowa institution.

Iowa requires that Elementary Education teacher candidates complete pre-clinical experiences at two different levels, one primary and one intermediate. Teacher candidates in programs seeking a grades 5-12 license must complete their practicum experience at the secondary (high school) level.

To successfully obtain an endorsement to an Iowa license, an individual may add other endorsements to that license upon proper application, provided current requirements for that endorsement, as listed in the Iowa Administrative Code Sections [282-13.26 to 282-13.28](#), have been met. Additional details on adding an endorsement to an Iowa teaching license are available in the [licensure handbook](#).

The following programs are not available in Iowa (due to Iowa license restrictions, WGU does not currently allow enrollment into Middle Grades programs in Iowa):

- *BA Special Education (Mild to Moderate)* – Iowa requires dual endorsement for Special Education certification. Therefore, students in Iowa may not enroll in this program, as they will not receive a teaching certificate.
- *MS Educational Leadership* – Iowa has not approved WGU’s program in Educational Leadership.
- *BS Mathematics Education (Middle Grades)*
- *MAT Mathematics Education (Middle Grades)*
- *MA Mathematics Education (Middle Grades)*
- *BS Science Education (Middle Grades)*
- *MA Science Education (Middle Grades)*

Consumer Complaint Information

Students can refer to [this information](#) regarding the complaint process for those attending WGU in Iowa.

Military Information

Iowa supports the “Troops to Teachers” program. More information about this program may be found at [this link](#). Military spouses should reference [Iowa Code Annotated 272.8](#) for licensure opportunities.