State of Illinois
Licensure Information

Graduates from KU’s School of Education teach all over the United States and throughout the world. Specific licensure/certification requirements vary by state, and every student’s licensure situation is different.

The University of Kansas is committed to helping you make the right educational decision. Our Admissions Advisors and licensure resources are available to assist you in understanding licensure/certification in your state prior to enrolling at the University of Kansas.

The Illinois State Board of Education has a specific department for teacher licensure, called the Division of Educator Licensure. The Illinois Division of Educator Licensure is the authoritative source for the most up-to-date and comprehensive information about licensure and certification in Illinois. You should not make decisions about your education or teaching career in Illinois without checking with the Illinois Division of Educator Licensure that you are on track to fulfill the requirements that will apply in your particular situation.

Will this online Master’s program meet the requirements for an endorsement to my existing teaching license in Illinois?
No program can guarantee the issuance of an endorsement to an out-of-state teaching license. In each state, the process for obtaining an endorsement may involve factors other than the academic content of a given program. However, based on the information currently made available online by the Illinois Division of Educator Licensure, this online Master’s program in Special Education should meet the academic criteria for a graduate to seek an endorsement to an existing teaching license in Illinois, in Special Education. Additional requirements may be necessary to obtain an endorsement, as referenced in this link to the Illinois Division of Educator Licensure website:  http://www.isbe.net/licensure/html/out_of_state.htm

Because requirements can change over time and the state’s regulatory authority is the ultimate source for decisions about licensure, we strongly recommend that you check with the Illinois State Board of Education’s Division of Educator Licensure to determine if your selected program would meet the criteria that are relevant to your career goals in that state.

Will this online Master’s program meet the requirements for initial teaching licensure in Illinois?
No program can guarantee licensure: in each state, the application process for licensure involves factors other than the academic content of a given program. All candidates interested in this program should contact the Illinois Division of Educator Licensure or the appropriate Regional Office to determine how this endorsement program (not an initial licensure program) can be used toward licensure in their state. These links may be helpful:

http://www.isbe.net/licensure/
http://www.isbe.net/regionaloffices/Default.htm
Additionally, in many states the steps to initial licensure can be simplified and streamlined greatly if the individual applying for initial licensure received an initial teaching license from the state in which he or she completed an initial licensure program. Because requirements can change over time and the state’s regulatory authority is the ultimate source for decisions about licensure, we strongly recommend that you check with the Illinois State Board of Education to determine if your selected program would meet the criteria that are relevant to your career goals in that state.

Where can I find additional information?
The Illinois State Board of Education has a specific department for teacher licensure, called the Division of Educator Licensure. The Division of Educator Licensure has a self-service website with several helpful click-through roadmaps to determine an individual's path to licensure in the state.

- Out of State Requirements
  - Specific Requirements for each Illinois Credential
- Illinois Licensure, Endorsement and Approval Process
- FAQs from Illinois State Board of Education

Illinois State Board of Education
100 N First Street
Springfield, IL 62777-0001
General Number: (866) 262-6663 or (217) 782-4321
http://www.isbe.net/

Illinois State Board of Education – Chicago Office
100 W Randolph Street
Suite 14-300
Chicago, IL 60601
General Number: (312) 814-2220

Division of Educator Licensure
100 N First Street
Springfield, IL 62777-0001
Staff Number: (217) 557-6763