State of Missouri
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 Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is the authoritative source for the most up-to-date and comprehensive information about licensure and certification in Missouri. You should not make decisions about your education or teaching career in Missouri without checking with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education 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 Missouri?

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 by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 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 Missouri, in Special Education. Additional testing or other requirements may be necessary to obtain an endorsement, as referenced in this link to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website: https://dese.mo.gov/educator-quality/certification/teacher

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 Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education 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 Missouri?

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 Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to determine how this endorsement program (not an initial licensure program) can be used toward licensure in their state. 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 Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary 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 Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has an online-based service center for teacher licensure matters, including an online application system called the Educator Certification System, or ECS. The website includes several helpful click-through roadmaps to determine an individual’s path to obtaining a teaching certificate in the state.

**Additional Resources**
- Missouri Department of Education and Secondary Education Certification
- Missouri Department of Education and Secondary Education Teacher Certification

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
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Jefferson City, MO 65101
General Number: (573) 751-4212
http://dese.mo.gov/