

Tiered Licensure Explained

Tier 1 License

- May apply to you if you have:
 - A Bachelor's Degree
 - A job offer
 - Do not have official scores on file for all required licensure exams
- **Good for one (1) year and can be renewed three times**
- **BSU does not recommend you for this license**

Tier 2 License

- May apply to you if you have:
 - A Bachelor's Degree
 - Completed an approved program (FT or DLiTE)
 - A job offer
 - Official scores on file for all required licensure exams (Basic Skills, Pedagogy & Content), but you have not passed one or more Pedagogy or Content subtests
- **Good for two (2) years and can be renewed three times**
- Please Note:
 - BSU can only recommend you for a Tier 2 license if you have official scores on file for all required licensure exams (Basic Skills, Pedagogy & Content)
 - If you do not have official scores on file for all required licensure exams, you may still be eligible for a Tier 2 license, but BSU will not recommend you
- **TAKE YOUR TESTS – HAVE OFFICIAL SCORES ON FILE – AND GET BSU TO RECOMMEND YOU FOR LICENSURE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!!**
This will protect you from future licensure changes.

Tier 3 License

- May apply to you if you have:
 - A Bachelor's Degree
 - Completed an approved program (FT or DLiTE)
 - Official passing scores on file for Pedagogy and Content Exams
 - You need to have official scores on file for the Basic Skills exams, but they do not need to be passing
 - **Good for three (3) years and can be renewed indefinitely**
 - **BSU does recommend you for this license**

Tier 4 License

- May apply to you if you have:
 - A Bachelor's Degree
 - Completed an approved program (FT or DLiTE)
 - Official passing scores on file for all required licensure exams (Basic Skills, Pedagogy & Content)
 - Three years of teaching experience in Minnesota
 - Most recent summative evaluation must not have resulted in an improvement plan
- **Good for five (5) years and can be renewed indefinitely**
- Generally speaking, BSU will not recommend you for this license – because you need to have 3 years of teaching experience in the licensure area*

*We will most likely recommend you for a Tier 2 or 3 license. However, some FasTrack and SPED students, teaching in their own classroom, may qualify for a Tier 4 license at the time BSU recommends them for licensure.

Other Important Notes:

Instructions on how to apply for your license can be found on the Professional Education website:

BSU → Professional Education → How to apply for your license

<https://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/professional-education/applying/>

Be sure to read the instructions on the PELSB application very carefully and follow them closely. If you have questions regarding which application you qualify for, contact the Advising Coordinator/Certification Officer – Aspen Easterling.

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