

TENNESSEE

Institutional Authorization

WGU is known in Tennessee as “Western Governors University Tennessee” or “WGU Tennessee.” WGU Tennessee was established through a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) between Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, and Robert W. Mendenhall, President of Western Governors University, on July 9, 2013. WGU is eligible to offer its programs in Tennessee based upon this Memorandum of Understanding.

Licensure Pathway

Candidates applying for a teaching license in Tennessee do so through 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 Tennessee as well as information on applying using the direct licensure pathway can be found in the [licensure handbook](#).

Educational Prerequisites

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

WGU Program	License
BA Elementary Education MAT Elementary Education	Elementary Education K-5
BA Special Education and Elementary Education (Dual Licensure)	Elementary Education K-5 and Special Education Interventionist K-8 and 6-12
BA Special Education (Mild to Moderate)	Special Education Interventionist K-8 and 6-12
BS Mathematics Education (Middle Grades) MAT Mathematics Education (Middle Grades) MA Mathematics Education (Middle Grades)*	Middle Grades Mathematics 6-8
BS Science Education (Middle Grades) MA Science Education (Middle Grades)*	Middle Grades Science 6-8
BS Mathematics Education (Secondary) MAT Mathematics Education (Secondary) MA Mathematics Education (Secondary)*	Mathematics 6-12
BS Science Education (Secondary Biological Science) MA Science Education (Secondary Biological Science)*	Biology 6-12
BS Science Education (Secondary Chemistry) MA Science Education (Secondary Chemistry)*	Chemistry 6-12
BS Science Education (Secondary Earth Science) MA Science Education (Secondary Earth Science)*	Earth Science 6-12
BS Science Education (Secondary Physics) MA Science Education (Secondary Physics)*	Physics 6-12
MAT Science Education (Secondary)	Biology 6-12 <i>or</i> Chemistry 6-12 <i>or</i> Earth Science 6-12 <i>or</i> Physics 6-12
MAT English Education (Secondary)	English 6-12
Endorsement English Language Learning (PreK-12)* MA English Language Learning (PreK-12)*	English as a Second Language PreK-12
MS Educational Leadership*	Instructional Leader License

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

Consumer Complaint Information

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

Military Information

Per the [Tennessee State Board of Education Policy 5.502\(1\)\(g\)](#) - Licensure Requirements for Military Spouses: Educators who hold an active license (initial or professional) from a state other than Tennessee may be issued a Tennessee Practitioner License upon providing documentation of active military dependent status. Licensure applications for military spouses will be expedited. Prior to renewing or advancing the license, educators must submit passing scores on required content assessments.