

RHODE ISLAND

Institutional Authorization

Western Governors University is authorized to provide its educational programs in Rhode Island 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 Rhode Island do so through the direct licensure pathway. Information on the different licensure pathways is available in the [licensure handbook](#). Complete details on licensure requirements in the state of Rhode Island as well as information on applying using the direct licensure pathway can also be found in the [licensure handbook](#).

Educational Prerequisites

WGU's education preparation programs satisfy the applicable educational prerequisites for professional licensure in Rhode Island for the licenses listed below.

Students who will complete their student teaching in Rhode Island are required to have a Student Teaching Permit. Details on how to apply for this permit can be found in the [licensure handbook](#).

| WGU Program | License |
|---|---|
| BA Elementary Education MAT Elementary Education | Elementary Education Teacher, Grades 1-6 |
| BA Special Education and Elementary Education (Dual Licensure) | Elementary Education Teacher Grades 1-6 and Special Education Teacher Grades 1-6 |
| BA Special Education (Mild to Moderate)^ [^] MAT Special Education^ [^] | Special Education Grades 1-6, 5-8, or 7-12 |
| BS Mathematics Education (Middle Grades) MAT Mathematics Education (Middle Grades) MA Mathematics Education (Middle Grades)* [^] | Middle Grades Mathematics Teacher, Grades 5-8 |
| BS Science Education (Middle Grades) MA Science Education (Middle Grades)* [^] | Middle Grades Science Teacher, Grades 5-8 |
| BS Mathematics Education (Secondary) MAT Mathematics Education (Secondary) MA Mathematics Education (Secondary)* | Secondary Grades Mathematics Teacher, Grades 7-12 |
| BS Science Education (Secondary Biological Science) MA Science Education (Secondary Biological Science)* | Secondary Grades Biology Teacher, Grades 7-12 |
| BS Science Education (Secondary Chemistry) MA Science Education (Secondary Chemistry)* | Secondary Grades Chemistry Teacher, Grades 7-12 |
| BS Science Education (Secondary Physics) MA Science Education (Secondary Physics)* | Secondary Grades Physics Teacher, Grades 7-12 |
| MAT Science Education (Secondary) | Secondary Grades Biology Teacher, Grades 7-12 <i>or</i> Secondary Grades Chemistry Teacher, Grades 7-12 <i>or</i> Secondary Grades Physics Teacher, Grades 7-12 |
| MAT English Education (Secondary) | Secondary Grades English Teacher, Grades 7-12 |
| Endorsement English Language Learning (PreK-12)* MA English Language Learning (PreK-12)* | English to Speakers of Other Languages, PK-12 |
| MS Educational Leadership* | Building Level Administrator, Grades PK-12 |

*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.

[^]WGU's programs do not meet all the educational prerequisites to add a middle grades endorsement in science or mathematics to an existing Rhode Island license. Rhode Island Educators who want to add a middle grades (5-8) endorsement to an existing teaching certificate are required to complete a 45-hour practicum in a middle grades classroom. This practicum is not part of the WGU programs and must be arranged as part of the Teacher Work Sample at the end of the program.

Rhode Island educators who wish to add new certificate areas must complete specific coursework or an approved program, depending on their existing license and the type of license they wish to add. Details on adding an endorsement to a Rhode Island teaching license are available in the [licensure handbook](#).

^{^^} WGU has not made a determination as to whether these programs will meet the educational prerequisites for professional licensure in Rhode Island as they have recently been introduced in the state.

The following programs are not available in Rhode Island:

- *BS Science Education (Secondary Earth Science)* – Rhode Island does not have an Earth Science license.
- *MA Science Education (Secondary Earth Science)* – Rhode Island does not have an Earth Science license.
- *MAT Science Education (Secondary) if seeking the Earth Science license* – Rhode Island does not have an Earth Science license.

Consumer Complaint Information

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

Military Information

Military members and military spouses should reference the Rhode Island General Statutes Title 5 [Section 5-87-1](#) and [Section 5-88-1](#) for information on licensure opportunities.