CAREER PATHWAYS: TEACHING K-12

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

Laws and regulations for becoming a teacher are created and governed at the state level, and can vary.

Specific requirements for Massachusetts can be found here. Here is a guide to finding requirements for all other states. Be VERY sure to research each state’s requirements, as they may vary significantly, and change over time.

SUBJECT

You will want to consider what subjects you want to teach, such as (but not limited to):
- English
- History
- Mathematics
- Science

GRADE LEVEL

You’ll need to consider which grade levels you are interested in teaching:
- Elementary
- Middle
- High

OTHER SPECIALITIES

There are other specialties that may be a good fit for you.

Teaching English Language Learners (ELL’s): You can specialize in teaching English to those who do speak it as a primary language.

Special Education: You can specialize in the particular learning needs of those with non-typical abilities.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY DEGREE PROGRAM

Pursuing a graduate degree in education through Tufts Plus Program - Education, or another graduate program.

TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Meeting certification requirements through participation in programs such as Teach for America, Boston Teacher Residency, or Citizen Schools.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Another option to launch your teaching career is at an Independent school. This is an option for you if you’ve already had a significant amount of classroom teaching experience. Requirements for entry teaching positions at independent and private schools vary, and some have teaching mentorship and residency programs.