

DESE Sheltered English Language Immersion Requirements

Q: What does it mean to be “SEI Endorsed”?

A: Having an SEI Endorsement means that English Learners (ELs) can be placed in your class if you are a Core Academic Teacher (CAT). If an EL needs to be placed in the classroom of an unendorsed CAT, the teacher will have one year from the date of the student assignment to complete the SEI endorsement course.

Q: How do I know if I am a “Core Academic Teacher” for purposes of the SEI Endorsement requirement?

A: Core Academic Teachers for the purposes of SEI instruction include those who teach:

- Civics and Government
- Early Childhood
- Economics
- Elementary
- English
- History and Geography
- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Reading
- Science
- Special Education– Moderate Disabilities & Severe Disabilities

Q: Who is NOT required to get an SEI Endorsement?

A: The following are NOT required to get an SEI Endorsement:

- Non-core subject teachers (art, music, computer science, foreign language, physical education, theater, business, etc.)
- Speech-language Pathologists
- Paraprofessionals
- Guidance Counselors
- Substitute Teachers
- Tutors School librarians
- School nurses (not eligible to earn the SEI Endorsement)
- Retired educators and unemployed educators

Q: How do I get an SEI endorsement?

A: You may qualify for the SEI Teacher endorsement through *one* of the following pathways:

- Enroll in and successfully complete a [for-cost course](#) sponsored by a DESE-approved vendor; **or**

- Complete a Massachusetts-approved educator preparation program for the applicable license; **or**
- Take and pass the [SEI MTEL](#); **or**
- Hold an ESL license in Massachusetts; **or**
- Possess a Bachelor's degree in a DESE-approved major or DESE-approved graduate-level training. *If you believe that you may qualify for the Endorsement by virtue of having the appropriate degree or graduate level training, you may submit materials to the Office of Educator Licensure for review.

You may qualify for the SEI Administrator endorsement through *one of the following pathways*:

- Possession of a Massachusetts SEI Teacher endorsement, or
- Successful completion of a Department-approved course of study for administrators specific to SEI.

Q: In which SEI Endorsement Course category am I eligible to participate?

A: The SEI Endorsement course category you are eligible to participate in depends upon your role, and which, if any, previous EL category training that you have completed.

Q: What is a Teacher Full Course?

A: The Teacher Full Course is intended for Core Academic teachers or instructional coaches who have completed zero or 1 EL Category training. It consists of 45 hours plus homework between sessions. There are 12 face-to-face sessions, 8 online sessions, and 1 Capstone face-to-face session. As a result of taking this Course, you will receive an SEI Teacher Endorsement, eligibility for an SEI Administrator Endorsement, 67.5 PDPs, and 3 optional graduate credits (at cost from a participating college/university).

Q: What are Capstone sessions?

A: During the Capstone dates educators present a final project to their class. Educators are required to attend only 1 Capstone session.

Q: Can I complete an online SEI course?

A: No. You will not be able to earn the SEI Endorsement by completing an online course.

Q: How much is the [SEI MTEL](#)?

A: The examination fee is \$155, but you will also need to pay a \$30 non-refundable registration fee. For more information, visit *the website listed below*.

Q: I have an ESL license. Do I still need to apply for the SEI endorsement?

A: Yes. If you possess a valid ESL license, you automatically qualify for the SEI Teacher Endorsement but must still apply for the endorsement through ELAR.

Q: I just passed the ESL MTEL. Can I get an SEI endorsement?

A: No. Merely passing the ESL MTEL is not sufficient for getting an ESL license. Teachers who wish to add an ESL license must pass the ESL MTEL test and complete a 150-hour practicum in the role of the license. The 150-hour practicum requirement is a new requirement as of June 2012. Teachers who hold an ESL license are already qualified for the SEI Endorsement.

Q: I believe that I qualify for the SEI Endorsement because I have an appropriate degree or graduate level training; what should I do?

A: If you believe that you may qualify for the Endorsement by virtue of having the appropriate degree or graduate level training, you may submit materials (a portfolio) to the Office of Educator Licensure for a no-cost transcript review. For questions about applying for a transcript review please contact The Office of Educator Licensure at 781-338-6600.

Q: How do I apply for an SEI Endorsement?

1. Visit www.doe.mass.edu/educators and click on the ELAR logo on the right-hand side of the screen.
2. Enter your User Name and Password. If you are not sure of your User Name and Password, click on Forgot User name/Password.
3. After logging into ELAR, you may be asked to update some information or you may be directed right to the welcome screen. Please select "apply for a new license, or advance to the next level license".
4. Review the steps to apply for a license and click "next". Verify your profile information and click "next". On the following page, select "Endorsements" from the drop-down list and then select the appropriate SEI Endorsement (teacher), select the "Level" and "Type" and then and click "add".
5. Select the path to earn the endorsement and click "next". For teachers, there is either Path 1 (for those taking the ESE course, that have an ESL license, will pass the SEI MTEL, etc.) or Path 2 (a transcript review based on a related degree or graduate level training).
6. Click "next" to continue to the next page of the application. On the following page, update or enter your affidavit information and click "sign."
7. Click "okay" to continue to the next page of the application. Complete the application by clicking "sign" and then "okay". On the Payment screen, click "done".

Q: I have an Initial License. By when do I need to get the SEI endorsement?

A: As of July 1, 2014, all Core Academic Teachers must qualify for the SEI Endorsement to earn an Initial Teacher License.

Q: I have a Professional License. By when do I need to get the SEI endorsement?

A: Educators renewing a Primary area license on or after July 28, 2017, must earn a minimum of 150 Professional Development Points (PDPs).

Point Distribution as of July 1, 2016 Primary Area	New Point Distribution as of July 28, 2017 Primary Area
At least 90 PDPs in the content area of the license or in pedagogy, with no less than 60 PDPs in or related to the content area of the educator's Primary area license	At least 15 PDPs in content
At least 15 PDPs related to Sheltered English Immersion or English as a Second Language	At least 15 PDPs related to Sheltered English Immersion or English as a Second Language
At least 15 PDPs related to training in strategies for effective schooling for students with disabilities and the instruction of students with diverse learning styles	At least 15 PDPs related to training in strategies for effective schooling for students with disabilities and the instruction of students with diverse learning styles
The remaining required 30 PDPs may be earned through either "elective" activities that address other educational issues and topics that improve student learning, or additional content, and/or pedagogy	At least 15 PDPs in pedagogy
	The remaining required 90 PDPs may be earned through any combination of "elective" activities that address other educational issues and topics that improve student learning, additional content, or pedagogy

Q: I have a Professional License in a non-core subject (i.e. Art, Physical Education, etc.).

Do I need to get an SEI endorsement?

A: No, but as of July 1, 2016, you will need to meet the requirements set forth above if you wish to renew your Professional License.

Q: I have a Preliminary License. Will I need to get my SEI Endorsement prior to getting an Initial License?

A: Yes. As of July 1, 2014, all Core Academic Teachers must qualify for the SEI Endorsement to earn an Initial Teacher License.

Q: I hold an endorsement similar to the SEI Endorsement from another state. Will I be able to transfer this Endorsement to my Massachusetts educator license?

A: No. DESE will not recognize SEI Endorsements from any other state.

Q: Will I need to renew the SEI Endorsement?

A: No. Once you obtain the SEI Teacher Endorsement, you do not need to renew it.

Q: I am a Core Academic Teacher who renewed my Professional License in May 2016. Can I have EL students in my classes?

A: After August 1, 2016, EL students may be assigned only to Core Academic Teachers who have qualified for an SEI Endorsement or will earn an SEI endorsement within one year.

Q: What happens if I don't have an SEI Endorsement but I have ELs in my classroom?

A: You have one year to get an SEI Endorsement from the date of assignment of an EL.

Q: I have more questions about SEI Endorsement. Where can I get more information?

A: If you have questions about the SEI Endorsement as it relates to your license please contact the Office of Educator Licensure Call Center at 781-338-6600. The call center is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

[Click here for tests for educators licensure](#)