

Glossary of Licensure Class Level and Routes to Licensure Endorsements by Approved NC EPPs

The following operational definitions provide transparency between the NCDPI Educator Preparation and NCDPI Licensure Units, the Approved NC Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs), and the public.

To earn an education license in North Carolina, the individual must complete a program within an Approved North Carolina EPP. A list of all Approved NC EPPs may be found on the NCDPI Educator Preparation website: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/educators/educator-preparation/approved-programs>

Common Abbreviations:

- **EPP:** Educator Preparation Program
- **IHE:** Institution of Higher Education
- **NCDPI:** North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

<u>Licensure Class Level</u>	<u>Degree program defined by the IHE</u>	<u>Other Notes</u>	<u>Examples of Degree Program Training</u>
A	Bachelor’s Degree Program	Individuals who complete an approved EPP training program that leads to an initial A-level license in the field/subject area issued by NCDPI. The individual does not already hold a license in this subject area issued by NCDPI.	Enrollment in an approved EPP that, upon successful completion of all program requirements, will lead to eligibility for an initial A-level license in North Carolina.
M (P – school administrator principal)	Master’s Degree Program	Classified by the IHE as stated in the institutions academic catalog. Note: School Principal Class Level will appear as a “P”	Enrollment in a specific master’s degree program within an approved EPP that, upon successful completion of all program requirements, will lead to eligibility for an M-level license in North Carolina.
S	Advanced/Specialist Program	A specialist’s class level is designated when the program is not classified as a master’s or doctoral degree program within the Institution of Higher Education (IHE) as stated in the institutions academic catalog.	These are advanced degrees currently eligible in NC required for some positions including, but not limited to: Superintendent, School Psychologist, etc.
D	Doctoral Program	Classified by the IHE as stated in the institutions academic catalog.	Enrollment in a specific doctoral degree program within an approved EPP program that, upon successful completion of all program requirements, will lead to eligibility for a D-level license in North Carolina.

Additional Routes to Earning a North Carolina Education License

Additional Routes to Licensure	Other Notes	Example of Additional Route to Licensure
<p style="text-align: center;">M*</p> <p>Master’s level – Initial Level License Only</p>	<p>Individuals who complete a master’s degree program that leads to initial level license (A-level) with an approved NC EPP</p> <p style="text-align: center;">and/or</p> <p>Individuals who complete an approved post-baccalaureate licensure only program leading to initial level license (A-level) with an approved NC EPP</p>	<p>An individual who holds a master’s degree in a content area, and elects to enroll in an approved NC EPP to complete the licensure training requirements that are outstanding for teaching in the content area of the master’s degree held.</p> <p>An additional master’s degree is NOT earned upon successful completion of all EPP’s program requirements.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">MAT</p> <p>Master’s of Arts in Teaching Only</p>	<p>Individuals who complete a specifically classified MAT program within an approved NC EPP as stated in the IHE’s academic catalog</p>	<p>Completion of the specific MAT program within an approved NC EPP leads to eligibility for licensure as well as a master’s degree</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">a/o</p> <p>Add-on only</p> <p>(P – school administrator principal)</p>	<p>Individuals who complete a specifically classified add-on or licensure-only add-on program with an approved NC EPP. Note: principal license may be added-on</p>	<p>Completion of the specific add-on program in an approved NC EPP. An EPP may not endorse add-on’s if they do not have the “add-on” designation, regardless if they are approved to offer the program at other levels. The “add-on” is a distinct designation requiring the EPP to first receive approval through NCDPI Educator Preparation Unit.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">R</p> <p>Residency Pathway</p>	<p>Refer to the NCDPI Webpage for more information: https://www.dpi.nc.gov/educators/educators-licensure/residency-licensure</p>	<p>Refer to the EPP and the Local Education Authority (LEA) for more information about this specific pathway.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <p>Endorsement</p>	<p>Currently, Computer Educator Endorsement (18079) is the only licensure area offered in the endorsement route. The endorsement can only be issued by an approved EPP <u>AND</u> if the candidate is fully licensed in another teaching area.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">n/a</p>