



---

## Licensing, Educator Advancement and Development

# Information Bulletin

LEAD 21-001

December 2021

---

**Date:** Monday, December 20, 2021

**To:** Speech-Language Pathologists, District Administrators, CESA Directors,  
Special Education Directors, Other Interested Parties

**From:** Jennifer Kammerud, Director *JK*  
LEAD Team (Licensing, Educator Advancement, and Development)

**Subject:** Speech-Language Pathologist Licensure

This bulletin is meant to answer questions regarding how speech-language pathologists are licensed in Wisconsin public school districts. Specific topics covered include:

- [Lapse in time from program completion to licensure.](#)
- [Out-of-state eligibility.](#)
- [Eligibility with a license through the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services.](#)
- [Completing Statutory Requirements](#) (Stipulations).
- [Contracting for speech-language pathology services.](#)
- [Advancing a license to a school administrator license.](#)
- [Additional resources.](#)

- 1. I completed my master's degree at an approved Wisconsin preparation program, but never applied for a license through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). How do I know if I qualify for a school speech-language pathologist license?**

You should contact the certification officer in the school, department, or college of education at the institution you attended. They will tell you if they have, or can,

endorse you for a school speech language pathologist license with the Department of Public Instruction.

**2. I completed my master's degree in another state. Am I eligible to apply for a school speech-language pathologist license in Wisconsin through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction?**

Your eligibility for a school speech-language pathologist license depends on whether the master's degree program you completed is a comparable, K-12 school-based preparation program, resulting in a teaching license as a school speech-language pathologist.

In some states, school speech-language pathologists are classified as teachers, while other classify them as related-services providers. . It is important to know whether the license you hold from the other state is classified as a teaching license or as a related services license.

The licenses issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction to speech-language pathologists are classified as teaching licenses. This means that in addition to requirements that are specific to speech-language pathology, candidates are subject to the requirements in state statute specific to teacher licensing, including student teaching and other pedagogical requirements. If your license from another state is classified as a teaching license you may be eligible to apply through either the [out-of-state or reciprocity pathway](#) to license. Whether you have to complete additional work for your Wisconsin teaching license will depend on which of those pathways are applicable to you and what you completed in your state.

If the license from the other state is classified as a related services license, you are eligible to hold a one-year license with stipulations while completing additional requirements for full, tier II provisional licensure in WI. This license can be renewed up to two additional years, for a total of three years, as long as evidence is provided that you are making progress to complete requirements. The three-year limit is due to federal requirements for qualified teachers under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

**3. I have a license from the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services in speech-language pathology. Can I work in a Wisconsin School?**

In order to work in a Wisconsin public school you must hold a license from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). You are eligible for a tier I license with stipulations from the DPI with your speech-language pathology license issued through the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services' Hearing and Speech Examining Board.

You will be able to transition to a tier II license using the year of work experience you receive under a one-year license with stipulations provided you have also completed:

- Training regarding children with disabilities.

- Instruction in the study of minority group relations, of which one component is the instruction in the history, culture, and tribal sovereignty of the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands in Wisconsin).
- Demonstrated competency in resolving conflicts between students and staff; assisting students in methods of resolving conflicts; and dealing with crises including violent, disruptive, potentially violent or disruptive situations that may arise in school or at school activities.
- Training in teacher responsibilities.

[Information on how to complete these requirements can be found in question six.](#)

**4. I have been issued a one-year license with stipulations as a school speech-language pathologist. How do I obtain the tier II provisional license?**

Up to three one-year licenses with stipulations are available to you. You can work in a school under a one-year license with stipulations while you complete one of the following options.

Option 1: Take your coursework to an approved school-based speech-language pathology program and ask that the program evaluate your transcripts. The program will identify any requirements you will need to complete to obtain their institutional endorsement for a tier II provisional license.

Option 2: Complete the stipulations identified in the email that you received from our office when we issued your one-year license with stipulation for school speech-language pathology.

**5. What does it mean to have one or more statutory stipulations on a license?**

For the most part, educators in Wisconsin are licensed based on the completion of a state-approved educator preparation program. All state-approved educator preparation programs in Wisconsin must incorporate the applicable statutory requirements in Wis. Stat. §118.19 and Wis. Administrative Code PI 34 subchapter IV into their approved programs. These statutory requirements include the requirement that in most cases, licensed Wisconsin educators must show that they have had specific education and have demonstrated their competence in certain identified areas. Some of these requirements are specific to a particular license type, and some of these requirements apply to all educator licenses.

It is not likely that an approved educator preparation program based outside of Wisconsin is subject to all of the same statutory requirements in their in-state programs. As a result, applicants for a Wisconsin educator license who completed their program outside of Wisconsin will typically not have fulfilled all the statutory requirements for a Wisconsin educator license. The following are the typical stipulations for school speech-language pathologist candidates:

- Minority group relations.
- Conflict resolution.
- Teacher responsibilities, including student teaching.
- Children with disabilities.
- Professional ethics, including mandatory reporting requirements.

## 6. How do I satisfy the statutory stipulations as a speech-language pathologist?

The following stipulations are common for those who have received a tier I license as a speech-language pathologist. The information that follows describes ways to complete these stipulations.

- *Teacher responsibilities, including student teaching* [Wis. Stats. §118.19 (3)]  
Complete one year of successful experience serving as a school speech-language pathologist in a Wisconsin school while working under the one-year license with stipulations. This experience can be verified by your school on the [PI-1613 Employment Verification form](#).
- *Conflict resolution requirements* [Wis. Stats. §118.19 (9)] can be completed through approved [coursework or professional development](#), or a letter from your school supervisor attesting that you have demonstrated competency in all of the following:
  1. Resolving conflicts between pupils and between pupils and school staff.
  2. Assisting pupils in learning methods of resolving conflicts between pupils and between pupils and school staff, including training in the use of peer mediation to resolve conflicts between pupils.
  3. Dealing with crises, including violent, disruptive, potentially violent or potentially disruptive situations that may arise in school or at activities supervised by a school as a result of conflicts between pupils or between pupils and other persons.
- *Mandatory reporting training*, can be satisfied by completing the following [online tutorial](#). At the end of this online module, you should print a certificate of completion.
- *Minority Group Relations stipulation* [Wis. Stats. §118.19 (8)] requires instruction in the study of minority group relations, including instruction in the history, culture and tribal sovereignty of the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands located in this state. Instruction can be found through approved [professional development or coursework](#). Additional instruction on American Indian tribes in Wisconsin can also be found on Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's [American Indian Studies Program](#).
- *The Children with Disabilities (Special Education) stipulation* [PI 34.022 (7) and Wis. Stats. §115.28 (7)(c)] requires the candidate to complete [training](#) in procedures used for assessing and providing education for children with disabilities, including the roles and responsibilities of regular and special education providers.

If you feel that you have already completed coursework that covers any of your statutory stipulations, provide a copy of the stipulation letter emailed to you to the college or university where you believe the content was provided. Ask that an official from this institution review our requirements, review your coursework and the specific course content for the course or courses that you believe meet Wisconsin's requirements, and have that person write us a letter, on letterhead stationery, and

bearing a signature, attesting that a specific course satisfies all of the requirements for a stipulation. Please do not provide the department with a transcript or a course description. The department must have an official who is in a position to meaningfully exercise their professional knowledge and judgment about your coursework make that determination. Attach the attestation letter to an email to our online help desk at <https://dpi.wi.gov/support/contact-us>.

**7. My employer is a hospital, but the local school district contracts with the hospital to provide speech language services to public school children. Am I required to hold the license through DPI?**

Yes. You will either need the tier II provisional license, tier III lifetime license or the one-year license with stipulations.

**8. My employer is a hospital, but I provide speech language services to public school children as a subcontracted staff member. I currently hold a tier II provisional license through DPI. Will the experience providing speech language services to these children count toward the six semesters of teaching experience needed to obtain a tier III lifetime license?**

Yes, if you taught while holding a tier II provisional license and you provided these services for a full semester.

**9. If I hold a speech-language pathologist license can I become an administrator later in my career?**

Yes, if you complete the other requirements to be an administrator. As speech-language pathologist licenses are teaching licenses, the experience gained while holding the license counts towards the six semesters of required teaching experience required to be an administrator under PI 34 subchapter VIII.

**10. Where can I find more information about speech language services in Wisconsin schools?**

- Providing speech language services  
<https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/program/speech-language>
- Applying for a DPI license  
<https://dpi.wi.gov/licensing/apply-educator-license/other/speech-language>
- Submitting licensing questions  
<https://dpi.wi.gov/support/contact-us>
- PI 34 Administrative Code on licensure  
[https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin\\_code/pi/34.pdf](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/pi/34.pdf)