

ELEMENTARY: Certification Information/ Licensing

The information below is based on current guidelines issued by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). Updated 8/19.

Certification: Elementary K-6

Elementary Education majors will take the following two Praxis Tests:

- Elementary Education K-6: 5017** and
- Principles of Learning and Teaching K-6: 5622**
- Foundations of Reading Exam**

For more information on registering for Praxis and Foundations of Reading exams go to: <https://www.ets.org/praxis/ms/requirements/> and <http://www.ms.nesinc.com/>

FAQ:

☼ Do I have to take the Praxis II test in Sped to add my mild/moderate disability (SPED) endorsement?

NO. The completion of the 4 SPED courses in your degree program qualify you for the add-on in mild/moderate disabilities by means of an “approved program”.

☼ How can I certify for middle school grades or above and be highly qualified? Middle School grades are identified as grades 7 & 8. You may add secondary endorsements (grades 7-8 or 7-12) by coursework **OR** Praxis in a specialty area (i.e. English, Social Studies, etc.) to add higher level grades.

☼ How can my concentrations be used towards endorsements? MDE will accept a total of two (2) methods courses linked to your two concentrations for add-on endorsements. The methodology course does not count as part of the required 18 hours; it is added to the completed 18 for endorsement purposes only. You must have a letter grade of “C” or higher in all 21 hours to add the endorsement. **Accepted professional methodology courses include: EDEL 401; EDEL 402; EDEL 403; and EDEL 404.*

[Note: Beginning September 2014 changes were made to the requirements for the mathematics add-on through coursework – varying grades 7-8 or 7-12].

☼ How do I get more information on endorsements? Go to the Mississippi Department of Educator Licensure link at: <https://www.mdek12.org/OEL> and then click on “How To Add An Endorsement To My License”

Additional questions? Contact: Mississippi Department of Educator Licensure at (601) 359-3483 or Dr. Whitney Webb, UM Certification Officer (662) 915-7382 / whitdt@olemiss.edu