

FAQs for Licensure Changes Winter 2016

- **How do I know if I'm following the "current" or the "new" program?**
 - If you began your Elementary program before Winter 2016, you are in the "current" program.
 - If you began your Elementary program in Winter 2016 or later, you are in the "new" program.
 - If you began your Early Childhood program before Fall 2017, you are in the "current" program.
 - If you began your Early Childhood program in Fall 2017 or later, you are in the "new" program.
- **What if I finish before the "current" program's cutoff date? Will this impact me?**
 - No, if you finish your program before the deadline date you will receive your license and endorsements under the current requirements. There is no anticipated impact to you.
- **What are the "current" program cutoff dates?**
 - For elementary education, individuals that student teach by Spring 2017 will be eligible for a license for grades K-9, provided they're able to apply for the license by September 1, 2017 and were admitted before October 2015. All elementary students that student teach after Spring 2017 will earn a license for grades 1-6.
 - For middle grades, to qualify for an endorsement for grades 5-8 or 6-8, individuals must complete all requirements and have the endorsement issued to them on or before January 31, 2018.
 - For early childhood, individuals that student teach by Spring 2019 and are admitted before September 2017 will be eligible for licensure from birth to grade 3. All early childhood students that student teach after Spring 2019 will earn a license for birth to grade 2.
- **When will be the last time SCU 339/SCG 439 is offered?**
 - Fall 2017
- **What happens if I don't finish the requirements for my Middle Grade endorsement in time?**
 - Unfortunately, if you don't student teach by Fall 2017, or you don't complete SCU 339/SCG 439 by Fall 2017, or you don't apply for a middle grade endorsement in advance of the January 31, 2018 deadline, it means that ISBE will not issue a middle grade endorsement to you under the current requirements. Instead, you will need to complete an approved education program for middle grades.
- **What if I decide later that I want to teach Middle Grades but I will finish before January 2018?**
 - If you completed SCG 339/439 and the required endorsement area coursework, you will need to apply for the endorsement before ISBE's deadline. Endorsements at the middle school level under the current requirements must be issued on or before January 31, 2018. If you don't meet this deadline, you will need to complete an approved education program for middle grades.
- **What happens if I don't finish my Elementary program by the deadline?**
 - Your teaching license will be limited to grades 1 through 6 instead of Kindergarten through 9.
- **What happens if I don't finish my Early Childhood program by the deadline? Will I need to take additional classes?**
 - Your teaching license will be limited to birth through grade 2 instead of birth through grade 3.
- **What happens if I go to another state? How would this affect me?**
 - Each state has its own requirements for each level of teaching. You will want to check the requirements for that state and possibly consult with its Board of Education to determine your eligibility for a license in that state.
- **I'm in Physical Education, Special Education, or World Languages. How does this affect me?**
 - You will only have the ability to add a middle grade endorsement area to teach a subject for grades 5-8 *in addition to your main teaching area* if you meet the requirements and apply before Fall 2017. After that, you would need to complete an approved program for middle grades.
- **Does this impact undergrads and grads differently?**
 - No, the deadlines apply to all programs, regardless of level.