



Illinois State Board of Education

MIDDLE GRADES

An Overview of the new Middle Grades
licensure and endorsement requirements

Requirements effective February 1, 2018

Outline of Presentation

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Middle Grades (5-8) OVERVIEW

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Evolution of the Grade Band

Endorsements through the years



“Junior High” Endorsements

Until June 30, 1997:

- Junior high endorsements were issued until June 30, 1997, and could be attained by completing content-specific coursework. The endorsements allowed educators to teach specific content areas in grades 5-8 and 6-8.

“Middle School” Endorsements

On or After July 1, 1997-Until January 31, 2018:

- Middle school endorsements have been issued since July 1, 1997, and will continue to be issued until January 31, 2018. Middle school endorsements differ from the previous junior high endorsements because they require of six additional semester hours of Middle School professional education coursework, including:
- 3 semester hours of coursework in middle school philosophy, curriculum, and instruction methods for designing and teaching developmentally appropriate programs in middle grades, including content area reading instruction; and
- 3 semester hours of coursework in educational psychology focusing on the developmental characteristics of early adolescents and the role of the middle grade teacher in assessment, coordination, and referral of students to health and social services.
- These endorsements allow educators to teach specific content areas in grades 5-8 and 6-8.

“Middle Grades” Endorsements

On or After February 1, 2018:

- Middle Grades endorsements are currently being issued to educators who complete an Illinois approved middle grades program(s).

Beginning February 1, 2018:

- All “New (*First*)” middle grades endorsements will be earned by completing an Illinois approved middle grades program; and
- All “Subsequent (*Additional*)” middle grades endorsements will be earned by completing 21 semester hours of content-specific coursework, 3 semester hours of content-specific methodology coursework focused on the middle grades, and passing the applicable content test(s).
- Also, beginning February 1, 2018, middle grades endorsements will be available to educators prepared as middle grades educators at out-of-state institutions.
- These endorsements allow educators to teach specific content areas in grades 5-8.

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23 Illinois Administrative Code

23 Illinois Administrative Code

- Information regarding the requirements for middle grades endorsements can be found in the following sections of administrative code:
- 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Part 1, [Section 1.720](#) (Public Schools evaluation, recognition and supervision-Requirements for Teachers of Middle Grades)
- 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Part 21, [Section 21.10 & 21.100-21.150](#) (Standards for endorsements in the Middle Grades)
- 23 Illinois Administrative Code, Part 25, [Section 25.99](#) (Educator Licensure-Endorsements for the Middle Grades(Grades 5 through 8))

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Entitlements

Until January 31, 2018

- Currently, all Illinois institutions of higher education may enter entitlements for middle school endorsements. No approved program is required. Institutions can continue this practice until January 31, 2018.

On or after February 1, 2018,

- Only Illinois institutions of higher education that offer Illinois approved middle grades (5-8) programs may entitle educators for "New" (*First*) middle grades endorsements.
- All institutions able to enter entitlements for "Subsequent" (*Additional*) middle grades (5-8) endorsements are not limited only to those institutions that have approved middle grades programs.
 - Such a limitation could burden educators who are unable to complete coursework at an institution offering an approved program due to geographic location, course scheduling or other factors.
- Likewise, coursework for all subsequent middle grades (5-8) endorsements may be taken at any Illinois or out-of-state institution of higher education that is regionally accredited.
- At their discretion, institutions of higher education offering approved middle grades (5-8) programs may accept coursework taken at other institutions as credit toward program completion.

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Middle School Requirements Table

Requirements for educators seeking new (first) or subsequent (additional) Middle School endorsements **prior to February 1, 2018.**

As you can see those educators seeking a new (*first*) and subsequent (*additional*) middle school endorsement prior to February 1, 2018 have the same requirements.

I am a	REQUIREMENT
Early Childhood Education Teacher (B-2 or B-3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early Childhood education teachers do not qualify to add a middle school endorsement as it is outside their grade range.
Elementary Education Teacher (K-9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 semester hours in a content area 6 semester hours of middle school professional education coursework. <p><i>Middle School Endorsement will be issued for grades 5-8</i></p>
Elementary Education Teacher (1-6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 semester hours in a content area 6 semester hours of middle school professional education coursework. <p><i>Middle School Endorsement will be issued for grades 5-8</i></p>
Secondary Education Teacher (6-12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 semester hours in a content area 6 semester hours of middle school professional education coursework. <p><i>Middle School Endorsement will be issued for grades 6-8</i></p>
Special Teaching Educator (K-12) <i>Ex: Foreign Language, Music, PE, Visual Arts, Tech Specialist, Reading Specialist, etc.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 semester hours in a content area 6 semester hours of middle school professional education coursework. <p><i>Middle School Endorsement will be issued for grades 5-8</i></p>
Special Education Teacher (PK-21) <i>Ex: Learning Behavior Specialist I, Teacher of Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, etc.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 semester hours in a content area 6 semester hours of middle school professional education coursework. <p><i>Middle School Endorsement will be issued for grades 5-8</i></p>

Educators seeking **new (first)** or **subsequent (additional)** Middle School endorsements **prior to February 1, 2018** will have two options to apply.

Option 1

- Until January 31, 2018, educators may request institutions of higher education enter the endorsement into their ELIS account through the entitlement process.
- Educator would have one year to apply for the entitlement.

Option 2

- Or, until 11:59 pm CST on January 31, 2018, educators may apply for a middle school endorsement in their ELIS accounts and undergo transcript evaluation through ISBE.
- Educators would have two full fiscal years to satisfy any deficiencies identified during ISBE transcript evaluation.

For Example: An educator applies through their ELIS account on January 31, 2018, they would have until June 30, 2020 to fulfill any deficiencies.*

**The ISBE online webinar recording does not reflect the correct date shown above: 6/30/20. Please disregard recording which incorrectly states 6/3/21 instead.*

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Middle Grades Requirements Tables

The following tables indicate the middle grades endorsement requirements on or after February 1, 2018. Unlike the previous middle school endorsement requirements, the middle grades requirements are differentiated between two types of educators:

- Educators who have never held a middle school/middle grades endorsement
 - *These educator would be seeking a "new" (first) middle grades endorsement*
- Educator who currently hold a middle school/middle grades endorsement
 - *These educators would be seeking a "subsequent" (additional) middle grades endorsement*

Requirements for Educators seeking a new (first) Middle Grades (5-8) endorsement **on or after** **February 1, 2018**

I am a	REQUIREMENT	
Early Childhood Education Teacher (B-2 or B-3)	Complete a full/focused middle grades program offered at any Illinois institution with an approved middle grades program.	<p><u>What is a “focused” Program?</u> Institutions may, at their discretion, compare the coursework and clinical experiences already completed by the applicant to the standards for the endorsement sought and, based on this comparison, may identify the applicant for a “focused” program consisting of coursework, testing and experiences that he or she must complete in order to meet those standards.</p> <p><u>Full Programs:</u> Educators completing a full program would be required to complete a test of basic skills and the edTPA (for initial licensure).</p>
Elementary Education Teacher (K-9)	Complete a full/focused middle grades program offered at any Illinois institution with an approved middle grades program.	
Elementary Education Teacher (1-6)	Complete a full/focused middle grades program offered at any Illinois institution with an approved middle grades program.	
Secondary Education Teacher (6-12)	Complete a full/focused middle grades program offered at any Illinois institution with an approved middle grades program.	

Requirements for Educators seeking a new (first) Middle Grades (5-8) endorsement **on or after February 1, 2018**

The General Middle Grades test is anticipated to be available early spring, 2018. Until it is available, educators required to take the General Middle Grades test would take the Elementary/Middle grades 110 test.

<p>Special Teaching Educator (K-12) <i>Ex: Foreign Language, Music, PE, Visual Arts, Tech Specialist, Reading Specialist, etc.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 semester hours in a content area • 3 semester hours in content specific middle grades methods <p>TESTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content test • General Middle Grades test (<i>only required if educator is seeking endorsement outside the 4 core Middle Grade areas: Math, Science, Social Science & Language Arts</i>) <p><u>Waived if:</u> -1 year teaching in grades 5-8</p>
<p>Special Education Teacher (PK-21) <i>Ex: Learning Behavior Specialist I, Teacher of Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, etc.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 semester hours in a content area • 3 semester hours in content specific middle grades methods <p>TESTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content test • General Middle Grades test (<i>only required if educator is seeking endorsement outside the 4 core Middle Grade areas: Math, Science, Social Science & Language Arts</i>) <p><u>Waived if:</u> -1 year teaching in grades 5-8</p>
<p><i>The General Middle Grade test has not yet been created. ISBE is working with the Evaluation Systems group of Pearson to develop the test, and additional information regarding dates of availability will be forthcoming.</i></p>	

The content test is those content area tests already available

(Most notably taken by our secondary candidates and educators).

Educators may request institutions of higher education enter the new middle grades endorsement into their ELIS account through the entitlement process.

- Educator would have one year to apply for the entitlement.

Educators may apply for a new middle grades endorsement on their ELIS account and undergo transcript evaluation through ISBE.

- Educators would have two full fiscal years to satisfy any deficiencies identified during ISBE transcript evaluation.

Requirements for educators seeking subsequent (additional) Middle Grades (5-8) endorsements **on or after February 1, 2018**

An educator who holds a junior high endorsement and who wants to add a middle grades endorsement needs to go through a focused program to determine whether or not they have completed the appropriate middle grade coursework. See previous table.

Educators who hold only a Junior High endorsement will be processed as an educator seeking a "New" (*First*) Middle Grades endorsement (See previous tables).

I am a	REQUIREMENT
Elementary Education Teacher (K-9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 semester hours in a content area • 3 semester hours in content specific middle grades methods <p>TESTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content test • General Middle Grades test (<i>only required if educator is seeking endorsement outside the 4 core Middle Grade areas: Math, Science, Social Science & Language Arts</i>) <p><u>Waived if:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Educator passed ELED/MG (110) test OR -1 year teaching in grades 5-8
Elementary Education Teacher (1-6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 semester hours in a content area • 3 semester hours in content specific middle grades methods <p>TESTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content test • General Middle Grades test (<i>only required if educator is seeking endorsement outside the 4 core Middle Grade areas: Math, Science, Social Science & Language Arts</i>) <p><u>Waived if:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Educator passed ELED/MG (110) test OR -1 year teaching in grades 5-8

Requirements for educators seeking subsequent (*additional*) Middle Grades (5-8) endorsements on or after February 1, 2018

<p>Middle Grade Teacher (5-8) <i>Completed IL approved MG program</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 semester hours in a content area • 3 semester hours in content specific middle grades methods • Content test
<p>Secondary Education Teacher (6-12)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 semester hours in a content area • 3 semester hours in content specific middle grades methods <p><u>TESTS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content test • General Middle Grades test (<i>only required if educator is seeking endorsement outside the 4 core Middle Grade areas: Math, Science, Social Science & Language Arts</i>) <p><u>Waived if:</u> -1 year teaching in grades 6-8</p>
<p>Special Teaching Educator (K-12) <i>Ex: Foreign Language, Music, PE, Visual Arts, Tech Specialist, Reading Specialist, etc.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 semester hours in a content area • 3 semester hours in content specific middle grades methods <p><u>TESTS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content test • General Middle Grades test (<i>only required if educator is seeking endorsement outside the 4 core Middle Grade areas: Math, Science, Social Science & Language Arts</i>) <p><u>Waived if:</u> -1 year teaching in grades 5-8</p>

Requirements for educators seeking subsequent Middle Grades (5-8) endorsements **on or after** **February 1, 2018**

Special Education Teacher (PK-21)

Ex: Learning Behavior Specialist I, Teacher of Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, etc.

- 21 semester hours in a content area
- 3 semester hours in content specific middle grades methods

TESTS:

- Content test
- General Middle Grades test (*only required if educator is seeking endorsement outside the 4 core Middle Grade areas: Math, Science, Social Science & Language Arts*)

Waived if:

-1 year teaching in grades 5-8

The General Middle Grades test has not yet been created. ISBE is working with the Evaluation Systems group of Pearson to develop the test, and additional information regarding dates of availability will be forthcoming.

Educators may request institutions of higher education enter the new middle grades endorsement into their ELIS account through entitlement.

- Educator would have one year to apply for the entitlement.

Educators may apply for a new middle grades endorsement on their ELIS account and undergo transcript evaluation through ISBE.

- Educators would have two full fiscal years to satisfy any deficiencies identified during ISBE transcript evaluation.

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Middle Grades Available Content Tests

Available Middle Grades (5-8) endorsements on or after February 1, 2018, including corresponding content test

Available Endorsement	Content Test
Agriculture	Agriculture Education (170)
Art	Visual Arts (145)
Bilingual Education	Target Language Proficiency Test
Business/Mktg/Mgmt	Business, Marketing & Computer Education (171)
Computer Applications	NA
Computer Science	Computer Science (038)
Dance	Dance (140)
English as a Second Language	NA
Family & Consumer Science	Family & Consumer Sciences (172)
Foreign Language	Foreign Language Test (Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Russian, Spanish)
Gifted Education	Gifted Education (312)
Health Education	Health Education (142)
Industrial Technology	Tech. Education (174)
Language Arts	Middle Grade Language Arts (201)
Learning Behavior Specialist I	LBSI (155)
Library Information Specialist	Library Information Specialist (175)
Mathematics	Middle Grade Math (202)
Music	Music (143)
Physical Education	Physical Education (144)
Reading Teacher	Reading Teacher (177) or Reading Specialist (176)
Science	Middle Grade Science (203)
Social Sciences	Middle Grade Social Science (204)
Social Science-Geography	Geography (113)
Technology Specialist	Tech. Specialist (178)
Theater/Drama	Drama/Theater Arts (141)

Middle School
endorsements
educators
currently hold
will not change!

The General Middle
Grades Test may be
required in addition to the
content tests identified.
Please see requirements on
previous slides.

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Middle Grades Exceptions Tables

Endorsements considered “Exceptions” to the Middle Grades (5-8) requirements on or after February 1, 2018

I am a seeking Middle Grades endorsement in	REQUIREMENT
English as a Second Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 semester hours ESL/Bilingual coursework with a distribution (distribution found here) 100 clock hours field experience <p>TESTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Middle Grades test <p><u>Waived if:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 year teaching in grades 5-8
Bilingual Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 semester hours ESL/Bilingual coursework with a distribution (distribution found here) 100 clock hours field experience <p>TESTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target Language Proficiency Test General Middle Grades test <p><u>Waived if:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 year teaching in grades 5-8
Learning Behavior Specialist I (4 areas)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coursework in 4 LBSI distribution areas <p>TESTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LBSI (155) test General Middle Grades test <p><u>Waived if:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 year teaching in grades 5-8
Reading Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 semester hours with a distribution (distribution found here) Practicum <p>TESTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading Teacher (177) test or Reading Specialist (176) General Middle Grades test <p><u>Waived if:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 year teaching in grades 5-8
Gifted Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 semester hours with a distribution (distribution found here) Practicum <p>TESTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gifted Education (312) test General Middle Grades test <p><u>Waived if:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 year teaching in grades 5-8

Educators who completed their gifted education coursework in 2016 or later at an Illinois institution of higher education must have done so through a state approved gifted education program. Coursework taken in Illinois prior to 2016, as well as coursework taken at an out-of-state institution in any year, can also be honored if it was taken at a regionally-accredited institution.

On or after February 1, 2018, **all** educators (EC, ELED, MG, SECD, K-12 & PK-21) seeking Middle Grades endorsements in the following areas need to meet the requirements below. This includes those educators seeking a new (first) or subsequent (additional) endorsement in the 5-8 level. Additionally, educators holding only Jr. High endorsement would be eligible to attain these endorsements under the requirements listed below.

These endorsements are exceptions to other available middle grades endorsements as educators are not teaching specific content to students but utilizing best practices and differentiation strategies to assist students with the content they are learning.



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Middle Grades (5-8) EXAMPLE SCENARIOS

Kristi is an elementary education teacher (K-9) who holds a middle school (5-8) endorsement in biological science. Kristi teaches 7th grade biology. Kristi is interested in teaching 5th grade math next year.

Q) What options does Kristi have to attain a middle grades (5-8) Math endorsement?

A) Because Kristi already holds a middle school science endorsement, she would need to complete the following requirements to attain a subsequent middle grades (5-8) endorsement in math.

- **21 semester hours in math**
 - **3 semester hours in methods of teaching math in middle grades.**
 - **Middle Grades (5-8) Math (202) test**
- **Kristi may either contact an institution of higher education to audit her transcripts to ensure she meets the above requirements to be entitled, or apply through her ELIS account and undergo transcript evaluation through ISBE.**

Seth is a 7th and 8th grade physical education (PE) teacher who holds a professional educator license (PEL) endorsed in K-12 PE. Seth is interested in adding a middle grades (5-8) health education endorsement to his professional educator licensure (PEL).

Q) How can Seth attain a middle grades (5-8) Health Education endorsement?

A) Seth's K-12 PEL allows him to teach PE to students in middle grades; however, he does not hold a middle grades (5-8) endorsement. He would need to complete the following requirements to attain a NEW middle grades (5-8) endorsement in health education.

- 21 semester hours in health education
- 3 semester hours in methods of teaching health in middle grades
- Health Education (142) test
- General Middle Grades test*

Seth may either contact an institution of higher education to audit his transcripts to ensure he meets the above requirements to be entitled, or apply through his ELIS account and undergo transcript evaluation through ISBE.

**This test could be waived if Seth provides evidence of one year of teaching in middle grades.*

Amy is a secondary education English teacher (6-12) who holds a professional educator license (PEL) endorsed in English Language Arts (9-12). Amy is interested in a teaching position that has just opened up at a neighboring middle school to teach drama to 5th through 8th grade students.

Q) How can Amy attain a middle grades (5-8) Theater/Drama endorsement?

A) Because Amy is seeking a new middle grades (5-8) endorsement and does not currently hold a middle school or middle grades endorsement, she must complete a full or focused middle grades (5-8) Theater/Drama program offered at any Illinois institution with an approved middle grade (5-8) Theater/Drama program.

Q) How will Amy know if she needs to complete a full or focused program?

A) Amy will seek the advice of the Licensure Officer at the Illinois institution where she plans to attend.

- An institution may, at its discretion, compare the coursework and clinical experiences Amy has already completed to the standards for the endorsement sought. This comparison may identify Amy for a focused program consisting of coursework, testing, and experiences that she must complete in order to meet those standards.

- The institution where Amy completes the middle grades (5-8) Theater/Drama program will entitle her for the endorsement once she completes all program requirements.

Tina is special education teacher who provides services to students in first and second grade. She holds a professional educator license (PEL) endorsed in Learning Behavior Specialist I (PK-21). Tina is interested in adding a middle grades (5-8) foreign language-Spanish endorsement to her professional educator licensure (PEL).

Q) How can Tina attain a middle grades (5-8) foreign language-Spanish endorsement?

A) Tina's PK-21 LBSI endorsement allows her to provide services to students in middle grades. She would need to complete the following requirements to attain a new middle grades (5-8) endorsement in foreign language-Spanish.

- **21 semester hours in foreign language**
- **3 semester hours in methods of teaching foreign language in middle grades**
- **Foreign Language-Spanish (135) test**
- **General Middle Grades test***

Tina may either contact an institution of higher education to audit her transcripts to ensure she meets the above requirements to be entitled, or apply through her ELIS account and undergo transcript evaluation through ISBE.

**This test could be waived if Tina provides evidence of one year of teaching in middle grades.*

Last year, Emily graduated from an Illinois approved middle grades (5-8) program in Art and she just completed her first year of teaching art to 6th grade students. The administration at Emily's school would like Emily to also teach music next year.

Q) What options does Emily have to attain a middle grades (5-8) music endorsement?

A) Because Emily already holds a middle grades Art endorsement, she would need to complete the following requirements to attain a subsequent middle grades (5-8) endorsement in music.

- **21 semester hours in music**
- **3 semester hours in methods of teaching music in middle grades.**
- **Music (143) test**

• Emily does not need to complete the General Middle Grades test because of two reasons:

- 1) Emily completed the General Middle Grades test as part of her approved middle grades (5-8) Art program.
- 2) Emily has completed one year of teaching experience within 5 through 8 grade span.

• Emily may either contact an institution of higher education to audit her transcripts to ensure she meets the above requirements to be entitled, or apply through her ELIS account and undergo transcript evaluation through ISBE.



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Middle Grades (5-8) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q1: Which Middle Grades test should the educator take?

This depends on the educator and the type of endorsement the educator is seeking:

Educators seeking an endorsement (either new “first” or subsequent) in any of the four core content areas (Math, SS, Science and LA) will take the specific Middle Grades develop test in those content areas.

Middle Grade Math (202)

Middle Grade Social Science (204)

Middle Grade Science (203)

Middle Grade Language Arts (201)

Educators seeking an endorsement (either new “first” or subsequent) outside the four core content areas (Math, SS, Science and LA), must take the General Middle Grades test.

- This test will not be available until Spring, 2018 so educators may take the 110 Elementary/Middle test until the General Middle Grades test is available.

Q2: May institutions use Secondary Teaching methods courses along with Middle Grade methods in their coursework?

- Yes, institutions may elect to include Secondary Teaching methods along with Middle Grades methods in their coursework. We understand faculty and other resources differ from institution to institution, and want to allow institutions flexibility.
- Example:
 - ISBE would honor the following courses to meet the “3 s.h. in content specific middle grades methods”
 - Methods of Teaching Art K-12
 - Methods of Teaching Dance in Secondary and Middle Grades
 - Method of Teaching Health in grades 5-12

Q3: What are the requirements for an initial Middle Grades ESL endorsement?

- 18 semester hours ESL/Bilingual coursework with a distribution (distribution found [here](#))
- 100 clock hours field experience
- **TESTS:**
- General Middle Grades test

Waived if:

-1 year teaching in grades 5-8

Q4: What are the requirements for a subsequent Middle Grades ESL endorsement?

- 18 semester hours ESL/Bilingual coursework with a distribution (distribution found [here](#))
- 100 clock hours field experience
- **TESTS:**
- General Middle Grades test

Waived if:

-1 year teaching in grades 5-8

Q5: May an elementary educator (1-6) obtain a middle school endorsement (5-8) prior to February 1, 2018. Additionally, will the educator only be eligible for grades 5 and 6 in middle level?

- Yes, Any educator can add a 5-8 middle school endorsement until January 31, 2018.
- No, The middle school endorsement would be valid for grades 5-8, not for just 5-6.

Q6: May PE K-12 educators who hold a 9-12 Health Education (HEED) endorsement qualify for a Health education middle grade (5-8) endorsement after February 1, 2018?

- Yes, on or after February 1, 2018, K-12 educators (who have already been foundationally prepared in the middle level) may add a Middle Grades endorsement in Health Education, by completing the following requirements:
 - 21 semester hours in Health
 - Which they will likely have already completed for the 9-12 Health endorsement
 - 3 semester hours methods of teaching health in middle grades
 - Health Education Test (142)
 - Already completed for the 9-12 Health endorsement
 - General Middle Grades Test
 - Waived if
 - 1 year teaching in grades 5-8
- This applies to any educator that has completed an approved K-12 program. (ie: Music, Arts/Visual Arts, Foreign Language)

Q7: After February 1, 2018 If a teaching candidate plans to complete a dual Secondary Math Education program and a Middle Grades Math Education program, what grade range would be acceptable for student teaching.

- A teacher candidate could student teach in either a Middle Grades(5-8) setting or in a High School (9-12) setting, or spend a portion of their student teaching in both grade settings.
 - *ISBE recommends the student teaching experience align with the edTPA.*

- Yes, any Illinois institution may offer coursework that will lead to the entitlement of additional/subsequent Middle Grades endorsements. The institution does not need to have an approved Middle Grades program in order to offer additional Middle Grades coursework and endorsements.

Supplemental Material

- **Where can I find supplemental material regarding middle grades endorsements in Illinois?**
- The Educator Licensure division at ISBE maintains a comprehensive document that outlines all requirements for educators seeking endorsements before and on or after February 1, 2018. The document provides a thorough overview of every content area available for middle grades endorsements and the specific requirements for each.
- The Illinois licensure, endorsement, and approval requirements document can be found here:
http://isbe.net/licensure/requirements/endsmt_struct.pdf
- The Future of Illinois Middle Grades Resource Guide can be found here:
<http://isbe.net/licensure/pdf/higher-ed/future-of-illinois-middle-grades.pdf>

Center for Teaching and Learning

Educator Effectiveness Division

217-557-6763