

June 2024

M.Ed. and K-6 Initial License: Dual Language and Immersion (DLI-L)



Teach in two languages!

This two-year program prepares you to teach elementary education students. The K-6 license qualifies you to teach in bilingual, dual language, immersion and indigenous classrooms as well as those where English is the language of instruction. You will earn a **Master's of Education degree** and qualify for an **initial teaching license** to teach K-6 elementary school. Infused throughout the program is DLI-specific content such as biliteracy development and language-focused teaching strategies.

Who should apply?

This program is designed for bilingual individuals who have a bachelor's degree in any field including:

- Education assistants or paraprofessionals who have undergraduate degrees
- Teachers seeking a Tier 3 license currently in immersion, indigenous and bilingual programs
- International students
- Indigenous language specialists
- Others with an undergraduate degree seeking to teach in two languages

Advantages?

DLI-L M.Ed. students can:

- Complete the program while continuing to work
- Connect with a community studying together for 2 years
- Engage in face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous online coursework
- Study innovative and equity-driven curriculum
- Courses are focused on teaching methods, pedagogy, and bilingual instruction
- Practice teaching in language immersion and English language classrooms

Timeline

Classes are held Tuesday evenings (synchronous online and asynchronous online) and on Saturdays (synchronous online and asynchronous online; once a month in-person on campus). Students may need to take time off of work to complete the two 50 hour field experiences and the 12 weeks of student teaching.

- Summer 2024: 6 credits
- Fall 2024: 6 credits
- Spring 2025: 6 credits, 50 hour field experience in a Dual Language or Immersion school
- Summer 2025: 6 credits, 50 hour field experience in a diverse context (may be a DLI school)
- Fall 2025: 6 credits, Student Teaching in a Dual Language or Immersion school (12 continuous weeks)
- Spring 2026: 6 credits, May graduation; apply for MN teaching license

Language Testing Requirements

English

- It is both a Graduate Admissions requirement to demonstrate readiness to participate in graduate-level studies in English at the University as well as a program requirement to demonstrate readiness to teach in a dual-language context in the target language.
- If you received a bachelor's degree in the United States, or outside of the US from an institution where English was the primary language of instruction, no additional evidence of English proficiency is required except the transcript of coursework.
- If you received your bachelor's degree outside of the US, from an institution where English was not the primary language of instruction, you will need to show evidence of proficiency in English. Submit an official score from one of the following exams: TOEFL, IELTS or MELAB prior to interviewing fall 2021. For more information on these exams and the minimum score requirements and additional ways your proficiency may be evaluated, please visit the [Graduate School's English language proficiency page](#).

Target Immersion Language

- If you grew up speaking **the target immersion language** in the home, no testing is required if you are currently employed in a bilingual school setting where proficiency in the target language is required for your position. This will be verified by the program. Those NOT employed in a dual language or immersion school using the target language each day will need to demonstrate a minimum Advanced Low in the [Oral Proficiency Interview](#).
- If you received your bachelor's degree outside of the US, from an institution where the target immersion language was the primary language of instruction, no testing is required.
- If you grew up speaking **English** in the home (non-native target language speakers), target language testing is required. Submit an official score from the [Oral Proficiency Interview \(OPI\)](#) to demonstrate readiness to teach in a dual language context in the target language. Scores must be received by the program prior to your application interview. Advanced Mid is the preferred level for admission. Advanced Low is the minimum level accepted for admission.

Program costs and financial aid

- We are able to offer a reduced rate of \$600 per credit. The tuition for this 36-credit program will cost a total of \$21,600.
- Our students are eligible to apply for their FAFSA as well as any other scholarships they find at the University or outside of the University.

Apply

Do you have any questions? Contact Jade Beauclair, program advisor, beau0273@umn.edu

Program Coordinator: Stephanie Owen, owenx079@umn.edu

Dates and deadlines

October 1, 2023: Application opens

December 15, 2023: Priority application deadline

March 1, 2024: Final application deadline

June, 2024: Summer term begins in Minneapolis, MN

Please note: an interview and admission decision will occur following each application deadline. Candidates only need to participate in one application round.

