

**Southwest Minnesota State University School of Education  
Standards for Faculty Qualifications**

<b>Full Graduate Faculty</b>	<b>Associate Graduate Faculty</b>	<b>Undergraduate Faculty</b>	<b>Clinical Faculty</b>
* Meet SMSU requirements for Full Member of Graduate Faculty; can teach or supervise in area(s) of specialty	* Meet SMSU requirements for Associate Member of Graduate Faculty; can teach or supervise only in area(s) of specialty	If no terminal degree, can teach or supervise only in area(s) of specialty, according to the IFO/MnSCU Contract.	If no terminal degree, can teach or supervise only at levels of licensure.
Earned terminal degree	Earned Master's degree	Doctorate preferred; terminal degree required at the time of tenure application	Earned Master's degree
Earned a teaching license	Earned a teaching license	Earned a teaching license	Earned a teaching license
Minimum of 3 years contemporary E-12 classroom teaching experience.	Minimum of 3 years contemporary E-12 classroom teaching	Minimum of 3 years contemporary E-12 classroom teaching experience.	Minimum of 3 years contemporary E-12 classroom teaching experience.
Engaged in scholarship	Engaged in scholarship	Engaged in scholarship	

\* Lead Facilitators in Learning Communities must have Full Graduate Faculty Status as defined by the Education Department. It is understood that the degree of the person hired is the same as or related to the academic discipline where hired.

**Engaged in scholarship:** Has an established record of published and/or presented research, creative and scholarly projects, curriculum development, funded grant writing projects, etc.

**Contemporary Experience:** Depends on the type of discipline or field.

SMSU Requirements:

**Full Member of Graduate Faculty:** Full members of the graduate faculty shall hold the doctoral degree, or another degree nationally recognized as the terminal degree in that discipline. In addition to academic preparation, full members of the graduate faculty shall demonstrate a record of ongoing scholarly activity. Full members of the graduate faculty may teach any level of graduate course, may be advisors of graduate students, chair student examining committees, and direct theses or alternate plan papers.

**Associate Member of Graduate Faculty:** Associate Member Graduate Faculty shall have a masters/specialist degree and/or professional expertise in an area of specialization. However a minimum of a Master's Degree is required for all instructors of record. Associate status may be established based on a special expertise. Such special expertise shall be documented and accompanied with a letter of support from the department chair. Associate Member Graduate Faculty may include, but are not limited to, fixed-term or adjunct. They may also have other rights, privileges, and/or limits determined as appropriate by the department. Associate members of the graduate faculty may teach any level graduate course and serve on student examining committees in their area of specialization by virtue of academic and professional training or experience.

Based on the 2021 PELSB Unit Rules, faculty who hold a master's degree or higher, have three years of experience as a teacher of record, including at least one year aligned to the scope and content area of instruction, may be considered qualified to teach methods courses. Faculty who hold, or have held, a professional license aligned to the licensure field or scope of the license sought by the candidate, and has at least three years of experience as teacher of record or is a current or former E-12 administrator, may supervise candidates in the School of Education licensure programs.

MN Revisor - <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/8705.1010/>  
Standards 15, 23, and 24