LICENSOURE REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS

- Have a required minimum grade of “C” in ALL major courses, ALL professional courses, and ALL endorsement courses
- Have a 2.75 GPA in core courses. Other GPA’s include a 2.5 or higher in the professional classes (Introductory Block through Student Teaching)
- Ensure that you have completed a minimum of 1 endorsement.
- Apply for graduation ONE SEMESTER BEFORE you plan to graduate, including summer. See Margie Newsome, Owings McQuagge Room 121 or call 266-6095 for details. Coast students should contact their Student Services Coordinator: Gulf Coast Student Service Center, Patti Papania, 228-214-3340.
- Apply for teacher candidacy one semester before you plan to student teach. You will be required to attend a scheduled meeting concerning student teaching. For more information contact Mary Davis at 601-266-4571 or visit the J.B. George Building, Room 103 in Hattiesburg.
- Prior to graduation you must take the Praxis II content area test (s) and the Principles of Learning and Teaching Test (PLT) that corresponds to your major. The scores MUST be submitted to the University BEFORE graduation.
- In order to get your teacher license from the Mississippi Department of Education you must also pass the examinations that relate to your major, and submit your original copies of the Praxis II exam to Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) which you will get back at a future date. You may take these exams prior to or during Teacher Candidacy:
  - **Principles of Learning and Teaching, 5622 (computer)**
    - Passing score for licensure K-6, Elementary Education: 152
  - **Specialty Area Test, Elementary Education (K-6), 0011(paper)/5017 (computer)**
    - Passing score for licensure K-6, Elementary Education: 158
  - **Principles of Learning and Teaching for SPED, 5354**
    - Passing score for licensure K-12, Special Education: 142
  - Dual licensure (Elementary and Special Education) students will take the PLT (5622) AND either the Special Education (5354) or Elementary Education (5017) exam.

- **To continue with this process your degree must be posted. This process may take several weeks.**
- **Once degree is posted, YOU MUST BE RECOMMENDED by Mrs. Sheri Dann to receive your license. Again, this process can only be completed if your degree is posted.**
- You will need formal transcripts from all colleges and universities attended. To secure sealed, official transcripts from Southern Miss for licensure applications, contact the Registrar’s office, at 601-266-5006 or visit Kenward Washington Hall on the Hattiesburg campus; on the Gulf Coast campus contact Student Services Center or Customer Services at 228-865-4512.

- Formally apply for Mississippi Department of Education Licensure by filling out an online application at www.mde.k12.ms.us. All items (Praxis II scores, all official transcripts) must be sent to MDE and not to the University.

- If you have any questions, please contact Sheri Dann, the licensure contact at sheri.dann@usm.edu or 601-266-5522.