According to the Higher Learning Commission, “Faculty teaching in graduate programs should hold the terminal degree determined by the discipline and have a record of research, scholarship or achievement appropriate for the graduate program.” Several qualifications are considered assets for hire either as an instructional/academic staff or tenure-track faculty member in the MSE – Secondary Mathematics program at the University of Wisconsin – River Falls.

Candidates for graduate faculty status have earned a terminal degree (i.e. earned credential), that is a Ph.D. or D.Sc. or Ed.D. In Mathematics, Mathematics Education, Statistics, or a closely related field such as Computer Science with an emphasis in computational mathematics.

In addition, they have a record of research, scholarship, and achievement that includes:

- Providing organized professional development for K-12 math teachers in the last six years or
- Publications related to K-16 mathematics education in the last six years or
- Conference presentations related to K-16 mathematics education in the last six years or
- Participation in professional development through state, regional, or national conferences or workshops related to K-16 mathematics education in the last six years or
- Assessing AP Calculus or AP Statistics exams in the last six years or
- Publication in a peer-reviewed mathematics, mathematics education, statistics or statistics education journal in the last six years or
- Presentation at a peer-reviewed mathematics, mathematics education, statistics or statistics education conference in the last six years.