



## READING ENDORSEMENT



**Have you been hearing rumors about needing the Reading Endorsement?  
Not sure if it really pertains to you?**

**Here's a basic overview of the legislation:**

### **What is the Reading Endorsement?**

- The Reading Endorsement is a designation on your Florida Teaching Certificate that highly qualifies you to serve the needs of struggling readers and to teach courses specific to reading
- The Reading Endorsement is comprised of five (5) courses, or Competencies:
  - Reading Competency 1: Foundations of Reading Instruction
  - Reading Competency 2: Application of Research-Based Instructional Practices
  - Reading Competency 3: Foundations of Assessment
  - Reading Competency 4: Foundations and Applications of Differentiated Instruction
  - Reading Competency 5: Demonstration of Accomplishment
- Each course is aligned to the standards, or Indicators, set forth by the FLDOE which may be viewed at: <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/reading-endorsement.stml>
- Each course is equivalent to a 3-credit college level course and earns 60 inservice hours totaling 300 hours for the entire endorsement
- Inservice Points earned for the Reading Endorsement may be banked to be used for future Florida Certification Renewals
- **Reading Endorsement does NOT TYPICALLY transfer between states**

### **Who Needs the Reading Endorsement?**

The FLDOE has identified two levels of reading intervention that might take place in K-12 classrooms. Courses where these interventions take place are either coded A if a basic level reading intervention is provided for the student(s) within the course; or B if intensive reading interventions are provided for the student(s) within the course. *State Statute (s.1011.62(9)(c)7.(d)1 F.S.) and State Statute (s. 1008.25(7)(b)3 F.S.)*

**Any teacher who is providing the intensive intervention to students in a course tagged B must be reading certified or endorsed.**

You may refer to the SJCSJ Comprehensive Reading Plan to learn more about the tiers of reading interventions at :

<https://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/readingplan.stml>



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### What's the difference between Reading Endorsement and Reading Certification?

Reading Endorsement, as described on the previous page, is achieved in one of two ways:

- Complete all five Competencies and then pay a one time fee of \$75 to add the Endorsement to your Florida Teaching Certificate
- Pay for, take, and pass the Florida Reading K-12 Certification Exam; present the passing score to the Certification Department; pay the one time fee of \$75 to add the Endorsement to your Florida Teaching Certificate (*This option is only available through 2023*)

Reading Certification is acquired through the following steps:

1. Complete a Masters Degree in Reading
2. Pay for, take, and pass the Florida Reading K-12 Certification Exam
3. Pay \$75 to add the Reading Certification to your Florida Teaching Certificate

\*\*This Certification must be renewed every five years

### How can I acquire the Reading Endorsement?

The five courses needed for the Reading Endorsement are offered for free for all SJCSJ Teachers. The courses are offered every 8-9 weeks throughout the school year and are completed via the Online Learning Center on the Moodle platform.

The schedule is posted on the PD webpage: <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/pd/>

Current SJCSJ Teachers may register for one course per session for free!

- ◆ *Courses may also be taken at the expense of the individual through NEFEC.org, UF Literacy Matrix, The Schulz Center in Jacksonville, FLDOE Early Learning Center, or through most Florida Colleges and Universities. Certificates of Completion must be submitted to the SJCSJ Professional Development Department to transfer these credits onto your transcript.*

**\*\*Please Note: If you attended a Florida College or University after 2006, you MAY have taken one or more courses that count towards the Reading Endorsement. Transcripts should have a statement to this effect– it will be listed along with the Degree Conferred on your Final Transcript. If you have this statement, you may submit your transcript to the Professional Development Department to note on your PD Transcript.**

Please visit the PD webpage at: <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/pd/>

For current employees, the PD calendar is located at: <https://inside.stjohns.k12.fl.us/pd/>



You must register in BusinessPlus for any professional development opportunities before the start date to ensure attendance and that you receive pertinent information from the facilitator(s). You must also complete the evaluation in BusinessPlus after the session in order to receive credit.



## READING ENDORSEMENT *continued* . . .



***Have you already started your Reading Endorsement in another Florida District, or do you believe you took courses that align to the Endorsement Competencies in College?***

### **Instructions for Transferring Credit From Another Florida School District**

- Contact the Professional Development Department of the Florida School District where you were previously employed
- Request a PD Transcript Transfer to be sent to: [Valerie Etienne-Leveille](#) or [Melinda Bogart](#) in the SJCS District Professional Development and Evaluations Department
- We can transfer any credits that have been Banked by the prior District or that were earned within your current certification validity period

### **Instructions for Requesting Endorsement Course Credit for College Courses**

- Check your Florida College Transcript. If you have a statement that includes any verbiage related to Reading Competencies or Endorsement being included in your final degree work, we can add the specified courses to your PD Transcript
- No message, but still think you have courses that align?
  - Complete an application with FLDOE to add the Reading Endorsement, pay \$75, and FLDOE will review your college transcript
  - You will either receive
    - a Certificate with the Reading Endorsement Added OR
    - A Statement of Eligibility stating that you need to complete additional courses
      - If you receive a Statement of Eligibility, reach out to PD to help interpret what you may still need to take
  - **DO NOT SEND COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS TO PD TO BE ANALYZED.**

### **Don't have time to take five courses?**

Teachers now have the option of taking and passing the Florida Reading (K-12) Certification Subject Area Exam **at their own expense** and converting the passing score to the Reading Endorsement.

1. Register for the Exam at: <http://www.fl.nesinc.com/tests.asp>
2. Take the test
3. Receive a passing score
4. Send Score report to your Certification Specialist who will help you add the Endorsement.

*Beginning July 1, 2024, instructional personnel may not earn a reading endorsement solely by achieving a passing score on the K-12 reading certification subject area assessment. (HB7011)*

**\*\*Please Note– Only those with a Master's Degree in Reading can become Reading Certified in Florida. Without the Master's in Reading, taking and passing the Reading Subject Area Examination can ONLY be converted to the Reading Endorsement.\*\***