

Endorsement Courses

What is an Endorsement?

An Endorsement *is an add-on to a teaching certificate* that meets the requirements set forth by the State to serve a specific population of students. In Florida, the three most common Endorsements include:

ESOL

Reading

Gifted

Each course is 60 Hours (Equivalent to 3 College Credit Hours). The entire Endorsement for each subject is 300 Hours.

ESOL

ESOL, or English for Speakers of Other Languages, is required of any teacher of ELA. Though the full endorsement or certification is not required of ALL teachers, ALL teachers do have at least one course they must take in the state of Florida.

ESOL Endorsement:

<http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/preparation/additional-resources.stml>

ESOL 1: Cross Cultural Communication

ESOL 2: Language & Literacy

ESOL 3: Methods of Teaching ESOL to Speakers of Other Languages

ESOL 4: Curriculum and Materials Development

ESOL 5: Assessment

- The above five courses comprise the 300-Hour Endorsement.
- For those who are only required to take one 6-hour course, ESOL 3 is recommended.

Please note that if you choose the **ESOL Certification pathway, you are **still required to complete two of the five **Endorsement Courses**.***

ESOL 6: ESOL for Administrator

- This is only for current Principals or Assistance Principals who did fulfill at least 60 hours of one the ESOL 1-5 courses before becoming a building administrator.
- This course DOES NOT count towards Endorsement.

ESOL 7: ESOL for Counselors

- This course is only for School Counselors.
- This course DOES NOT count towards Endorsement.
- If a teacher becomes a counselor and previously took any of ESOL 1-5, they are grandfathered for this requirement.

ESOL 8: The 18-Hour Course

- This course is only for Teachers who DO NOT teach ELA, Reading, Social Studies, Math, Science, or Computer Science.
- This course DOES NOT count towards Endorsement.

READING

Reading is required of any teacher who specifically serves the needs of struggling readers as outlined by the State (AKA Tier 3 or Code B). The teachers required to have the Reading Endorsement or Reading Certification are outlined in the District Comprehensive Reading Plan created by the Curriculum Department.

Reading Endorsement:

<http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/preparation/additional-resources.stml>

Competency 1: Foundations of Reading Instruction

Competency 2: Application of Research-Based Instructional Practices

Competency 3: Foundations of Assessment

Competency 4: Foundations of Applications of Differentiated Instruction

Competency 5: Demonstration of Accomplishment

- Each course is 60-Hours.
- The entire Endorsement is 300 Hours.

GIFTED

Gifted is required of any teacher who specifically serves the needs of students labeled as gifted.

Gifted Endorsement:

<http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/certification/administrative-rules/6a-4-01791.stml>

Nature and Needs of Gifted Students

Curriculum and Instruction Strategies for Teaching Gifted Students

Guidance and Counseling of Gifted Students

Educating Special Populations of Gifted Students

Theory and Development of Creativity

- Each course is 60-Hours.
- The entire Endorsement is 300 Hours.

St. Johns County School District offers all of these courses at no cost to actively employed teachers in any of the SJCS D schools.

These courses are available to non-instructional personnel, substitutes, or non-employees **who hold a valid Florida Teaching Certificate** at a fee of \$75 per course.

Course Schedules are posted each year on the Professional Development and Evaluations webpage at:

www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/pd