



Salt Lake City School District

Frequently Asked Questions About the ESL Endorsement

1. What is required for an ESL Endorsement?

- The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) requires a minimum of 18 graduate-level semester credits as outlined on the [Application for the Utah State Board of Education English as a Second Language Endorsement](#) (available on the USBE webpage). All endorsements are reviewed, approved, and granted by the USBE and are attached to your professional license for as long as it is current.

2. Who needs to have an ESL Endorsement issued by the Utah State Board of Education?

- The following groups of teachers and specialists are required to obtain an ESL endorsement prior to the expiration of the fourth year of their contract in these roles within the Salt Lake City School District. A fifth year is available for teachers required to receive additional endorsements (e.g., Library or Reading) during the same period.
 - **All Elementary Teachers**
 - **Secondary Core Teachers** (those assigned to one or more core courses in Math, Language Arts, Social Studies or Science)
 - **Content Area Coaches/Specialists** (Math, Literacy, Social Studies/History, and Science)
- All **Secondary Elective teachers** are required to complete: (1) Understanding Language Acquisition, (2) Methods for Integrating Content and Language Instruction, and (3) REACH training prior to the expiration of the third year of their contract in these roles within the Salt Lake City School District.
- All **Principals, Assistant Principals, Counselors, and Psychologists** must complete: (1) Understanding Language Acquisition; (2) Family, School, and Community Partnerships; and (3) REACH Training prior to the expiration of the third year of their contract in these roles within the Salt Lake City School District.
- All **Speech Pathologists** must complete (1) Understanding Language Acquisition and (2) REACH Training prior to the expiration of the third year of their contract in these roles within the Salt Lake City School District.

If you change positions within the district, you must have the ESL requirements for your current position. Please note that the modified requirements for SLCSD specialist teachers may not meet the requirements of other districts.

3. What if I am working on my Alternative Route to Licensure?

- If you are teaching on an ARL license, you should complete that license first and then work on your ESL Endorsement when you have your Level 1 educator license.

4. How can I complete my ESL Endorsement?

- There are many different options through university programs and district. Please see the [*Application for the Utah State Board of Education English as a Second Language Endorsement.*](#)

5. Does SLCS D have an ESL endorsement?

- Yes. SLCS D has a hybrid program that is a combination of in-person and online coursework. These courses are Masters-level and lead by highly qualified facilitators to meet the Domains of the endorsement and provide a capstone class to fulfill the 18-credit state requirement. The SLCS D endorsement takes 1.5 years to complete, including one (1) summer course.
- The 2019-2020 cohort has already registered. Information about starting the 2020-2021 cohort and registering for classes through MIDAS will be emailed to all district employees in Spring 2020.
- Each course has a \$69 posting fee for Southern Utah University; you will have an official university transcript. Tuition and materials are funded by the District.

6. What if I already earned my ESL Endorsement through my university program or in another district or state?

- Submit your courses to the Utah State Board of Education for review and approval. Make sure USBE posts your endorsement to your credential. If your previous ESL endorsement is missing any requirements for USBE, make sure you receive a list of courses to complete the endorsement in writing.

7. I started my endorsement through another program, but didn't finish. What should I do?

- Make sure you know which Domains you completed and match them up to the list of approved courses on the USBE Application. If your university isn't listed, you will need to submit descriptions of the courses with your transcripts for approval to USBE (not the district). The courses must meet the minimum requirements listed on the application. You can then complete the other required classes from any other program that is approved and listed on the USBE Application, including SLCS D.

Questions?

Email [Dr. Tiffany Hall](#) in the Teaching and Learning Department.