



## **IMPORTANT: READING ENDORSEMENT/CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Florida's Department of Education requires that certain teachers must be reading endorsed or certified in order to teach reading.

- Teachers who teach any grade 7-12 state-coded reading course must be reading endorsed or certified.
- There are two state statutes that require *additional* teachers to be reading endorsed or certified.
  - **1011.62(9)(c) 7.(d)1 F.S)**
    - Requires any K-12 teacher, including ESE and ESOL, who is providing intensive reading intervention (i.e., MTSS Tier 3 students as defined by the district's K-12 Comprehensive Reading Plan) be reading endorsed or certified. **This statute took effect at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.**
  - **1008.25(7)(b)3 F.S)**
    - Requires that any teacher, including ESE and ESOL, who is teaching reading to retained third graders, including summer camp students, must be reading endorsed or certified. **This state statute took effect on July 1, 2020.**

### **How does Bradford County identify students to receive intensive reading interventions?**

Each district in Florida has created Identification/Intervention Decision Tree charts within the K-12 Comprehensive Reading Research-Based Reading Plan. According to s. 1011.62(9) F.S., these plans "shall be developed with input from school district personnel, including teachers and principals," and delineate how each district makes a local determination of which students will receive reading interventions.

Below is a link to the current K-12 Reading Plan indicating how students are identified for intervention.

[INSERT LINK HERE](#)

### **What is required to earn the Reading Endorsement?**

In our traditional pathway, there are five courses required for the Reading Endorsement.

Competency 1: Foundations of Reading Instruction (60 hours)

Competency 2: Application of Research-Based Instructional Practices/Content Area Reading (60 hours)

Competency 3: Foundations of Assessment (60 hours)

Competency 4: Differentiated Instruction (60 hours)

Competency 5: Practicum (60 hours)

The Bradford County School District will accept coursework from the organizations/companies listed below:

- NEFEC
- Schultz Institute
- FDLRS
- UF Literacy Matrix (Flamingo)

You may also check with your Reading Coach to see if they will be facilitating any of the approved NEFEC courses.

### **Is there an alternative option to completing the five 60 credit hour components?**

- In lieu of completing a Reading Endorsement Program, **teachers who receive a passing score on the Reading Subject Area Exam (passed within the last 10 years) may be awarded the Reading Endorsement without completing the previously required coursework.** Applications for the Reading Endorsement must be submitted to FLDOE on or after December 22, 2019. This option is valid through 06/30/2024.
- Any teacher that completed a Florida state-approved teacher preparation program and believes they completed coursework that could be applied towards the Reading Endorsement may apply to FLDOE to add the Reading Endorsement and have their transcripts reviewed.
- 15 Semester hours in college reading coursework or a combination of college coursework and district professional development ccredit.

### **How do I add the Reading Endorsement to my teaching certificate?**

Once you have completed the requirements, you may contact Aimee Ferguson via email [ferguson.aimee@mybradford.us](mailto:ferguson.aimee@mybradford.us) or via phone at 90.4-966-6031 and she will provide you with instructions on how to apply and pay the \$75 fee.

### **I am out-of-field in Reading. What is required of me?**

You must complete 120 in-service points (two district courses) or six (6) semester college credit hours of coursework in Reading each school year. After all five (5) courses have been completed, the Reading Endorsement must be added to your teaching certificate.