

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District School Superintendents

**FROM:** Jim Warford  
Chancellor, K-12

Mary Laura Openshaw  
Director, Just Read, Florida!

**DATE:** March 26, 2004

**RE:** Reading Endorsement

We have great news to share with you! Due to new flexibility provided to states from the United States Department of Education regarding the highly qualified teacher provision under No Child Left Behind, we are pleased to inform you that the reading endorsement is no longer a requirement for sixth grade teachers teaching reading to sixth grade middle school classes, as long as the teacher is experienced and certified in elementary education, either K-6 or 1-6.

The Course Code Directory will reflect this change. We still encourage those teachers to take advantage of the add-on reading endorsement programs offered by their district.

Thank you for what you do, every day, to help achieve Governor Bush's goal that all children will be reading on grade level or higher by 2012.

cc: Reading and Language Arts Supervisors  
Professional Development Contacts

JIM WARFORD  
K-12 CHANCELLOR