

Reading Certification and Endorsement in Florida

As provided in s. 1012.56(11), F.S., the State Board of Education shall adopt rules as necessary to implement education certification requirements.

Rule Title	Rule Index	Program Requirement Modifications	Effective Date	Impact Date
Approval of Preservice Teacher Preparation Programs	Chapter 6A, FAC	Preservice reading requirements	Fall of 2000	Spring of 2004
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Pre-K – Primary ◆ Elementary Education ◆ K-12 primary teachers of reading 	6A-5.066 (3)(b)3.a. (I) and (III)	<u>Increase in reading coursework to 12 semester hours with at least 6 hours in:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ understanding the reading process ◆ beginning reading instruction ◆ administration & interpretation of reading assessments ◆ reading problem identification and prescription ◆ teaching reading across the content areas 	Fall of 2000	Spring of 2004
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Middle School ◆ High School ◆ K-12 non-primary teachers of reading 	6A-5.066 (3)(b)3.a. (II) and (III)	<u>Increase in reading coursework to 3 semester hours in methods of teaching reading to include:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ reading strategies ◆ administration & interpretation of reading assessments ◆ teaching reading in the content areas 	Fall of 2000	Spring of 2004
Specialization Requirements	Chapter 6A, FAC	Teacher reading certification and reading endorsement		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ K-12 Reading Certification <i>Besides passing the reading certification exam, minimum requirements include:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Master's in Reading or</i> 2. <i>Bachelor's Degree with at least 30 hours of reading coursework</i> 	6A-4.0291	<u>Addition of content requirements:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 3 semester hours in instructional assessments, strategies, & materials on SBRR <u>Adjustment in content requirement:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 3 semester hours in <i>supervised</i> practicum in strategies & materials <i>based upon SBRR to address the prevention, identification, and intervention of reading difficulties</i> 	July 30, 2002	* Teacher application process w/submission of transcripts to DOE Certification Office: Fall of 2002

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ K-12 Reading Endorsement <i>Minimum requirements include:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Bachelor's degree and certification in a degree area <u>and</u></i> 2. <i>15 semester hours in reading</i> 	6A-4.0292	<p><u>Addition of a new endorsement offering of 15 credits:</u> 15 semester hours of reading coursework based upon SBRR to include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 6 hours in reading process ◆ 3 hours in instructional assessments ◆ 3 hours in differentiating instruction ◆ 3 hours of supervised practicum based on SBRR to prevent, identify, & remediate reading difficulties 	July 30, 2002	<p>* Teacher application process w/submission of transcripts to DOE Certification Office: Fall of 2002</p> <p>** District Add-On Alternative Program: Spring of 2003</p>
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Internal Policy Changes/Adjustments:

The Just Read, Florida! Office in coordination with the Office of Multicultural Student Language Education is working toward alignment of specific common competencies and training activities in the endorsement/certification areas of reading with English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) in order to:

- ◆ maximize efficient use of teacher training time
- ◆ increase instructional capacity for high quality reading instruction
- ◆ increase student reading proficiency among diverse populations

* Since August 6, 2002, a total of 20 teacher applications for the reading endorsement have been submitted to the Florida Department of Education. Educators with transcripts that currently reflect at least 15 semester hours of reading coursework are potential candidates for the reading endorsement at this time. With distinctions among the number and type of reading courses offered throughout the state of Florida, each university's teacher education program will vary in its preparations to reflect the reading endorsement in tandem with variance in the rate of submissions, quantity of eligible submissions, and Department issuance of endorsements.

** The Department's Add-On Certification Program requires that districts submit their proposed add-on reading program for approval in order to offer training toward any type of add-on certification or endorsement. The Just Read, Florida! Office has determined that competencies must be established in order to:

- ◆ provide a framework for districts to build their add-on programs that addresses the reading endorsement
- ◆ set standards and expectations for districts regarding teacher knowledge and skills in reading for their professional development
- ◆ work toward consistency in reading endorsement offerings provided through district training and university courses

A draft of the reading endorsement competencies is currently in refinement, and final approval is expected before the end of January 2003. Subsequently, a joint memo from the offices of Just Read, Florida! and Educator Recruitment and Professional Development will be

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disseminated to district superintendents with a matrix of the competencies for districts to develop their add-on certification programs in reading. In addition, the established competencies will provide districts with guidelines for providing high quality professional development in reading. Specifically, districts should refer to the competencies in reviewing their Master Inservice Plan components in reading and use the competencies as they plan their professional development activities.