

Broward County Public Schools

Reading Endorsement Add-On Program – FDOE Approved 2020-2025

BCPS Reading Endorsement Add-on Program

State Board of Education approved Broward County Public Schools' add-on Reading Endorsement Program is in effect from April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2025. All participants seeking endorsement must complete all courses in order within the five-year period. The Reading Endorsement program consists of the following five online courses offered through Broward Virtual University (BVU):

- **Competency 1: Foundations of Literacy – 60 hours:**

Teachers will develop substantive understanding of six components of reading as a process: oral language, phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary.

- **Competency 2: Application of Research-Based Literacy Practices – 60 hours:**

Teachers will scaffold student learning by applying the principles of research-based reading instruction and integrating the six components of reading. Teachers will engage in the systematic problem-solving process.

- **Competency 3: Foundations of Literacy Assessment -- 60 hours:**

Teachers will understand how to select and administer appropriate assessments and analyze data to inform reading instruction to meet the needs of all students. Teachers will engage in the systematic problem-solving process.

- **Competency 4: Differentiated Reading Instruction – 60 hours:**

Teachers will have a broad knowledge of students from differing profiles in order to understand and apply research-based instructional practices by differentiating process, product, and context. Teachers will engage in the systematic problem-solving process.

- **Competency 5: Demonstration of Accomplishment -- 60 hours:**

Teachers will, through a culminating practicum, demonstrate knowledge of the Components of reading, as well as assessments and data analysis, to implement a comprehensive research-based reading plan of instruction for all students. Teachers will engage in the systematic problem-solving process.

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Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I register for BVU Reading Endorsement Online Courses?

- Course names and calendars are available through <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/35413> and registration is available in Learning Across Broward (LAB) <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/35417>.
- BVU Calendar: <https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/domain/13712/bvu/BVU-Calendar.pdf>

2. Is there a tuition charge or registration fee for the Broward Reading Endorsement Courses?

- For information on course fees and cancellations, visit the BVU site at <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/35413>

3. Do I have to complete the BVU Reading Endorsement Courses in order?

- Yes, starting in August 2019, reading endorsement courses must be taken in order starting with Comp 1 and ending with Comp 5 as each competency builds on the other. A participant will not be able to register for a subsequent reading endorsement course until the current course has been successfully completed.

4. Can I register for more than one reading endorsement course at the same time?

- No, starting in August 2019, a participant can only register for one course at a time. It is recommended that participants complete a minimum of two courses per school year.

5. What is the expected time to complete the reading endorsement program through BVU?

- BVU Reading Endorsement courses run for *eight (8) weeks during the Summer, Fall I, Fall II, Spring 1 and Spring II. Each reading course has a *built-in self-paced track which means that participants will be able to advance through the course with the successful completion of each module and complete the course sooner than the 8 weeks if desired.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Participants in-service points will be reflected on in-service record once the course is officially closed. However, a participant can still register for a subsequent course during the registration window if he or she successfully completed all assignments and survey in LAB.
- If courses are filled, participant can e-mail BVU@browardschools.com and request to be added to the waitlist for the desire course and dates.

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6. How do I add Reading Endorsement to my teaching certificate?

- Teachers that successfully complete Comp 1 through Comp 5 can access the Help Guide link below to add learn more about adding reading endorsement to an existing certificate:
<https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/Domain/12647/Help%20Guide%20Adding%20Subject%20Area%20FLDOE%2012.9.19.pdf>
- **Note:** Teachers who graduated from the state of Florida approved programs such as **Exceptional Student Education, Elementary Education, or Early Childhood** after 2006 **may** have completed some or all their five (5) reading endorsement courses. Reading endorsement or certification must be on the teaching certificate or teachers must apply for reading endorsement through the FDOE to add it or to determine if endorsement requirements were met.

7. Who should I contact if I have questions about Reading Endorsement?

- For general information pertaining to the reading endorsement program, participants can e-mail: LER_Reading_Endorsement@browardschools.com
- For information regarding course registration via BVU, participants can e-mail: BVU@browardschools.com

8. How do I know if I need the reading endorsement?

- F.S. Statute 1011.62 states that beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, any K-12 teacher (including ESE teachers) who teaches **intensive reading intervention (Tier 3)**, third grade retained students, and/or third-grade summer academy will need to be reading endorsed or certified or be working towards it.

9. May teachers who are not certified or endorsed in reading beginning in 2020-2021 provide the intensive reading interventions and can they be considered “out-of-field” while working toward earning the reading endorsement?

- Yes. In accordance with Rule 6A-1.0503, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Definition of Qualified Instructional Personnel, teachers who are not certified or endorsed in reading may be considered out-of-field and can continue to provide intensive reading interventions as they work toward earning the certification or endorsement in reading.

10. How many Reading Endorsement Competencies (Courses) must an “out-of-field” teacher complete each

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year in order to continue to provide intensive reading interventions beginning in 2020-2021?

- A teacher who completes at least two of the five reading endorsement competencies per year may continue to provide intensive reading interventions.
- Rule 6A-1.0503, F.A.C., states that teachers who are out-of-field must earn six semester hours of college credit, or the equivalent in-service credit, toward the appropriate certification within one calendar year from the date of initial appointment to the out-of-field assignment, and each calendar year thereafter until all requirements are completed.

11. Can I take the Reading Subject Area Exam in lieu of reading endorsement courses for reading endorsement?

- Yes, on November 15, 2019, a new rule was passed under Board Rule 6A-4.0292-Specialization Requirements for the Reading Endorsement effective December 15, 2019, teachers who receive a passing score on the Reading Subject Area Exam will be awarded the Reading Endorsement without completing the previously required coursework as part of the reading master's program. A teacher must have a teaching certificate to add the passing of the Reading subject area test to their teaching certificate as an endorsement.
- **Clarification:** A teacher who passes the Reading K-12 subject area exam (without completing master's program) will be adding the endorsement to their certificate not changing their certification. Please know that the teacher will still need to apply to FDOE to add reading endorsement to their certificate. Directions to apply are under question #6 of this FAQ.