

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> **Important Note: If courses are filled at time of registration, participants can e-mail BVU@browardschools.com and request to be added to the waitlist for the desire course and starting date.**

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 traditional 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 facilitated, 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 their 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.

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

- Teachers that successfully complete Comp 1 through Comp 5 through BVU can access the **Steps Required to Add Reading Endorsement to an Existing Certificate Help Guide**:
<https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/Domain/12647/Help%20Guide%20Adding%20Subject%20Area%20FLDOE%2012.9.19.pdf>. For more information regarding general certification questions, visit the [BCPS Talent Acquisition Department](#).

6A. What if I graduated from a Florida Approved Program such as Exceptional Student Education, Elementary Education, or Early Childhood after 2006-2008 and I think I may have completed some of the reading endorsement courses, how can I verify this information?

- If a teacher thinks they have completed some or all the reading required courses, they can verify with their college/university, but must still apply to the Florida Department of Education apply for reading endorsement to determine eligibility by following the **Steps Required to Add Reading Endorsement to an Existing Certificate Help Guide**:
<https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/Domain/12647/Help%20Guide%20Adding%20Subject%20Area%20FLDOE%2012.9.19.pdf>.

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

- For general information pertaining to the reading endorsement add-on program, send e-mail to LER_Reading_Endorsement@browardschools.com
- For information regarding course registration or to verify if reading endorsement courses taken via Broward Virtual University (BVU) in previous years still count towards reading endorsement, contact or 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 reading certified.

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9. 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 are eligible to apply to the Florida Department of Education for the Reading Endorsement without completing the previously required coursework as part of the reading master's program. Note that an endorsement is a rider to a certificate, so you must have a valid FL educator's certificate to add the Reading Endorsement.
- To qualify for the reading endorsement by way of passing subject area exam in Reading, the exam must have been earned within the past 10 years; and the test may not have been used for issuance of a now expired professional certificate. Additionally, applications to add the Reading Endorsement must have been received by the State on or after 12/22/2019, since this is when the State changed the specialization.
- Please visit the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) website for more information. Here is a link to information specific to the Reading K-12 (035) Exam: <http://www.fl.nesinc.com/prepPage.asp?test=035>

Florida Reading Endorsement Add-on Plan Vendors

10. How do I receive credit for courses completed with Florida Reading Endorsement Add-on Plan Vendors?

- Teachers can opt to take their reading endorsement courses through any of the BCPS approved vendors posted on the [BVU website](#).
- Credit for courses completed through approved vendors are processed through the External Course Credit process in **Learning Across Broward (LAB)**. Log in to LAB and select the External Credit Request Tab. Select the BCPS Authorized request and complete.

11. What is needed to submit a request for credit?

- Once a course is completed through an approved vendor obtain an electronic version of a certificate of completion and/or an official transcript. The request through LAB will require the attachment of this

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documentation for processing. Submission for credit must be completed within 12 months from the end date of the course.

12. Who can submit a request for credit?

- Anyone with an active LAB account may submit External Course Credit Requests.

13. How long does the process take to get credit approved and on the transcript?

- BCPS Authorized requests, submitted with all required information and documentation, will be processed within 2 weeks.

Document Subject to Change. Please check back regularly for updates!