

READING/LITERACY RESOURCES & INFORMATION

Summer/Fall 2003

New License Requirements for a Reading Endorsement

In 2003, the Teacher Standards & Practices Commission (TSPC) revised Oregon's Reading Specialist Endorsement requirements. TSPC approved the new requirement that teachers complete an "approved program" to receive the Reading Specialist Endorsement on their license.

The TSPC requirements now include completion of coursework, satisfactory completion of practica, and passing the Praxis II test in Reading. Note: Only a college-supervised practica will satisfy the program completion requirement.

There will be a number of options for teachers to complete programs that are approved by TSPC. There are several approved Reading Endorsement programs offered by colleges and universities in Oregon in place. Also, a new distance education collaborative program (CREADE) was recently initiated by the public universities.

For more information on licensure changes, see TSPC's website at: <http://www.tspc.state.or.us/>.

Reading First

In fall 2002, Oregon received a six-year \$50 million Reading First grant, part of No Child Left Behind. The purpose of Reading First is to ensure that every child can read at grade level or above by the end of third grade. Oregon's approved application calls for grants to be awarded to eligible districts to fund implementation of the Oregon Reading First plan described in the state's approved application to the U.S. Department of Education.

To that end, Oregon's 20 eligible districts – and the 78 eligible schools within those eligible districts – were notified of the Oregon Reading First grant opportunity and invited to attend an Orientation on November 12, 2002. Reading First eligibility for both districts and schools is determined by 1) student performance and 2) level of poverty.

Following the orientation, 16 of the eligible districts sent "Letters of Intent to Apply" for Oregon Reading First grants. On January 7, 2003, the Oregon Department of Education sponsored a Grant-Writing Workshop for interested districts. Grant applications were received March 3, 2003. Thereafter, 15 eligible districts submitted applications for a total of 44 eligible schools. In April, 13 districts with a total of 32 schools were funded with Reading First grants. Over 9,200 Oregon K–3 students will receive the benefit of these grants.

Grant funds provide schools with the means to learn about and implement scientifically-based reading strategies and to purchase materials that will support implementation. School and district teams will receive professional development throughout the coming school year. In addition, schools will be able to purchase approved reading programs and materials necessary to implement the Oregon Reading First plan.

A second round of Oregon Reading First funding is scheduled for April 2005.

Reading First's website at ODE is available at:
<<http://www.ode.state.or.us/cifs/grants/readingfirst/>>.

One-Stop Website at ReadOregon.org

Several Oregon educational agencies and associations joined together last year to create a single website to centralize information on reading/literacy resources where you can learn about:

- * literacy courses, modules, workshops (e.g., offered by the Oregon Department of Education, ESDs, OEA, and colleges and universities)
- * literacy programs of study such as new statewide CREADE distance education Reading Endorsement program, and program for general classroom teachers
- * resource links in reading/literacy
- * license requirements in reading
- * K-12 standards in language arts/reading
- * assessment
- * adult and family literacy resources.

More than 1,450 visits have been logged at ReadOregon since its public launch in February 2003.

Collaborative Reading Education And Distance Education (CREADE)

This new collaborative program has been recently initiated by the Colleges/Schools of Education of five public universities – Eastern Oregon University, Oregon State University, Portland State University, Southern Oregon University, and Western Oregon University.

Various program and course options are available through CREADE:

- * Literacy Education Program for general classroom teachers
- * Reading Endorsement Program for teachers who want to be Reading Specialists and add the endorsement to their teaching license
- * 3-credit courses and 1-credit modules in reading
- * courses which may apply toward a master's degree.

Teachers can apply online to participate through any of the five universities as their “home” institution, and thereafter, enroll in CREADE courses offered from any of these universities. Most of the 3-credit courses and 1-credit modules in CREADE are available in accessible distance education modes such as online.

CREADE courses began spring term 2003 with 67 enrollments. Summer term enrollments totaled 150. Through federal grant funding, tuition assistance was available to teachers enrolling in courses spring and summer; tuition assistance is also available for fall term courses. Teachers from GEAR UP (specially designated high-need) schools have received GEAR UP tuition assistance in addition to their CREADE assistance.

Currently, 220 teachers have applied for a CREADE home institution. Teachers can continue to apply online: <<http://www.ous.edu/aca/CREADE/application.htm>>. For teachers who already have a home institution, information about CREADE programs (e.g., 2003-04 course schedule, advising, tuition assistance opportunities, Frequently Asked Questions) is available at <<http://www.ous.edu/aca/CREADE/>>.

Oregon Network for Education

The Oregon Network for Education (ONE) is a “one-stop” website that houses a database of distance education courses (over 2,000 in a variety of subject areas) and programs (more than 75 certificate and degree programs) from about 30 providers in Oregon – K-12,

community colleges, and four-year colleges/universities. Last year, K-12 online schools were invited to join ONE for the first time, so the searchable database now provides information about courses available to high school students (and some middle school level as well) who may need access to more flexibly delivered courses. College-level courses are also available for students who are “college-ready” in some subject areas.

Check out ONE and search for courses at this website: <OregonONE.org>.

Educational Media/ Librarianship Endorsement

Portland State University has recently redesigned its Educational Media/Librarianship Endorsement program to a distance education (online) program format to make it more widely accessible throughout the state. The program focuses on the preparation of the school library media specialist for professional positions in K-12 library media centers. The distance delivery format offers time and place flexibility to students. The program also offers some face-to-face classes, and online courses incorporate a weekend campus residency.

The 29-credit endorsement program can be completed in four terms, including school-based practica. Recommendation for the endorsement, to be added to a current teaching license, is made to the Teacher Standards & Practices Commission (TSPC) upon successful completion of the program.

Fall 2003 Courses

Lib 425 Instructional Media & Technology, 3 credits

Lib 428/528 Children's Literature, 3 credits

Lib 534 Administration of School Library Media Center, 3 credits

Lib 541 Reference & Information Systems & Services, 4 credits

For more information about the program, visit the website at <www.ceed.pdx.edu/lib_media>.

For More Information



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