

Reading Endorsement Updates as of January 10, 2020

- (1) The DOE approved a rule change on November 15, 2019 that an educator can submit a passing score on a Reading K-12 Subject Area Exam (taken within the past ten years of date of applying), with no course work, to add on Reading Endorsement to his or her Florida teaching certificate. The change became effective on December 22, 2019. The teacher must pay the \$150 fee for the exam and the \$75 fee for adding on Reading Endorsement.

Teachers can download sample questions, test specs, and register for the exam at:

<http://www.fl.nesinc.com/testPage.asp?test=035>

<http://www.fl.nesinc.com/prepPage.asp?test=035>

What does this mean for a teacher who has already applied to add-on Reading Endorsement for the purpose of having his/her college transcript(s) evaluated for possible course exemptions?

According to the Bureau of Educator Certification:

If an educator has already applied to add-on Reading Endorsement, but has not received a Status of Eligibility letter from the DOE yet...

He or she can cancel the application and re-apply under the new rule. S/he can call the DOE's 800 number (1-800-445-6739) or send an email to the following address: Education.Certification@fldoe.org. The \$75 add-on fee the applicant paid up front can either be refunded (showing up as a credit on the applicant's credit card) or the payment can be re-applied to the new application submitted. The applicant will need to specify what s/he wants to do when requesting the cancellation.

BIG CHANGE: If an educator has already applied to add-on Reading Endorsement and received a Status of Eligibility letter from the DOE...

The educator may cancel the application, but will not receive a refund of the \$75 add-on fee since the application has already been processed. If the educator receives a passing score on the exam, he or she may re-apply using the exam score and will have to pay the \$75 add-on fee for another application.

To expedite this process, the district will handle the cancellations:

Email Kitty Robinson (kathryn.robinson@sdhc.k12.fl.us) the following information by **January 23, 2020 at 4 PM**

- Applicant's name as it appears on the Status of Eligibility letter
- Florida DOE # from the top of Status of Eligibility letter
- The statement: I wish to cancel my open application for adding Reading Endorsement onto my Florida teaching certificate

Do **NOT** apply with an exam score until Kitty Robinson notifies you that your application has been cancelled.

(2) Hillsborough County School District has reached an agreement with the Schultz Center to provide online Reading Endorsement courses for our teachers, starting February 3, 2020. There are a set number of seats in Competencies 1 to 5 for which the district will pay the course tuition. The courses are offered to certain teachers in a predetermined way. **Educators must follow the directions on the attached application in order to be considered for a district paid seat in one of these courses.**

For the latest changes and updates on Reading Endorsement, visit the Reading Endorsement conference site often by clicking on the "Departments" icon on your IDEAS desktop and locating Reading Endorsement under Office of Teaching and Learning.

For specific questions, contact Kitty Robinson (kathryn.robinson@sdhc.k12.fl.us).