



## I've finished the courses for the Ohio Reading Endorsement, now what do I do??

This question comes up a lot, so here are some more details the literacy faculty at the University of Toledo hope will be helpful to you as you finish the final steps of adding the Ohio Reading Endorsement to your license.

### What test(s) do I need to take?

Effective **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013**, the reading tests are Pearson's Reading subtest I/038 and Reading subtest II/039. Both passing scores are 220<sup>1</sup>. There is more information about all Ohio Assessments for Educators via: <http://www.oh.nesinc.com/>

A website with specific information about the reading subtests can be found at: [http://www.oh.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\\_FRAG/OH038\\_TestPage.html](http://www.oh.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/OH038_TestPage.html)

Upon completion of coursework and passing the exams, candidates submit an application to the State to receive the endorsement. Be sure to have your exam results sent to UT as well as the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) so that our "e-signer" will receive notification of your results and verify to ODE that you have completed all the requirements for the endorsement.

### How can I prepare for the exams?

Here are some tips based on comments from students who have recently taken the Pearson exams.

1. Remember the exam is for K-12 levels. There will be questions about issues for all grade levels.
2. We suggest reviewing key phonics terms, ideas about story grammar, non-fiction text structures, various forms of assessment and how to interpret them, some highly respected interventions like reciprocal teaching and techniques for vocabulary development. Be sure you understand what fluency means and ways to measure it, what are some comprehension strategies that are very helpful to readers (e.g., check out the website Into The Book, <http://reading.ecb.org/>), ideas about phonemic awareness, the alphabetic principle etc...
3. Some materials you could use to review would be videos at [learner.org](http://learner.org) that are about literature and language arts...
4. If you have the materials from the courses you took at UT, review those... Re-reading reading guides can be helpful.
5. The website Reading Rockets has lots of good information too: <http://www.readingrockets.org/>
6. The extended response questions often ask for folks to describe assessments they might use with an individual, small group, or whole class and explain why/how to use them... and/or to look at some data, such as the results from an oral reading record, and describe a strength and weakness of the learner.... If you've forgotten how to interpret running records, you may want to review these ideas too, for example at: <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/readassess/1.0>
7. Working with English Language Learners may be something addressed... [colorincolorado.org](http://colorincolorado.org) has good resources for reviewing key ideas... There are also some good instructional strategies (that are also just good content area reading instructional strategies) explained at: <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/ell-readcomp0708/722>

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that the tests for the Ohio Reading Endorsement are not the same as the test identified by the State of Ohio as being another way of meeting requirements under the Third Grade Guarantee legislation. More information about that exam (Praxis #5203) can be found via: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee-District-Resources/Teacher-Credentials>



**Once I've taken the exams and received my passing results, then how do I make sure the endorsement is actually officially added to my license?**

1. Be sure you have a SAFE account. You can visit the Ohio Department of Education website to create or login to your SAFE account, at <https://safe.ode.state.oh.us/portal/signup/signup>
2. Once you are logged into your SAFE account you should be able to view "My Educator Profile" and, more specifically, your "CREDENTIALS" page.
3. Your "credentials" page will list any and all licenses and endorsements etc. that you have ever been granted by the Ohio Board of Education. Next to the license to which you wish to add the Ohio Reading Endorsement, you will select the action button that allows you to "ADD AN AREA." This drop-down menu should allow you to choose the Reading Endorsement as the "area" you wish to add.
4. Complete the online application to add the Reading Endorsement and be sure to add the "IRN number" for the University of Toledo on the application. That number is 063099.

With that number, your application and exam scores etc. will be sent to Tim Lewandowski in our Office of Student Services. Mr. Lewandowski is our "e-signer." He will check your transcript and unless there are any issues that require he check an applicant's background with my records, he will then authorize the endorsement be added to your license.

**Should you need additional information, please contact:**

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