



## **Keys to Comprehension and Vocabulary for Students with Learning Disabilities** *Online Course*

This online professional development course presents research-based practices for teaching comprehension and vocabulary in any subject using content teaching and reading materials. The course includes an introductory module about the literacy instruction needs of students with learning disabilities and modules from *The Key Comprehension Routine* and *The Key Vocabulary Routine* online courses. It is appropriate for all grades 4-12 educators, and meets the recertification requirement for teachers in Massachusetts of 15 PDP's related to Students with Learning Disabilities. Participants learn how to teach comprehension and vocabulary in an inclusion classroom with these goals in mind:

- Incorporating multiple literacy instructional practices that are proven to be helpful for all students
- Differentiating instruction to support the needs of students who struggle with comprehension and vocabulary
- Providing scaffolds to support students who struggle with reading because of a learning disability

The online course is organized into modules that include interactive activities, reading assignments, quizzes, and video clips from live training. It is designed for use with *The Key Comprehension Routine* and *The Key Vocabulary* training books. Course participants complete “use your content” activities that allow them to generate lessons that incorporate the instructional practices into classroom instruction using existing content reading and teaching material.

The online course is “asynchronous” which means participants can complete the course at their convenience; users may log in at any time to work through the modules at their own pace. The course will start upon confirmation of registration. The course will be available for six months.

On average, the course takes 23.5 hours to complete. A certificate of completion for 23.5 hours of participation is provided at the end of the course when all module assignments have been completed and quizzes passed with a minimum score of 80% (quizzes may be taken multiple times).

Topics covered in the course:

- Introductory Module: Students with Learning Disabilities
  - RtI and models of tiered instruction
  - Causes of reading difficulty
  - Review of research on effective literacy instruction for students with LD
  - Gradual release of responsibility, differentiation, and scaffolds
- Key Comprehension Routine Modules:
  - Introduction to comprehension instruction
  - Critical thinking
  - Text structure
  - Main idea skills
  - Top-down topic webs
  - Two-column notes
  - Summarizing
  - Question generation
- Key Vocabulary Routine Modules:
  - How students learn words
  - Previewing vocabulary before reading
  - Four activities to make word connections
  - Selecting and teaching words in-depth
  - Teaching use of context and word parts
  - Promoting word consciousness

*For more information, please contact:*

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