



Indiana's Early Literacy Endorsement Professional Development and Licensure Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Number	Question	Answer
1.	Who is required to hold Indiana's Early Literacy Endorsement?	<p>Pursuant to House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1558 (2023), Indiana teacher candidates who are issued their first professional educator license in one or more of the content areas and grade spans noted below after June 30, 2025, are required to obtain the Early Literacy Endorsement. Additionally, Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 1 (2024) revised Indiana Code (IC) 20-28-5-19.7 to require current Indiana educators renewing a professional educator license or charter school license at the practitioner (five-year) or accomplished practitioner (10-year) level on or after July 1, 2027 to complete the Early Literacy Endorsement for license renewal. The Early Literacy Endorsement requirements apply to Pre-K-5 and Special Education teachers who hold these licenses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Early Childhood (Pre-K-3);● Early Childhood Special Education Pre-K-3;● Elementary Education/Generalist 1-6, K-6;● Elementary/Primary (K-3);● Elementary/Intermediate (4-6); and● Special Education K-6, 1-6, K-12, or Pre-K-12
2.	What are the educator preparation program requirements for the Early Literacy Endorsement?	<p>Beginning July 1, 2024, all educator preparation providers (EPPs) serving elementary, early childhood, and special education teacher candidates must include content within the curriculum that is aligned to science of reading. EPPs are responsible for preparing preservice teachers to meet the Early Literacy Endorsement requirements, which is mandatory for program completers beginning July 1, 2025.</p> <p>Veteran teachers seeking to add the Early Literacy Endorsement to their license may do so after completing</p>



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

		80 hours of IDOE-approved professional development and passing the Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205) Praxis exam.
3.	What is the licensure examination requirement for the Early Literacy Endorsement?	A passing score of 159 on the Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205) Praxis exam is required for an individual to add the Early Literacy Endorsement to their license. Educators who believe they have already obtained 80 hours of evidence-based professional development aligned with the requirements outlined in IC 20-28-5-19.7 are also eligible to receive a voucher to cover the cost of the exam upon IDOE's approval.
4.	Who is eligible to participate in the 80 hours of professional development provided by Keys to Literacy?	<p>Eligible educators are those who have an existing Indiana license for grades Pre-K-6, a special education license, and administrators serving in Pre-K-6 grade buildings. This may include, but is not limited to, the primary classroom teacher for early childhood or elementary, an instructional coach (supporting Pre-K-6 and special education educators), a reading interventionist (supporting grades Pre-K-6), or a special education teacher. Eligible educators must hold a license that covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early Childhood (Pre-K-3); ● Early Childhood Special Education Pre-K-3; ● Elementary Education/Generalist 1-6, K-6; ● Elementary/Primary (K-3); ● Elementary/Intermediate (4-6); and ● Special Education K-6, 1-6, K-12, or Pre-K-12 ● Charter School License, Serving PreK-6; or ● Building Level Administration, Serving Pre-K-6. <p>Enrollment information can be found here.</p>
5.	Who is eligible to receive the \$1,200 stipend for completion of the professional development	Eligible educators are those who have an existing Indiana license for grades Pre-K-6, a special education license, and administrators serving in Pre-K-6 grade buildings. This may include, but is not limited to, the



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

	<p>provided by Keys to Literacy?</p>	<p>primary classroom teacher for early childhood or elementary, an instructional coach (supporting Pre-K-6 and special education educators), a reading interventionist (supporting grades Pre-K-6), or a special education teacher. To be eligible, educators must hold a license that covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early Childhood (Pre-K-3); ● Early Childhood Special Education Pre-K-3; ● Elementary Education/Generalist 1-6, K-6; ● Elementary/Primary (K-3); ● Elementary/Intermediate (4-6); and ● Special Education K-6, 1-6, K-12, or Pre-K-12 ● Charter School License, Serving PreK-6; or ● Building Level Administration, Serving Pre-K-6.
6.	<p>When will eligible educators receive the \$1,200 stipend for completion of the professional development provided by Keys to Literacy?</p>	<p>Stipends will be processed upon the successful completion of each of the three outlined components described here. Generally, participants can expect to receive each stipend no later than 90 days after successful completion of each component.</p>
7.	<p>Are there other ways educators can meet the required 80 hours of professional development?</p>	<p>Yes. These specific requirements are outlined here.</p>
8.	<p>How do teacher candidates currently enrolled in an Indiana EPP earn the Early Literacy Endorsement?</p>	<p>By July 1, 2024, EPPs preparing elementary, early childhood, and special education teacher candidates must include content within the curriculum that is aligned to science of reading. EPP completers will also be required to obtain a passing score (159 or higher) on the Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205) Praxis exam. EPPs are responsible for ensuring their program completers have met all program and licensure requirements, including testing.</p>



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

9.	How do educators who hold an eligible Indiana license obtain a voucher to cover the cost of the Praxis exam?	Once 80 hours of approved professional development have been completed, educators who hold an eligible Indiana license can apply to receive a voucher to use when registering for the Praxis 5205. The application will be available here by July 1, 2024. Only one voucher will be provided per educator.
10.	When can an individual apply for the Early Literacy Endorsement in LVIS360?	Beginning Thursday, August 1, educators can apply for the addition of the early literacy endorsement through LVIS360. Applicants will be required to submit proof of 80-hour professional development completion and their passing Praxis exam score (159 or higher).
11.	Is completion of 80 hours of professional development aligned to science of reading and passing the Praxis exam required just once, or is this a requirement for every future license renewal?	The 80 hours of IDOE-approved professional development and passage of the Praxis exam necessary to attain the Early Literacy Endorsement is only required once, and completion of the Early Literacy Endorsement requirements may be used once for the educator's next five- or 10-year license renewal. Later renewal requirements may be met through coursework, 90 hours/points of school or building-based professional development recorded in a Professional Growth Plan (PGP), or a combination thereof.
12.	What if I cannot meet the requirements to add the Early Literacy Endorsement?	<p>Individuals who do not meet the requirements of the Early Literacy Endorsement on the timeline required for their first professional educator license after June 30, 2025, may be eligible for a grace period of not more than one year. More information will be provided by IDOE prior to that date.</p> <p>License holders of five- or 10-year professional educator or charter school licenses in one of the specified licensure areas who are unable to complete the early literacy endorsement for their next license renewal falling on or after July 1, 2027, may also be eligible for a grace period of not more than one year. More information will be provided by IDOE prior to that date.</p>



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

13.	Is the Early Literacy Endorsement the same as the Reading Endorsement and/or Reading Specialist addition?	No. The Early Literacy Endorsement authorized in IC 20-28-5-19.7 is different from previous Reading or Reading Specialist licensure areas.
14.	Is there a required pay differential for educators who earn an Early Literacy Endorsement?	Yes. IC 20-28-9-1.5(e) requires schools to differentiate the amount of salary increase for teachers who possess the required Early Literacy Endorsement under IC 20-28-5-19.7 . Additional guidance is forthcoming.

Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with any questions.