

# Reading Specialist Certificate

This professional training is essential in diagnosing and helping children overcome reading disabilities, as well as in promoting developmental and interventional reading practices in schools. This program will enable students to obtain a Reading Specialist Certificate and will qualify them for the certification as a reading specialist (upon passing the PRAXIS exam).

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## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS and PROCEDURES

Visit the Graduate School webpage and click the "Apply" link on the left side of the screen. Begin by creating an account on CollegenET by clicking the "account" link on the Apply page.

**Individuals seeking admission as degree students in this program must comply with the general admission requirements for graduate students at Edinboro University and with the following specific admission requirements for this program:**

1. Complete the online application.
2. Pay an application fee of \$30.
3. Provide an official transcript verifying an earned baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
4. Minimum 3.0 overall GPA.
5. Copy of valid teaching certificate or complete a program of study approved by the Dean of Education, leading to certification as an elementary or secondary school teacher *prior* to completion of the program.

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## CURRICULUM

**27 semester hours of prescribed graduate credit is required as a partial requirement for the degree.**

**These required graduate credits should be earned as follows:**

READ 702 Literacy Interventions for Striving Readers  
READ 704 Comprehensive Literacy Curriculum: Design and Implementation  
READ 706 Foundations of Literacy: Theory and Instruction  
READ 707 Literacy Instruction for the Content Area Professional  
READ 708 English Language Learners in the Literacy Curriculum

READ 709 Literacy Difficulties: Assessment and Intervention  
READ 710 Organization, Supervision and Administration of Reading Programs  
READ 712 Reading Clinic  
READ 717 Language Arts Instruction: Design and Implementation

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## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

**Cumulative Grade Point Average.** Students must satisfactorily complete the course requirements of this program. To do so, the student must earn a cumulative average of "B" (3.00) or better. Students must not earn more than 6 semester hours of credit with a grade of "C".

**Certification: PRAXIS II: Reading Specialist Exam 5301.**

The Reading Specialist Certificate program prepares students for certification as a Reading Specialist. It is the student's responsibility to register for the *Reading Specialist PRAXIS* exam and to apply for Reading Specialist Certification. For students seeking certification outside of the Commonwealth of PA, it is the responsibility of the student to know the certification requirements for that state so that their state requirements are met.

Candidates seeking teacher certification from a state other than Pennsylvania should follow the procedures required by that state. Only international students who hold immigration status and have submitted a form of intent to become a citizen are eligible to apply for PDE teacher certification.

It is the student's responsibility to investigate certification requirements from states other than Pennsylvania.

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**For More Information:** If you have questions about the application process, please contact Edinboro University's School of Graduate Studies at [gradstudies@edinboro.edu](mailto:gradstudies@edinboro.edu) or at (814)732-2856 or toll-free (888) 845-2890.

For questions specific to the Reading Specialist Certificate, please contact **Dr. Karen Tyler** at (814) 732-2303 [kt Tyler@edinboro.edu](mailto:kt Tyler@edinboro.edu).

**Office for Accessibility Services:** For information or assistance regarding services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by persons with a disability, contact the Office for Accessibility Services (OAS), at (814) 732-2462. For additional information, visit the OAS web page.

**Financial Aid Considerations:** An academic year consists of fall, spring, and summer. Graduate students taking graduate level courses may receive up to \$20,500 in the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program. Most students will use their Stafford loans during the 9 month period (fall and spring). Students will want to be mindful of their financial aid to allow for funding for 12 months if planning on enrolling during the summer term. Students will have an option to apply for Graduate Plus loan or private loans if other funding has been exhausted. For more specific information, please contact the Financial Aid Office at (888) 611-2680 or [finaid@edinboro.edu](mailto:finaid@edinboro.edu).

**Employer Reimbursement:** Non-traditional students who are working and taking classes on a part-time basis may have employer-paid education benefits. The purpose of the employer tuition reimbursement agreement is to allow employees who receive reimbursement to defer payment of their tuition and fees until after grades are available at the end of the semester. Edinboro University accepts employer benefit plans through arrangements with the Bursar's Office by completing the enclosed employer tuition reimbursement agreement.

**Veterans' Education Benefits:** Information and printable forms regarding Veterans' Education Benefits and the Montgomery GI Bill are available at the Department of Veterans Affairs website, <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>. After the Department of Veterans Affairs approves a student's eligibility, and after the school certifies the student's enrollment, benefits are paid directly to the student after the end of each month.

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Edinboro University of Pennsylvania is an equal opportunity education institution and employer and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and disability in its activities, programs or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, Section 504, and the ADA. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact the Office of Human Resources and Faculty Relations, (814) 732-2703 or the Office of Social Equity (814) 732-2167, Reeder Hall, 219 Meadville Street, Edinboro, PA 16444.