

OTHER STATES – SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS/SCHOOLS BEYOND THIRD GRADE

“Which states have passed ‘Science of Reading’ Laws? What’s in them?”

Education Week, July 20, 2022 - Updated, Nov. 5, 2024

“According to an *Education Week* analysis, 40 states and the District of Columbia have passed laws or implemented new policies related to evidence-based reading instruction since 2013.”

This analysis included a state-by-state summary of what these laws. The summary of **Colorado speaks of the K-3 focus in our schools**. We see that same K-3 parameter in many states.

Colorado - K-3 teachers must complete training based in the science of reading.

But summaries from over 10 states shows their support **includes grades 4 & 5 – and even higher**.

Arkansas

A 2017 law requires **K-6 teachers** to demonstrate proficiency in scientific reading instruction and requires all other teachers, and administrators, to demonstrate “awareness” of it.

Delaware

The state requires **prospective elementary teachers** to receive instruction in 16 components of evidence-based early reading instruction and requires a minimum number of hours of training or PD for instructors in those programs on evidence-based strategies.

Illinois

The board will implement a new teacher-certification test **for elementary teachers in grades 1-6** that covers foundational literacy skills and bilingualism.

Iowa

The law also expands student supports **through grade 6**. Districts must provide personalized reading plans **for students K-6 who are not proficient in reading**, and must notify parents or guardians of their ability to request that their child be retained in the student's current grade level.

Missouri

The state has also dedicated **funding for K-5 educators to receive training** in the science of reading.

New Jersey

The department will create a PD program on foundational literacy for **teaching staff in grades K-6** that will be free to districts; districts must provide this PD or similar training to teaching staff in **grades K-6 annually**.

North Carolina

A 2021 law requires **all K-5 teachers** to take a professional learning course in the science of reading. Educator preparation programs in the state must also train elementary teachers in the science of reading.

Oklahoma

School districts that receive certain state funding are required to provide professional development in the science of reading **for teachers in grades pre-K-5**

Rhode Island

Elementary licensure candidates must show proficiency in the best practices of scientific reading instruction, and those seeking licensure for other grade levels must show an “awareness” of those practices.

Virginia

Legislation passed in 2023 extends **requirements for K-12 instruction and intervention through 8th grade.**

West Virginia

Elementary teacher-candidates must take nine credit hours of reading instruction that focus on five essential components of reading.

<https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/which-states-have-passed-science-of-reading-laws-whats-in-them/2022/07>

Five states – more specific information

1. Oregon – K-5

State council proposes new literacy requirements for teacher training and licensing

BY: **ALEX BAUMHARDT** - JULY 1, 2024 - *OREGON CAPITAL CHRONICLE*

Gov. Tina Kotek’s Early Literacy Educator Preparation Council released final recommendations for improving reading and writing instruction

Oregon teacher colleges and **future and current teachers hoping to get hired at public elementary schools** in the state could soon be required to demonstrate a much more robust understanding of how to teach reading and writing than is currently required.

Gov. Tina Kotek’s Early Literacy Educator Preparation Council – made up of K-12 and staff from Oregon teacher colleges, as well as literacy experts, an indigenous language expert and bipartisan state legislators – shared its **final recommendations** last week for overhauling literacy training **for elementary teachers in the state.**

The educator preparation council is focused on improving how teachers are trained. **The recommendations would apply to people teaching kindergarten through fifth grade** and to those pursuing a degree in elementary education and special education.

https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2024/07/01/state-council-proposes-new-literacy-requirements-for-teacher-training-and-licensing/?utm_source=ECS+Subscribers&utm_campaign=97c745bb29-ED_CLIPS_07_11_2024&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-97c745bb29-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D

2. Alabama – elementary teachers (not just K-3)

By **Jemma Stephenson**, May 16, 2024 - FROM ALABAMA REFLECTOR

The Alabama State Board of Education Thursday adopted a new literacy coursework for Science of Reading for teacher preparation programs in the state.

The change, approved on a unanimous vote, comes after years of a state focus on literacy scores, especially in the lower grades.

State Superintendent Eric Mackey **said the standards would apply to elementary teachers, collaborative special education teachers and “could be applied to some other areas also.”**

<https://www.the74million.org/article/alabama-state-board-of-education-approves-literacy-coursework-change/>

3. California – K-8

With 6 in 10 California Students Lagging Behind in Literacy, New Bill Would Mandate ‘Science of Reading’ Across State

By [Angelina Hicks](#), March 25, 2024, *The 74*

The bill also emphasizes the need for increased professional development for teachers.

With a majority of California third graders unable to read at grade level, proposed legislation would mandate teachers use the phonics-based science of reading.

“All English language arts, English language development, and reading textbooks and instructional materials for transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and any of grades 1 to 8, inclusive, shall adhere to the science of reading,” reads the bill which was submitted to the Assembly’s education and higher education committee in February.

<https://www.the74million.org/article/with-6-in-10-california-students-lagging-behind-in-literacy-new-bill-would-mandate-science-of-reading-across-state/>

[UPDATE – “California’s Reading Dilemma - Bill to mandate ‘science of reading’ in California classrooms dies. Supporters vow to bring the issue back next year.” *EdSource*, April 12, 2024]

4. Ohio – K-12

Science of reading enacted in Ohio’s new budget

BY [MEGAN HENRY](#) - JULY 21, 2023 – OHIO CAPITAL JOURNAL

The science of reading provisions in the budget include \$86 million for educator professional development, \$64 million for curriculum and instructional materials and \$18 million for literacy coaches.

Ohio students will learn how to read using the science of reading.

The state's two-year, \$191 billion budget that Gov. Mike DeWine signed earlier this month includes a chunk of money that goes toward implementing the science of reading, which [is based on decades](#) of research that shows how the human brain learns to read and incorporates phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

The budget includes stipends for teachers to go through professional development in the science of reading.

K-5 teachers, English language teachers in grades 6-12, intervention specialists, English learner teachers, reading specialists and instructional coaches will receive \$1,200 stipends. There will also be \$400 stipends for middle and high schoolers teachers in other subject areas.

<https://ohiocapitaljournal.com/2023/07/21/science-of-reading-enacted-in-ohios-new-budget/Professional-development>

5. Tennessee – K-5

How This Teacher Prep Program and District Aligned on the Science of Reading

By Sarah Schwartz - Nov. 18, 2024 – *Education Week*

We knew that we needed a stronger emphasis in foundational literacy, skills, pedagogy, and so ... this is the first semester we're offering a 6-credit hour **K-2 literacy methods** course.

A year later in the program of study, during their senior year, **the students will have a 3rd to 5th grade literacy-methods course** where they're still building on the knowledge that they gained their junior year, and then they're starting to put all these pieces together. My hope is that within the next one to two years, we really see stronger content knowledge with our first-year teachers.

<https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/how-this-teacher-prep-program-and-district-aligned-on-the-science-of-reading/2024/11>