

Read to Succeed Decision Rules

Read to Succeed (R2S) requirements for certified, in-service educators became effective July 1, 2015. As these educators renew certificates beginning July 1, 2015, they must pursue and complete the professional development or coursework associated with their certification—either the one course for the R2S Literacy Requirement or the four courses for the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement. Educators who must earn the four-course endorsement are encouraged to complete two of the four courses within the first five-year renewal cycle and the additional courses within their next five-year renewal period.

Timelines for completing the R2S requirements based on certificate renewal dates are summarized in the tables below.

R2S Literacy Requirement

Content Area Reading and Writing
3 semester hours or 60 professional development hours

Middle Level (all content areas), High School (all content areas), Pre-K–12 content areas, Career and Technology, Library Media Specialist, Principal, Administrator, School Guidance Counselor, School Psychologist, Speech-Language Therapist

Certificate renews	Deadline
July 1, 2015	June 30, 2020
July 1, 2016	June 30, 2021
July 1, 2017	June 30, 2022
July 1, 2018	June 30, 2023
July 1, 2019	June 30, 2024

R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement

Foundations in Reading, Instructional Practices, Assessment of Reading, Content Area Reading and Writing
12 semester hours or 240 professional development hours

Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, ESOL, Special Education (all categories), Montessori (Pre-K–12, Elementary I, and Elementary II)

Certificate renews	First Renewal Cycle	Deadline for completion
July 1, 2015	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2025
July 1, 2016	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2026
July 1, 2017	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2027
July 1, 2018	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2028
July 1, 2019	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2029

Please note that so long as the required coursework is on file with the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) by November 1 of the renewal year, the effective date of the credential will be July 1.

Decision Rules

- **Educators not meeting deadlines for fulfilling R2S requirements.** A certified educator who does not complete the required coursework by the applicable renewal deadline will be issued a one-year extension of his or her professional teaching certificate and notified in writing of the specific R2S requirements that must be completed by June 30 of the following year.
 - If the educator submits documentation by the extension deadline, the certificate will be renewed for the additional four years of the five-year renewal period. This is the same practice as followed for any educator who submits a request for a one-year extension of his or her professional certificate in order to complete renewal requirements.
 - If the educator does not submit documentation of completion by the extension deadline, the certificate will not be renewed. Requirements for renewing [expired credentials as outlined in Regulation 43-55](#) then apply.

- **Certified educators employed in a public school setting.** A certified educator employed in a public school setting must complete the R2S credential associated with his or her certification area(s).
 - An educator certified in a single field or in multiple fields with the same R2S credential level must earn the associated requirement. For instance, an educator certified only in an area of Special Education must earn the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement while an educator certified in High School Science must earn the R2S Literacy Requirement. An educator certified in two or more fields with the same requirement will earn that specific requirement. For example, an educator certified in the fields of Middle Level Language Arts and High School English must earn the R2S Literacy Requirement. An educator certified in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education must earn the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement.
 - An educator certified in multiple fields with varying levels of R2S requirements must earn the R2S credential associated with her or her employment. For example, an educator certified in Early Childhood Education and Tier 1 Elementary Principal must select the R2S credential associated with his or her assignment. If the educator is teaching Early Childhood, he or she must earn the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement. However, if the educator is assigned as an Assistant Principal, he or she must earn—at minimum—the R2S Literacy Requirement.
 - An educator certified in multiple fields at varying R2S levels may always choose to pursue the full R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement regardless of assignment.
 - An educator certified in multiple fields at varying R2S levels who is employed in a position not directly related to his or her certification areas (e.g., instructional assistant, substitute teacher, adult education teacher) may select the R2S credential to pursue. For example, an educator employed in this manner who is certified in Elementary Education and Middle Level Science may choose to earn the four course R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement or the one-course Literacy Requirement. At minimum, this educator must earn the one-course R2S Literacy Requirement.

- An educator who completes the R2S Literacy Requirement but is subsequently assigned to a position related to the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement must then earn the full endorsement.
- **Certified educators not employed in public school settings.** A certified educator who is not employed in a public school or school district must earn the R2S credential associated with his or her certification.
 - If the educator is certified in a single field or in multiple fields with the same R2S credential level, the educator must earn the associated requirement. For instance, an educator certified in an area of Special Education only must earn the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement. An educator certified in the fields of Middle Level Language Arts and High School English must earn the R2S Literacy Requirement while an educator certified in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education must earn the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement.
 - If the educator is certified in multiple fields with varying levels of R2S requirements, the educator may select which requirement to complete. For example, an educator certified in Elementary Education and Middle Level Science may choose to earn the four course R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement or the one-course Literacy Requirement. At minimum, this educator must earn the one-course R2S Literacy Requirement.
- **National Board certified teachers.** At the time an educator with National Board certification renews his or her South Carolina educator certificate beginning July 1, 2015, the educator must begin pursuing the R2S credential associated with his or her certification field(s) and employment. Although an educator’s National Board certification and South Carolina credential may be valid for a period of ten years, completion of the R2S requirements must follow standard five-year renewal periods. For example, a teacher whose National Board certificate renews effective July 1, 2017, must earn the R2S Literacy Requirement, if applicable, by June 30, 2022. If the full R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement is required, the teacher must earn the endorsement by June 30, 2027.
 - A National Board educator certified in one area must earn the R2S credential associated with that specific certification area. For example, an educator certified in Elementary Education must earn the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement while an educator certified in Mathematics must earn the R2S Literacy Requirement.
 - A National Board educator certified in more than one field must earn the R2S credential tied to his or assigned role or position. For example, an educator certified in Early Childhood Education and Tier 1 Elementary Principal must select the R2S credential associated with his or her assignment. If the educator is teaching Early Childhood, he or she must earn the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement. However, if the educator is assigned as an Assistant Principal, he or she must earn—at minimum—the R2S Literacy Requirement. An educator certified in multiple fields at varying R2S levels may always choose to pursue the full R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement regardless of assignment.
 - A National Board educator who completes the R2S Literacy Requirement but is subsequently assigned to a position related to the R2S Literacy Teacher Endorsement must then earn the full endorsement.