

# READING

## MEd DEGREE (WITH READING SPECIALIST ENDORSEMENT) READING TEACHER ENDORSEMENT

### MEd IN READING

The Reading Specialist MEd program prepares individuals to become leaders in literacy instruction. The program equips candidates to provide effective instructional strategies and support services to K–12 students in educational settings and other stakeholders.

As reading achievement becomes more of a priority in schools, the demand for capable and knowledgeable reading specialists in elementary and secondary education is expected to increase in the coming years. When you graduate, you will have the knowledge and skills necessary to become a leader in the field of reading/literacy instruction.

The Reading Specialist program covers the knowledge and skills required by the Illinois State Board of Education Content Standards for the Reading Specialist endorsement.

### READING TEACHER ENDORSEMENT

Our Reading Teacher Endorsement program is for teachers who currently hold a bachelor's degree and a teaching license and would like to become a highly qualified reading teacher. To complete the Reading Teacher Endorsement program, you will take eight courses during four semesters.

#### PROGRAM STRUCTURE

- The degree offers full-time enrollment.  
*Average time to completion (full-time): 2 years*
- The degree offers part-time enrollment.  
*Average time to completion (part-time): 2–5 years*

The program has suspended admission for the 2019-2020 academic year.

#### INTERNSHIPS/RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Practicum/internship will take place during the program.

- FOR THE MEd: 2 full semesters practicum
- FOR THE STAND-ALONE ENDORSEMENT: 1 semester practicum

These can be completed through a student's school of employment if certain criteria are met. For the MEd, you will also complete a comprehensive portfolio at the end of the program.

#### EXPECTATIONS AFTER GRADUATION

After graduation, you will be eligible for an Illinois State Board of Education K–12 Reading Specialist endorsement. You will also be well positioned to become a leader in the field of literacy instruction within the K–12 school system.

Candidates in all programs leading to Illinois licensure are required to pass an Illinois Test of Basic Skills, the appropriate licensure exam, and a State Criminal Background Check.

Career services are available at [LUC.edu/career](https://luc.edu/career).

## PROGRAM DISTINCTIONS

The MEd program provides three unique foci in graduate coursework:

1. teaching as research
2. writing as literacy
3. serving as professionals dedicated to social justice

The K–12 Reading Specialist Endorsement is in high demand in Illinois.

The program is accredited by the International Literacy Association (ILA) and by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

The National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), now the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), accredits the School of Education.

## PREREQUISITES

To be considered for the program, you will need a current Illinois teaching license with initial teacher endorsement, plus 2 years of teaching experience.

## FINANCIAL AID

Begin the financial aid process by completing your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov).

Learn more about the financial aid process at [LUC.edu/education/financialaid](https://LUC.edu/education/financialaid).

## LEARN MORE

APPLICATION INFORMATION AND DEADLINES

[gpem.LUC.edu/apply](https://gpem.LUC.edu/apply)

CONTACT INFORMATION

*For further information about the academic program, or to arrange a visit, please contact:*

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ONLINE: [LUC.edu/education](https://LUC.edu/education)

*Send all supporting documents to:*

Graduate and Professional  
Enrollment Management  
Loyola University Chicago  
820 N. Michigan Avenue  
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