

# Professional Studies Certificate for Reading Licensure



**SHENANDOAH**<sup>®</sup>  
UNIVERSITY  
Division of Education & Leadership

A Part-time, Two-Year Certificate Program (21 credit hours)

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Professional Studies Certificate (PSC) for Reading Licensure serves teachers who already hold a master's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and who want to obtain Virginia licensure as a reading specialist without seeking Shenandoah University's Master of Science in Literacy Education: Reading Concentration degree. Students completing the requirements for the PSC for Reading Licensure will meet the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) approved program requirements for licensure. New cohorts are established in the Fall, Spring, and Summer terms, and the program operates on a Fall, Spring, and Summer semester system.

## PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- Master's degree with a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA

## ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate Application with a \$30 non-refundable application fee
- Master's Degree (minimum 3.0 GPA)
- Unofficial transcripts for initial admission from all institutions of higher education previously attended.
- One administrative letter of recommendation
- Essay addressing your background and educational goals (2-3 pages)
- Current teaching license
- Resume
- Two years teaching experience and access to schools
- Language Proficiency Requirement must be met. Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details: <https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students>

## CURRICULUM

The certificate requirement is 21 semester hours with a grade point average of 3.0 or better.

Course	Title	Credits
RDG 523	Foundations of Literacy Instruction	3
RDG 524	Analysis & Remedial Techniques in Reading	3
RDG 530	Clinical Diagnosis of Reading Difficulties	3
ENG 503	Children's Literature Conference: Literature Class	3
RDG 535	Language Development	3
RDG 635	Literacy in the Content Areas	3
RDG 602	Leadership in Literacy Programs	3
Passing score on Praxis® Reading Specialist exam		Total 21

## ADMISSION & APPLICATION

### Start Term

Spring (January)  
Summer (May)  
Fall (August)

### Admission Deadline

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis

### Format/Location

On-campus in Winchester

### How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to [www.su.edu/sehdapp](http://www.su.edu/sehdapp)

### Foreign Transcripts

International transcript evaluation by an accredited agency is an admission requirement. Approved services are listed at [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org) and <http://aice-eval.org/>.

### Transfer Credits

Only grades of "A" or "B" are transferable

A maximum of nine graduate hours may be approved by the Director

## Contact Us

Dr. Karen Huff  
Director MS/PSC in Literacy  
[khuff@su.edu](mailto:khuff@su.edu)

Office of Graduate Admissions  
[SUGradAdmissions@su.edu](mailto:SUGradAdmissions@su.edu)  
call: 540-665-4581 | text: 540-546-6029

Office of Financial Aid  
<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>  
[finaid@su.edu](mailto:finaid@su.edu) | call: 540-665-4538



**Dr. Karen Huff**  
**Director MS/PSC in Literacy**

#### **CAMPUS LOCATIONS**



**Winchester Main Campus**  
**1460 University Drive**  
**Winchester, VA 22601**



**James L. Bowman Building**  
**20 South Cameron Street**  
**Winchester, Virginia 22601**

## **ABOUT THE DIVISION OF EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP**

Shenandoah University's Division of Education & Leadership (DOEL) prepares practitioner-leaders by offering programs of study that conform to the following principles: practicing in a spirit of collaboration; thoughtful examination of the foundations, current contexts, and future possibilities of the fields of study; encouraging proactive, problem-centered philosophies of educational and professional practice; producing graduates who will be knowledge-driven, competent decision-makers whose thinking is informed by reflective practice; and preparing caring, capable, and reflective teachers, administrators, human services, and public sector practitioners.

As part of efforts to make education more accessible for educators and leaders who serve our communities, all DOEL graduate programs are offered at a [reduced tuition rate](#).

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **Can this program be completed online?**

Most classes can be completed online synchronous with the exception of the in-person Summer Children's Literacy Conference and RDG 530: Clinical Diagnosis of Reading Difficulties.

### **How much does the program cost?**

Tuition through the Division of Education and Leadership is offered at the [discounted rate](#).

### **Can I complete this program while working full time?**

Yes, all of our programs in the Division of Education & Leadership can be completed on a part-time basis, and many classes are offered in the evenings to accommodate working professionals. Most graduate students enrolled in DOEL programs also work full time.