

# STATE OF NEW YORK

4291

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. JENSEN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring certain teachers who provide literacy instruction obtain a literacy endorsement

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 3004 of the education law is amended by adding a  
2 new subdivision 7 to read as follows:

3 7. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the commissioner is  
4 authorized and directed to prescribe regulations establishing a literacy  
5 endorsement as a requirement for all certified teachers who provide  
6 literacy instruction to students in kindergarten through grade five.  
7 Such regulations shall require that teachers receiving certification on  
8 and after January first, two thousand twenty-seven who provide literacy  
9 instruction to students in kindergarten through grade five obtain a  
10 literacy endorsement within three years of receiving certification. For  
11 teachers receiving certification before January first, two thousand  
12 twenty-seven, the regulations shall require such teachers receive a  
13 literacy endorsement on or before January first, two thousand thirty.  
14 The literacy endorsement shall require teachers to complete evidence-  
15 based science of reading training and other coursework as determined by  
16 the commissioner and to pass a literacy instruction assessment demon-  
17 strating that the teacher is capable of:

18 (i) effectively teaching foundational reading skills, phonemic aware-  
19 ness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension;

20 (ii) implementing reading instruction using high-quality instructional  
21 materials; and

22 (iii) providing effective instruction and interventions for students  
23 with reading deficiencies, including students with characteristics of  
24 dyslexia.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (b) The commissioner shall require that on and after January first,  
2 two thousand twenty-six, all approved educator preparation programs in  
3 childhood education and early childhood education include courses neces-  
4 sary to obtain a literacy endorsement pursuant to paragraph (a) of this  
5 subdivision.

6 (c) The commissioner shall establish a means by which a school  
7 district, at the request of a teacher, may receive an exemption to the  
8 literacy endorsement for that teacher based on classroom observations  
9 and student achievement data demonstrating the knowledge of literacy  
10 instruction prescribed in paragraph (a) of this subdivision.

11 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.