



#ScienceOfReading Campaign: A Call to Action for Schools of Education

We call on schools of education to align coursework with the science of reading and to foster interdisciplinary collaboration between professors of education and professors of cognitive psychology, neuroscience, speech and language studies, linguistics, and related fields.

Education is a profession and educators are professionals. A defining characteristic of a profession is having a core body of knowledge at the center. Professionals learn and apply this knowledge in their practice.

In the case of reading education, the knowledge base supported by 40+ years of empirical research in the academic areas listed above is too often missing from teacher preparation programs. When the evidence base is addressed, it is often taught inconsistently or at a surface level. This lack of depth results in graduating educators being largely unprepared to know how to effectively teach all students to read, identify when students are struggling to read, and prevent or remediate difficulties.

To remedy this, schools of education can:

1. Include coursework and readings on the science of reading and align that coursework with the International Dyslexia Association's [Knowledge and Practice Standards for Teachers of Reading](#)
2. Discontinue promoting approaches to reading instruction that contradict the findings of scientific research
3. Foster interdisciplinary collaboration with scientific fields like cognitive psychology, neuroscience, speech and language studies
4. Ensure that educational administration and school psychology programs include coursework on the science of reading

There are a number of schools of education that are already incorporating the science of reading in their curriculum, and applicants should feel empowered to inquire whether or not a school they are considering offers this prior to applying.

Additional recommendations and actions for Schools of Education to consider can be found at <https://bit.ly/TeachingReadingISRocketScience2020>.

**The Reading League recognizes and appreciates your efforts to
Bring the Science of Reading to Light.**

**The Science of Reading is for you.
[To learn more, join us and become a member today.](#)**