



## The Rhode Island Right to Read Act Examination Pathway Guidance Document

The [Rhode Island Right to Read Act](#) was passed in July of 2019. The law requires educators to exhibit either *proficiency* in or *awareness* of the knowledge and practices of the Science of Reading and Structured Literacy. The **Science of Reading**, or *scientific reading* instruction, is defined as empirically based instruction that is grounded in the study of the relationship between cognitive science and educational outcomes.

**Structured Literacy** is defined as an approach to teaching that integrates speaking, listening, reading, and writing by providing explicit, systematic, diagnostic-prescriptive instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness, sound-symbol correspondence (phonics), syllables, morphology, semantics, and syntax. For more information, visit [RIDE's Structured Literacy page](#).

The Right to Read Act requires LEAs to provide training to educators. However, if individual educators have already completed and mastered prior training in the Science of Reading and Structured Literacy, they may elect to meet the *proficiency* requirements of the Right to Read Act using the examination pathway.

The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) has selected two examination pathways:

- [The Knowledge and Practice Examination of Effective Reading Instruction \(KPEERI\)](#)
- [The Rhode Island Foundations of Reading Test](#)

### KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE EXAMINATION OF EFFECTIVE READING INSTRUCTION (KPEERI)

The Knowledge and Practice Examination for Effective Reading Instruction (KPEERI), formerly the Certification Examination for Effective Reading Instruction (CEERI), measures an educator's knowledge of the principles and practices of Structured Literacy. To qualify to take the KPEERI, educators must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree.

The KPEERI exam was developed under the guidance of Applied Measurement Professionals (AMP), with the input of 1,200 educators. The exam is computer-based and consists of 110 multiple-choice questions consisting of the following types:

- Recall (34%)
- Application (48%)
- Analysis (18%)

For more information on the KPEERI, please visit the Center for Effective Reading Instruction's website: <https://effectivereading.org/kpeeri-exam-disabled/>

### **Directions for taking the KPEERI:**

1. Complete the form to register for the KPEERI-Only test:  
<https://effectivereading.org/online-forms/kpeeri-only/>
  - a. Upload your degree or transcript that includes the name of the issuing institution as well as the year the degree was awarded.
  - b. Under "Name of IDA Pipeline Program," select **Rhode Island Department of Education**
  - c. Complete billing information. The KPEERI exam is \$165 per person. Because educators elect to take the KPEERI as an alternate pathway to LEA-provided training, individual educators are responsible for all testing-related costs.
2. Submit form for processing by an administrator at the Center for Effective Reading Instruction (CERI).
3. CERI will verify information and send all pertinent information to the testing administration organization, Scantron.
4. Scantron will send the participant a welcome email with a description of next steps and a link to register for a preferred testing date.
5. Testing takes place either at one of Scantron's [testing facilities](#), or online through Live Online Proctoring on the date selected.
6. On the day of the exam, applicants have a total of two (2) hours to complete the exam.
7. Following the exam, Scantron will provide information regarding accessing the Score Report Portal where a copy of the Score Report can be downloaded. KPEERI score reports will be available upon completion of the exam and will be available for up to two years from the date of the exam.

### **Proficiency Score Requirements**

Educators who achieve a score of 500 or higher must print out a copy of their score and submit it to their LEA administration as verification of meeting the proficiency requirements of the Right to Read Act.

### **Computer criteria:**

To take the exam online you will require a personal desktop or laptop computer (not a tablet, smartphone, or Chromebook) with a webcam that can be adjusted to view the entirety of your testing environment as well as speakers and a microphone.

Complete list of system requirements: <https://effectivereading.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Scantron-PASS-LOP-Hardware-Software-Requirements.pdf>

Additionally, please refer to the online analysis of a candidate's computer:  
<https://prod.examity.com/systemcheck/check.aspx>

### **Recommendations:**

In addition to taking the exam, RIDE recommends educators who successfully pass the KPEERI also engage in the RIDE Science of Reading and Structured Literacy Awareness courses hosted on [BRIDGE-RI](#). Completing these five courses will provide an overview of current research and help establish a common language with educators across the state in the Science of Reading and Structured Literacy.

## RHODE ISLAND FOUNDATIONS OF READING TEST

The Foundations of Reading test for Rhode Island assesses proficiency in and depth of understanding of the subject of reading and writing development. The test reflects instructional practices aligned with the Science of Reading.

This is a computer-based test (CBT) or online proctored test with 100 multiple-choice questions and 2 written assignments.

Multiple-choice questions (80% of overall score) measure educator knowledge of:

- Foundations of Reading Development (35%)
- Development of Reading Comprehension (27%)
- Reading Assessment and Instruction (18%)

Open-response questions (20% of overall score) measure:

- Integration of Knowledge and Understanding:
  - Foundational Reading Skills (10%)
  - Reading Comprehension (10%)

For links to a study guide, practice tests, test framework, test preparation videos, testing tutorials, a tour of the center, score reporting explanation and an annotated bibliography, please visit:

[http://www.ri.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN\\_Prepare.html](http://www.ri.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Prepare.html)

For checking real-time seat availability prior to **registering for and scheduling** the exam, please visit: <http://www.pearsonvue.com/NES/sa>

*Important:* Selected **SA190:** Foundations of Reading

### Directions for taking the RI Foundations of Reading Test:

1. Visit the Rhode Island Reading Foundations landing page to determine eligibility:  
[http://www.ri.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN\\_Tests.html](http://www.ri.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html)
2. Decide whether you will take a Computer-Based Test (CBT) or if you will test remotely, including from home, through online proctoring
  - a. CBT
    - i. Test appointments are available on a first-come, first-served basis year-round
    - ii. CBT testing sites are offered nationwide

- iii. Register for and schedule your exam by creating your MyAccount first and following system prompts:  
<https://www.ri.nesinc.com/App/Custom/CreateAccountInformation.aspx>
  - b. Online proctoring
    - i. Test appointments occur during a one-week testing window each month
    - ii. Check system requirements on the website as well as at the bottom of this document to ensure your testing device is compatible
    - iii. Locate “online proctoring” on the Rhode Island Foundations of Reading landing page to make an appointment with an online proctor
3. When you register, you must agree to abide by all testing rules and policies.
4. The RI Foundations of Reading Exam is \$139 per person. Because educators elect to take the RI Foundations of Reading Exam as an alternate pathway to LEA-provided training, individual educators are responsible for all testing-related costs. Educators wanting to learn more about fees can Review payment information here:  
[http://www.ar.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=SACBT\\_PaymentInformation.html](http://www.ar.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=SACBT_PaymentInformation.html)
5. For Computer-Based Testing, the appointment time is 4 hours and 15 minutes including time taken for breaks. For online proctoring, the appointment time is 4 hours and 30 minutes including all time taken for breaks.
6. Following the exam, candidates will receive a receipt of completion at the conclusion of their test center appointment. Scores will be reported on predetermined dates for CBT and online proctoring. Please note that online proctoring scores may be delayed for up to two weeks.

For more information, please visit the Rhode Island Foundations of Reading landing page:

[http://www.ri.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN\\_Tests.html](http://www.ri.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html)

### **Proficiency Score Requirements:**

Educators who achieve a score of 233 or higher must print out a copy of their score and submit it to their LEA administration as verification of meeting the proficiency requirements of the Right to Read Act.

### **Computer Criteria:**

You may test remotely, including from home. For a complete list of system and testing environment requirements, visit:

<http://docs.nesinc.com/COMMON/TipsOnTakingAnOnVUEExam.pdf>

### **Recommendations:**

In addition to taking the exam, RIDE recommends educators who successfully pass the Foundations of Reading test for Rhode Island also engage in the RIDE Science of Reading and Structured Literacy Awareness courses hosted on [BRIDGE-RI](#). Completing these five courses will provide an overview of current research and help establish a common language with educators across the state in the Science of Reading and Structured Literacy.