



Announcing a Free Research-based Reading Professional Development Course Available to Florida Certified Teachers

Florida Online Reading Professional Development (FOR-PD) is an exciting new project. Housed at the University of Central Florida, FOR-PD will provide a free online professional development course for thousands of Florida teachers (K-12) in reading methods and research-based strategies designed to help students become better readers.

The FOR-PD online reading course translates scientifically based research into action and empowers teachers to use innovative, creative, and effective strategies to help all children learn proficiently. **The project is funded through the Florida Department of Education.**

- **When?** This interactive online course will be available to teachers in December.
- **How?** Teachers will register through participating districts beginning October 1.

We ask that participating districts:

Form a team that includes a representative from Information Technology, Instructional Technology, Professional Development and Curriculum (reading/literacy) services that will serve as liaisons with our office and course facilitators. The Professional Development coordinator serves as the primary contact person for the district.

The expectations for each team member are:

- ❖ Information Technology to provide data sets needed for project evaluation.
- ❖ Instructional Technology to provide assistance with technological issues and questions specific to your district.
- ❖ Professional Development to enlist and register teachers from elementary, middle, and high schools to take this course. Specific information on the district registration/implementation process is available at <http://www.itrc.ucf.edu/forpd/district.html>. Professional

development is asked to award in-service points to teachers who complete the course and receive a certificate of completion. This course is equivalent to three semester hours.

- ❖ Curriculum (reading/literacy) services to provide input for how FOR-PD can support your existing reading professional development.

A certified FOR-PD facilitator will guide participants through the course. A database of facilitators will be available to districts. Certified FOR-PD facilitators guide participants through the course. Facilitators can be selected from a FOR-PD database of facilitators found on our website or the FOR-PD office will assist in locating a certified facilitator. Districts are encouraged to invite persons in their district to become certified trainers. This would enable a district to have a cadre of trainers available to facilitate the course. Facilitator criteria and applications are available at <http://www.itrc.ucf.edu/forpd/facilitators/requirements.html>
http://www.itrc.ucf.edu/forpd/facilitators/fac_application.html

- **What?** View an informative statewide teleconference to learn more about FOR-PD
Broadcast information-To Be Announced
- **Why?** Conveniently increase your reading knowledge base while earning re-certification points or graduate credit*. This course counts towards the new state **Reading Endorsement**.

Share the great news!

FOR-PD announcement flyers are available at the E-store

<http://www.itrc.ucf.edu/publications/free.html>

Visit our website www.itrc.ucf.edu/forpd for additional course information. If you have additional questions, contact Dr. Gail Choice, FOR-PD project director at forpd@orion.itrc.ucf.edu

*Information regarding graduate credit available soon!