



Flexibility & Efficiency

Ohio's transition to the National Evaluation Series™ (NES)
Foundations of Reading

Why Teacher Licensure Matters

Teaching is a profession with lasting public impact.

Licensure confirms educators have met standards for preparation, competency, and ethics.

Like medicine and law, teaching requires safeguards because it affects public well-being.

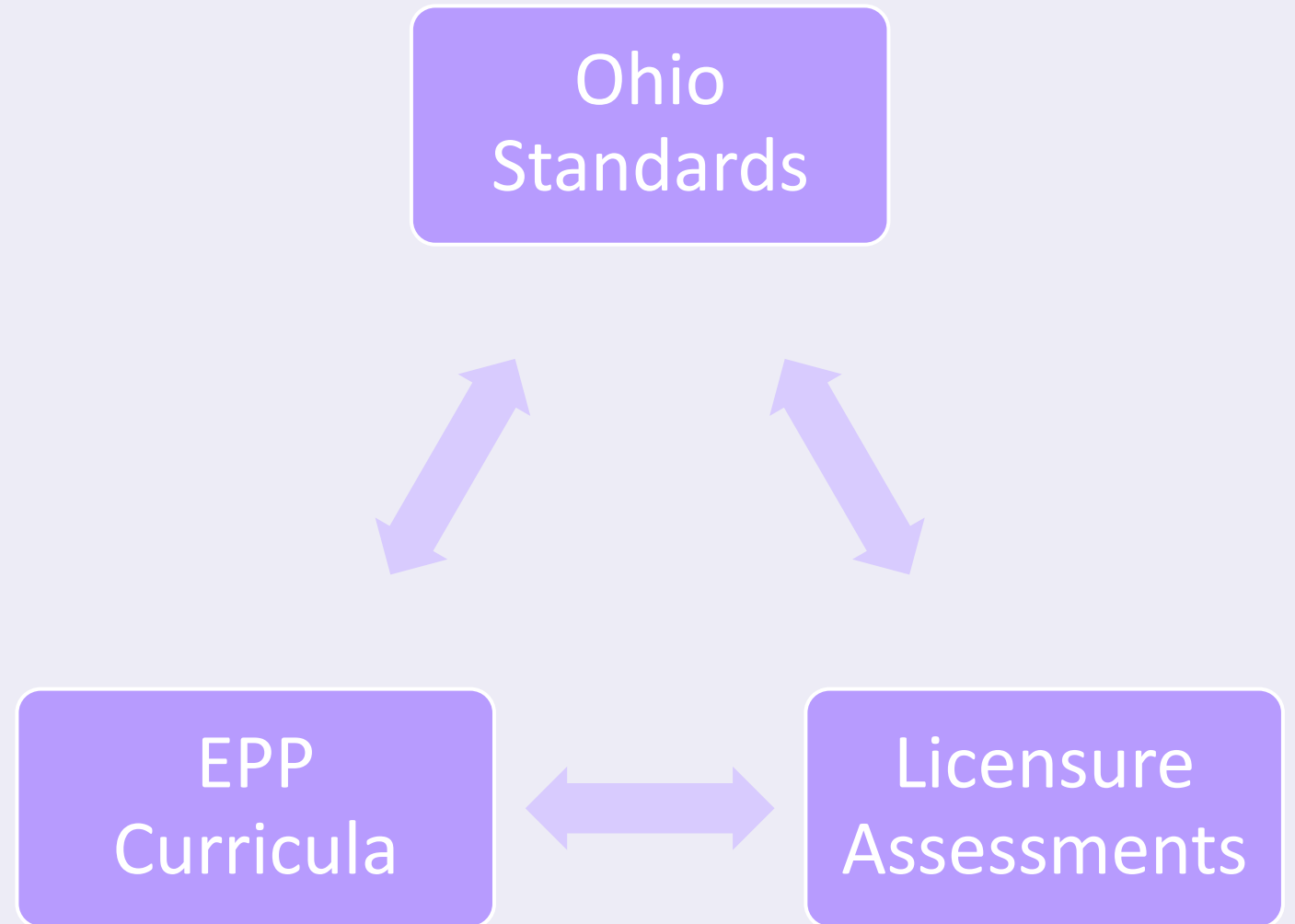


Licensure builds public confidence that classrooms are led by qualified educators.

Testing as a Guardrail

Licensure tests should measure the knowledge and skills needed for beginning teaching.

Assessments work best when **aligned** to state standards and preparation programs.



The goal is to credential qualified teachers—not create unnecessary roadblocks.

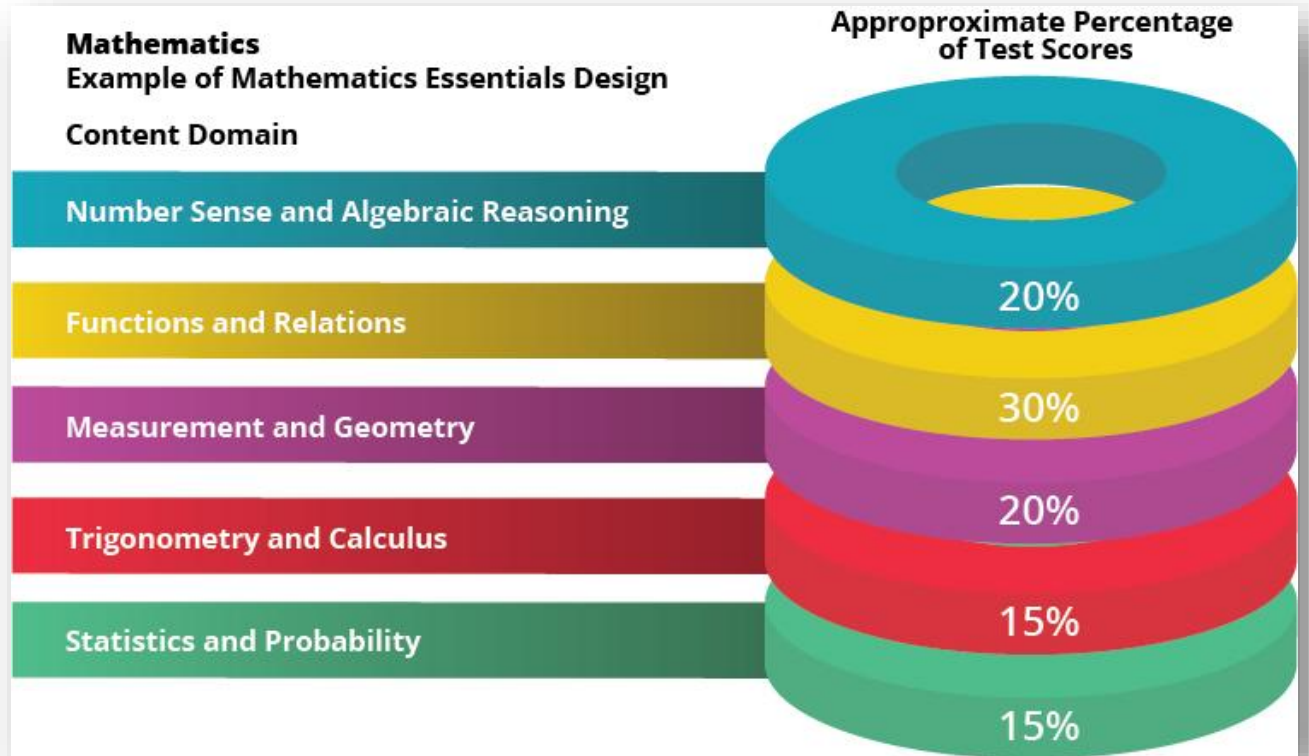
Modular Approach ...

connect testing more closely to coursework

- Divides traditional full-length tests into shorter modules or testlets
- Modules focused on a single domain in a subject area.
- Empowers learners to test on a domain when they feel most prepared.
- Take in one sitting or at their own pace



National Evaluation Series



Essentials: Why It Matters

This is not lowering the bar. It changes how a candidate clears it.

Traditional pattern

- One large exam event
- Single high-stakes decision point
- Full-exam retake when something goes wrong



Modular / testlet pattern

- Smaller units of competency
- Cumulative evidence toward completion
- Targeted retake of what is needed

NES Foundations of Reading

- Module-based assessment providing candidates flexibility to create their own path path
- Same content and assessment blueprint as the as the current OAE Foundations of Reading Reading assessment
- This assessment consists of five testlets.
 - Candidate may register to take any combination of testlets, including all five all five testlets.
 - Candidate testlet scores are reported reported along the way, providing visibility visibility towards achieving an overall overall passing standard
 - Overall assessment status reported reported only after all testlets have have been attempted
 - To pass, a candidate must achieve a cumulative score of at least 240.



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TESTLET	NUMBER OF COMPETENCIES	APPROXIMATE PERCENTAGE OF TEST SCORE
Foundations of Reading Development (120)	4	35%
Development of Reading Comprehension (121)	3	27%
Reading Assessment and Instruction (122)	2	18%
Reading Skills (123)	1	10%
Reading Comprehension (124)	1	10%

Foundations of Reading

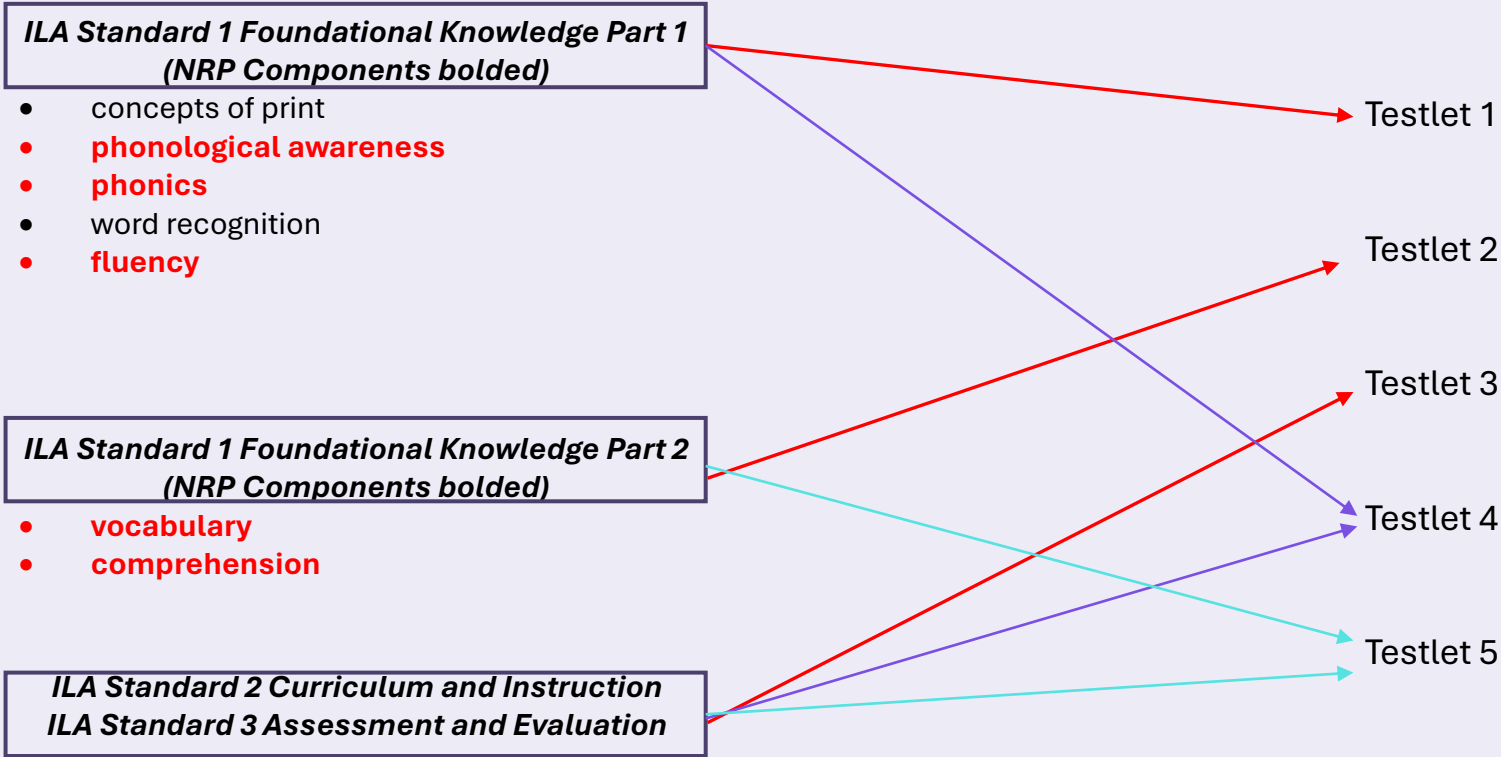
Testlet	Items ^a	Weighting	Timing
Testlet 1: Foundations of Reading Development (120)	44 MCI	35%	75 min.
Testlet 2: Development of Reading Comprehension (121)	34MCI	27%	45 min.
Testlet 3: Reading Assessment and Instruction (122)	22 MCI	18%	30 min.
Testlet 4: Reading Skills (123)	1 CRI	10%	45 min.
Testlet 5: Reading Comprehension (124)	1 CRI	10%	45 min.
All Five testlets in one appointment	100 MCI & 2 CRI		4 hours

^a Multiple-choice items (MCI) and Constructed-response items (CRI)

^b Plus 15 minutes per testing session for a tutorial and completion of a nondisclosure agreement.

Mapping Foundations of Reading to National Reading Panel (NRP) Components and International Literacy Association (ILA) Standards for Reading Development

Foundations of Reading Testlets



Candidates choose their path ...

- Take the full test
 - If you pass, you met the requirement
 - If you didn't pass,
 - Determine the testlet(s) you struggle on
 - Review the material
 - Retake only those testlet(s)

Focused review
"Bank" Scores

- Take one or more testlets
 - Once you take all five testlets, follow flow above

Focused preparation
Reduce testing stress
Align to coursework



Example of Aligning to Coursework

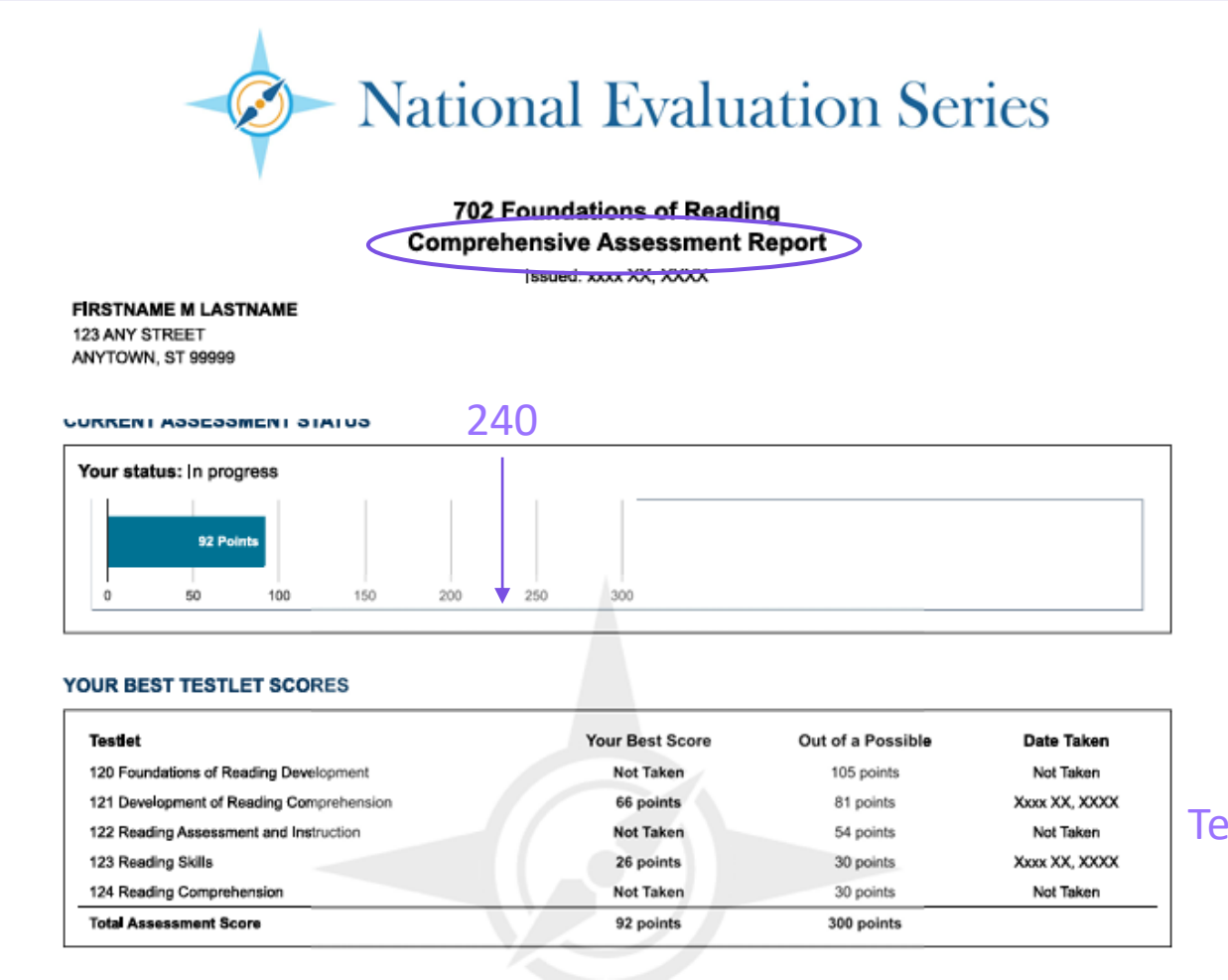
- Course #1: Literacy Foundations and Assessment – **Testlet 3 (and 4 & 5)**
 - **Course Description:** Provides the key scientifically-based reading research foundations needed to understand how reading develops and effective methods and strategies used to **teach and assess** literacy skills for young children through young adults.
- Course #2: Phonological Awareness, Phonics, and Word Study – **Testlets 1 & 4**
 - **Course Description:** An in-depth look at the fundamental principles and concepts of the structure of language, with a focus on **phonological awareness, phonics**, and morphology. Application of sound-symbol correspondences of language and understanding the relationship of phonemic awareness and the phonological system of language to the reading and spelling process through explicit and systematic **instruction**.
- Course #3: Content Literacy, Comprehension, and Vocabulary – **Testlets 2 & 5**
 - **Course Description:** Principles of explicit and systematic **instruction** of core aspects of content area reading and writing are studied and practiced to enhance literacy learning for diverse P-12 learners with a focus on reading, **vocabulary, comprehension**, and **assessment**.

More About the FoR Reporting Scale

- At the time of OAE 190 launch, the Ohio standard setting panel's recommendation matched the recommendation from the national benchmark panel.
 - Per policy, the recommended passing performance—after ESB and SBOE approval—was pegged to 220 on the OAE score scale, matching the other OAE assessments.
 - Per National Evaluation Series practice, the recommended score for NES was pegged to 240 on the NES FoR score scale.
- Therefore, the National Benchmark of 240 is **equivalent** to the current OAE FoR passing score of 220.
- For the **Interim Resident Educator** license, the required score for NES Foundations of Reading is 224.

Score Reporting to Assist Candidates

Tracks candidate's progress towards passing



Testlet “scoreboard”

Score Reporting to Assist Candidates



National Evaluation Series

702 Foundations of Reading
Testlet Performance Report

Issued: xxxx XX, XXXX

FIRSTNAME M LASTNAME
123 ANY STREET
ANYTOWN, ST 99999

TEST DATE: xxxx XX, XXXX

Your status: In progress—see your [Comprehensive Assessment Report](#)

YOUR TESTLET SCORES

Testlet	Your Score	Out of a Possible
Development of Reading Comprehension (121)	66 points	81 points
Reading Skills (123)	26 points	30 points

Learn more about how to read and interpret this score report at: www.nestest.com/testlets

Free Test Preparation

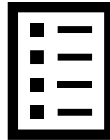


What Is Being Assessed and How

- Complete set of assessment's objectives
- Descriptive statements that further explain each objective
- Sample items aligned to each objective
- Directions and scoring scale for CRIs



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Free Practice Test

- Practice tests familiarize candidates with test content.
- Candidates can use correct response explanations to understand where they need more study.
- Sample responses for CRIs illustrate how responses will be scored.

Right Start

RIGHT START IS AVAILABLE TO HELP CANDIDATES PREPARE TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN THE SCIENCE OF READING RELATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT, INSTRUCTION, AND ASSESSMENT OF LITERACY.

- ✓ Modules are aligned to content subareas including objectives
- ✓ Right Start content preparation courses
- ✓ Free prep materials including study guides and tutorials

\$35 for 30-day subscription
\$70 for 90-day subscription



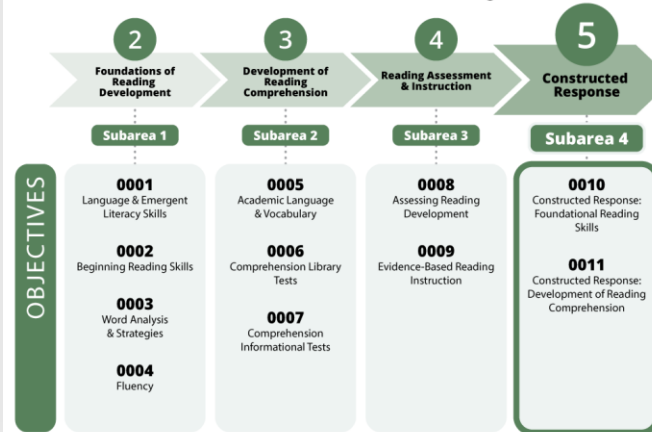
National Evaluation Series

Foundations of Reading: RightStart™ Includes:



Course Alignment

Foundations of Reading



Module 2 Overview

Welcome to your first module of this course!

Module 2 is centered around the **Foundations of Reading Development** and has been broken down into the main sections you see to the right. These topics are directly aligned with **Subarea 1: Objectives 0001-0004**.

Throughout the module, you will access content, participate in activities that allow you to apply your knowledge of concepts, and complete a check for understanding at the end.

- Language & Emergent Literacy Skills
- Beginning Reading Skills
- Word Analysis & Strategies
- Fluency



Other OAE Updates

- Biology (706)
- Foundations of Classroom Support

Biology (706)

- Modular Design
 - 3 testlets
 - Structures and Processes of Cells and Organisms
 - Ecosystem Interactions and Dynamics
 - Heredity and Evolution
- Anticipated Launch December 21, 2026

Foundations of Classroom Support (517)

- Testing option for candidates seeking ESEA Endorsement for Educational Aides
 - Measures Literacy, Language Arts, and Numeracy
- Flexible testing options
 - Testing centers
 - Remote
 - **NEW!** Client-based proctoring at colleges, districts, and schools
- Test fee: \$49
- Preparation materials available
 - Practice Test (\$29.95)
 - Right Start (\$35/30-day and \$70/90-day)
- Launched on September 1, 2026



Questions?