# **FAQs**





### **General Information**

#### What is LETRS?

Developed by renowned literacy experts Dr. Louisa Moats and Dr. Carol Tolman, *LETRS*® is a flexible literacy professional development solution for pre K–5 educators. *LETRS* earned the International Dyslexia Association's Accreditation and provides teachers with the skills they need to master the fundamentals of reading instruction—phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, writing, and language.

#### What does the LETRS Suite include?

LETRS Professional learning that provides K-5 teachers with deep knowledge to be literacy and language experts.

LETRS For Early Childhood Educators--Provides strong foundational skills that all preK–K teachers must have.

LETRS For Administrators--Exceptional support for school leaders to improve school and district literacy instruction.

## What grade range of teachers is appropriate for *LETRS*?

LETRS is for teachers of students in grades K-5 with a sweet spot for K-3, who teach foundations of reading (phonological awareness, phonics, word study, vocabulary, comprehension). It is also appropriate for any teacher with students who require intervention to remediate reading difficulties.

### What does LETRS include?

### **LETRS** includes the following for each participant:

Online License

Pre-Assessment (prior to beginning units 1-4 and again prior to Units 5-8)

Post Unit Assessment (at the completion of each Unit 1-8)

Post- Assessment (at the completion of units 1-4 and another at the completion of units 5-8)

Online learning and activities

**Embedded Journaling** 

Bridge to Practice

Print book

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## What makes the new edition of LETRS Unique?

- Updated research
- Integrated Bridge to Practice Exercises
- Bridge to Practice opportunities to apply evidenced-based concepts and best practices to daily instruction.
- Detailed Reporting for Accountability
- LETRS gives participants and administrators the ability to measure participation and knowledge gains.
- Embedded Video Modeling of Instruction
- Embedded video demonstrates how to deliver effective instruction that teachers understand and how to apply concepts to classroom practice.

# How long does it take to complete a unit? Units 1-4? Units 5-8?

The estimated amount of time it will take to complete the online content and reading/activities in the book is approximately 12 to 15 hours per unit. If adding time for face-to-face workshops, the time to complete a unit may be up to 18-21 hours. With in-person workshops, it may take 72-84 hours to complete the first four units, and the same amount of time to complete Units 5-8. An implementation plan that dedicates about 2-2.5 hours a week for PD time would allow completion of four units per school year.

## Is there a certificate of completion?

Yes, for the online component. There is a certificate of completion for the online units that reflects the completion of all of the activities. The certificate can be printed at the end of each unit by the participant. It does not reflect a specific number of hours.

### Does LETRS support ELL or Dual Language Immersion instruction?

Although LETRS focuses on the teaching of English literacy skills, it more importantly teaches us how literacy occurs. It doesn't matter whether it's English, Spanish, Japanese, etc. When we study the processes of our brain, as we do in Unit 1, we specifically address the job that different areas of the brain perform when a child is learning language and acquiring literacy. However, if we analyze this information carefully, we can see the many challenges presented to our native speakers of English and, in particular, our English learners as well as our students participating in dual language programs. LETRS does not address any of particular language configurations (such as dual language education) directly. However, it does make the case for direct and explicit instruction because of the increased number of phonemes that the English language has over others, the difference in our language's phonetic structure, the increased sophistication needed in English phonological awareness, and the nature of English orthography.

## Are the Bridge to Practice activities in *LETRS* required?

The Bridge to Practice activities are not required. They are designed to enhance and extend the learning of the LETRS content into a practical experience whereby teachers facilitate their learning through lessons in their own classrooms with their own students.