

Wilson Reading System® (WRS) Level I Certification Program (Site-Based) Tips for School Administrators

Thank you for your commitment to the WRS Level I Certification. This document provides you with the program requirements and tips to make it a successful training at your school site. The following information is included:

WRS Level I Certification Program Overview
WRS Level I Start-Up Workshop Tips
WRS Level I Practicum Tips
WRS Intensive Instruction for the Non-Responsive Reader: Online Course (Steps 1-6) Tips
WRS Advanced Strategies for MSL Group Instruction Workshop Tips
Graduate Credit Tips

Very specific WRS Level I Certification Program details can be found in these sections:

Completion Requirements
Practicum Student Selection Criteria
Training Observations and Schedule

The Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer assigned to your site can address your specific questions and/or concerns about the program requirements and schedule.

The Wilson Implementation Team can address your questions that are administrative or business-related.

WRS LEVEL I CERTIFICATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

As part of the site-based certification program, each teacher will be required to do the following:

- WRS Level I Certification Program Prerequisite:** In order to begin the WRS Level I Certification, teachers must have completed the WRS Introductory Workshop within the past five years.
- Attend a full-day **WRS Level I Start-Up Workshop** within the first five weeks of school commencing.
- Identify a practicum student and submit the required pre-test data to the Wilson Literacy Specialist/Trainer for **practicum student approval**.
- Work 1:1 with the practicum student throughout the school year in order to complete a minimum of **60 required lessons**.
- Be observed five (5) times** at designated intervals by the Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer. Each one-hour observation will occur during a school day with the approved practicum student.
- Attend five (5) **Implementation Meetings**, typically held after school.
- Complete the **WRS Intensive Instruction for the Non-Responsive Reader: Online Course (Steps 1-6)**.
- Submit post-test data and required **paperwork**.
- Attend the **WRS Advanced Strategies for MSL Group Instruction Workshop**, if part of the district plan.

START-UP WORKSHOP | REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS

Requirements and tips for ensuring a successful Start-Up Workshop:

- Schedule the WRS Level I Start-Up Workshop with the assigned Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer.
 - This workshop needs to occur within the first five weeks of school.
- Keep in mind these workshop requirements:
 - This is a full-day workshop, usually scheduled for 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 - All teachers must attend the WRS Level I Start-Up Workshop and be present for the entire workshop.
- As soon as possible, provide the Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer with:
 - address of the workshop location.
 - address where workshop handouts should be shipped.
- Order WRS program materials in time for arrival prior to the WRS Level I Start-Up Workshop.
 - Each teacher requires a WRS Introductory Set (this set includes the required student materials for 1 student).
 - The Word Identification and Spelling Test (WIST) will be required for pre and post-test data. The testing materials could be shared by teachers as long as doing so will not prevent teachers from submitting the Practicum Student Profile Form on time and to obtain practicum student approval. Teachers generally have 2-3 weeks to complete pre and post-testing of students.
 - Strongly recommended materials include: Wilson Fluency/Basic Kit for each teacher.
- Prior to the WRS Level I Start-Up Workshop, you will receive an email with an Access Code. Please forward to all teachers and be sure they self-register at Wilson Academy prior to the start of the workshop.
- Your assigned Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer will be in touch with you to discuss audio/visual needs and other details pertaining to the workshop.

WRS LEVEL I PRACTICUM | REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS

Requirements and tips for ensuring a successful Practicum:

- Practicum students must be approved by the assigned Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer prior to beginning instruction. To obtain approval, all teachers must:
 - Conduct pretesting with the Word Identification and Spelling Test (WIST) **and** another normed reading test.
 - Submit the test scores to the assigned Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer by determined deadlines.

Refer to the WRS Level I Practicum Student Selection Criteria for specific information.

- Teachers are required to work with practicum students throughout the school year.
 - Instruction must take place in a 1: 1 setting.
 - Teachers are required to conduct a minimum of 60 full WRS lessons.

General guidelines for completing required lessons:

- Teachers will need to commit to completing 2-3 full WRS lessons per week.
- If interruptions to the school schedule occur, teachers may need to increase this to 3-4 full WRS lessons per week.
- If a late WRS Level I Start-Up Workshop has been approved by Wilson Language Training, teachers will need to commit to conducting 4-5 full WRS lessons per week with their practicum student.

Careful consideration of the support teachers will need to make these lessons occur will be most beneficial.

- Each teacher will be observed five (5) times at specific intervals in the school year:
 - The Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer makes 5 trips to the designated observation location.
 - The Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer must be able to see **all** teachers participating in the program during the site visit.
 - **All** teachers must be ready for the designated observation. Teachers will need to be at predetermined points in the WRS curriculum and have completed an established number of lessons in order for a scheduled observation to occur. If these guidelines are not followed, it may result in the cancellation of observation appointments with individual teachers.
 - The approved practicum student must be available for the entire observation lesson. The lesson will be approximately 1 hour.
 - Teachers are provided individual written and verbal feedback at each observation.

Refer to the WRS Level I Training Observations and Schedule for specific information.

- Five (5) Implementation Meetings are provided to further guide and support teachers.
 - Meetings are conducted at the time of the observation visits and are typically scheduled after school.
 - A central meeting location will be needed.
 - Meetings typically last 1.5–2 hours.
- Teachers are required to conduct Post-testing with the WIST and another normed reading test. Teachers are required to submit the data on the Practicum Student Final Report.

WRS INTENSIVE INSTRUCTION: ONLINE COURSE (STEPS 1-6) | REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS

- Teachers are required to complete the WRS Intensive Instruction for the Non-Responsive Reader: Online Course (Steps 1-6).
 - Given that this course is online, teachers must have access to internet connection.
 - The content and video demonstrations are comprehensive and align with each WRS Step. Teachers should complete the modules as they are progressing with students. There are more than 90 hours of content provided in this course.
 - Teachers are required to successfully complete all required reading and assessments within the course.

WRS ADVANCED STRATEGIES FOR MSL GROUP INSTRUCTION WORKSHOP | REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS

If your district plan includes this workshop, please consider the following:

- **Workshop Prerequisite:** This workshop is open to any “currently enrolled” WRS Level I Certification Training participant and any previously WRS Level I Certified teachers (not to exceed 30 participants total).
- Schedule the workshop with the assigned Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer.
 - This workshop typically is scheduled in the spring when teachers have had a minimum of three observations.
 - This workshop is scheduled for 3 consecutive days.
 - This workshop is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. each day.
- As soon as possible, provide the Wilson Literacy Specialist/Wilson® Credentialed Trainer with:
 - address of the workshop location.
 - address where workshop handouts should be shipped.
- Your assigned Wilson Trainer will be in touch with you to discuss audio/visual needs and other details pertaining to the workshop. Teachers will be provided with a list of materials to bring to the workshop.
- Attendance at this workshop completes the prerequisite for WRS Group Mastery Practicum training (a component of WRS Level II Certification).

GRADUATE CREDIT | REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS

Optional graduate college credit is offered through Fitchburg State University for an additional fee. The university has specific guidelines when the credit can be offered and details about registration and fees are provided in the workshops.

The following graduate credits are available:

WRS Introductory Workshop	1 graduate college credit
WRS Intensive Instruction: Online Course (Steps 1-3)	3 graduate college credits
WRS Intensive Instruction: Online Course (Steps 4-6)	3 graduate college credits
WRS Steps 1-6 Practicum	3 graduate college credits
WRS Advanced Strategies for MSL Group Instruction Workshop	1 graduate college credit