

# Difference Between the ESOL Endorsement and the ESOL Certification

An [ESOL Endorsement](#) is an add-on to a valid Florida teaching certificate. Therefore, to add it, you must be already certified in a subject area. The ESOL Endorsement can be added by completing the 5 ESOL approved college courses or the 300 hour district ESOL in-service program, or a combination of the two. (You cannot add the ESOL endorsement by passing the ESOL K-12 subject area exam.) When a teaching certificate is renewed, an endorsement does not require additional in-service points in order to keep the coverage on the teaching certificate. It will be automatically added each time the teaching certificate is renewed.

The ESOL K-12 Certification is a subject area certification. It requires passing the ESOL K-12 Area Test, and an additional 120 hours of ESOL training. Teachers have three years from the date they obtain the ESOL Certification to complete the additional required training. As with other subject area certifications, when one renews the teaching certificate, a determined amount of in-service points are required to keep the certification on the teaching certificate.

## [Certification Renewal requirements](#)

College courses that may get ESOL training credit must have actual course titles or course descriptors comparable to the following:

- ESOL Methods
- Applied Linguistics
- ESOL Curriculum and Instruction
- ESOL Testing and Evaluation
- Cross-cultural Communication

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