

January 8, 2025

Dear Administrator:

We have just opened the Wilson scholarship application for the 2025-26 school year. Wilson Reading System* (WRS) is a Tier-III reading intervention. Wilson targets students with severe deficits in decoding & encoding skills (such as students with dyslexia) and is beneficial for all educators, SLP's, paras, and is specifically recommended for those teachers working with students displaying severe learning deficits. Unfortunately, few educators in Utah have the necessary expertise to provide these services and lack the knowledge to provide intensive intervention. The UURC is in its twenty-fourth year of providing this intensive professional development experience and the response has been overwhelmingly positive from educators, parents, and students.

The University of Utah Reading Clinic is a Higher Ed Partner with Wilson Language Training. A Wilson practicum through the University of Utah Reading Clinic is a yearlong practicum – beginning in Fall 2025. Normally this practicum course would cost an educator over \$3000. In response, the University of Utah Reading Clinic (UURC) with much-appreciated donations from the George S. and Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation and the Crawford Family Foundation has established a partial scholarship fund for educators to receive professional development in this greatly needed area. If awarded the scholarship, each educator is only responsible for \$370 toward the practicum.

There is also a pre-requisite course, <u>WRS Introductory Course</u> (3-day workshop) that Wilson requires all educators attend prior to participating in a Level I certification practicum. The WRS Introductory Course through the UURC is offered for \$395 (per educator), normally \$750. This is a separate fee.

Practicum Tutoring Materials:

All the materials the educator will need to tutor a Wilson practicum student can be found in the WRS Introductory Kit (4th edition). Educators are responsible for the purchase of their own WRS Introductory Kit through the Wilson online store. At this writing, the current cost for the Intro Kit is approximately \$499. Visit Wilson Language Training online store at https://store.wilsonlanguage.com for current item prices. For ordering assistance contact WLT Customer Support at (800) 899-8454. Item#: W4INTROSET, ISBN# 978-1-56778-648-4.

For Zoom trainings and web-based observations Educators will need a flexible document camera. Examples include:

- IPEVO High-Definition USB Document Camera. Approx. \$100. It can be purchased from https://www.ipevo.com/products/v4k
- HUE. Approx. \$100. It can be purchased from HUE HD or Amazon. (price and availability subject to change).

WRS Level I Certification and UURC Practicum Requirements

Training & Meeting Requirements:

- Attend a WRS Introductory Course (3 days, lunch provided each day) at our Murray location. This is a
 Wilson pre-requisite course prior to participating in a Level I certification training. The course fee is \$395.
 The scheduled workshop: Option #1 August 20-22, 2025, and Option #2 September 2-4, 2025
- The WRS Level I practicum course fee is an additional \$370 (includes 9 University of Utah credits). Course fee due when participant accepts the scholarship offer.
- Attend the practicum Start up Meeting over Zoom. Date: **September 15** (4:00 7:00 PM)
- Attend 5 WRS Level I implementation meetings (held after school hours)
- Attend at least 3 out of 4 UURC coaching sessions (held 9:00 noon)

Tutoring & Practicum Requirements:

- Tutor 1 student (grade 4 or older) a minimum of two times per week and 65+ lessons (1 hour/lesson)
- Conduct baseline, progress monitoring, and post assessments
- Complete 5 tutoring observations with Wilson® Credentialed trainer (most often scheduled during school hours).
- Complete WRS (Steps 1-6) Online Course (90 hours over the yearlong practicum)

WRS Level I Certification benefits teachers across the grade levels, but we want to highlight the following:

- Support to those teachers who have completed or are participating in <u>LETRS</u> training. WRS Level I
 Certification clearly addresses the HOW of Year 1 and Year 2 LETRS training with strong instructional
 routines that can be adapted to whole class, small group, and individual students.
- The WRS Level I Certification & University of Utah graduate course fulfill requirements for the USBE Secondary
 Literacy Intervention Endorsement. For more information on the Secondary Literacy Intervention
 Endorsement go to: Secondary Literacy Interventionist Template Endorsement Options.docx Google Docs.
- The Wilson Reading System® (4th edition) is listed by the Utah State Board of Education as a SoR intervention for grades 2-12 (List).

Practicum delivery options available:

*Option 1: The WRS Level I certification practicum with observations in-person at our Murray, Utah site.

<u>Option 2:</u> The WRS Level I certification web-based practicum with trainings and observations held virtually.

*Option 3: Open to either Option 1 or Option 2

Note: We are also able to offer a *Site-based practicum option (if there are 6 or more educators from a school or district, observations may be conducted within your district - trainer travel expenses may be applied).

*The COVID virus has required us to be flexible with our trainings and observations. If the trainer feels it is necessary, we will shift to remote trainings and observations on a case-by-case basis.

It is important to note that this practicum is extremely time-intensive (at least a school year in length) and the requirements described above are mandatory. Trainings, observations, and coaching sessions will be held primarily during the school day. This may necessitate arrangements for substitutes, as well as transportation to and from observations.

Given the challenging nature of this practicum, applicants are encouraged to "yoke/partner" their applications. Scholarship selection priority will be given to highly qualified yokes of practicing educators working in the same school or district.

<u>Applications are due</u> at the UURC on or before March 28, 2025. We will notify applicants regarding their status no later than April 18, 2025. Email completed applications to michele.blake@utah.edu, or bring/mail to:

WRS Scholarship 2025-26 UURC 5242 South College Drive (480 West), Suite 100 Murray, UT 84123.

Attending the WRS Introductory Course does not certify educators in the Wilson Reading System[®], but it does provide valuable training and fulfills a prerequisite for the WRS Level I yearlong practicum. The registration fee for all attendees is \$395, (Please inform UURC of any dietary restrictions prior to attending the 3-day workshop).

Educators should register for this workshop online. Visit www.uurc.org and click on the Educator and Wilson tab for more information. If you have questions regarding the scholarship or the practicum options, please contact Ms. Michele Blake at 801-661-4892, michele.blake@utah.edu.



Sincerely

Dr. Kelly Patrick, Director University of Utah Reading Clinic