Graduate Certificate
Reading Specialist Initial Licensure

» Official transcripts of a bachelor’s and a master’s degree from a regionally accredited institution

» Initial Licensure in early childhood, elementary, middle school or special education

» Passing scores for the Communication and Literacy subtest of the Massachusetts Test of Educator Licensure (MTEL)

» Three letters of recommendation

» Professional resume

» Graduate application and fee

» An essay, no more than one page in length, in response to one of the following questions:
  ▪ Tell us about a positive situation in which you helped a person and made a significant difference in that person’s life.
  ▪ What are the most important factors in establishing a long-term working relationship with students, friends, etc.?
  ▪ Tell us about a significant event that involved you in a teaching or helping mode.
    ▪ Describe the situation as it occurred at the time.
    ▪ What did you do in that particular situation?
    ▪ How did you feel about the situation at the time you were experiencing it?
    ▪ How do you feel about the situation now?
    ▪ What would you change, if anything?

» Prerequisite courses completed
  ▪ Children or Young Adult Literature
  ▪ Child Development (or equivalent)
  ▪ Principles and Practices of Teaching Reading (or equivalent)