

Literacy Resources for CTE Occupational Programs

This document provides guidance and resources for EPPs completing the literacy requirements related to the occupational proposal process for career and technical education (CTE) programs.

Department Literacy Guidance and Resources

- The literacy requirements focus on a shift toward disciplinary literacy within occupational educator preparation programs. Disciplinary literacy recognizes that each discipline possesses its own language. EPPs should consider how they will provide opportunities for candidates to attain and demonstrate knowledge of literacy skills and strategies that focus more on how reading and writing are used in the discipline being studied, rather than on the ability to use reading and writing to learn the subject matter in a discipline.
- The literacy requirements for CTE occupational programs are included on page 3 of the occupational proposal document. These requirements are the same as the requirements for EPPs that offer middle and secondary math, science, social studies programs, CTE academic programs, and/or pre-K-12 programs (e.g., fine arts, physical education, world languages, library sciences).
- Please note that if the EPP will offer multiple endorsements within their occupational education programs, only 1-2 of these endorsements need to be addressed when responding to the literacy questions. Additional guidance is provided within the required literacy questions on page 3 of the occupational proposal document.
- The department highly encourages EPPs to review the following resources before responding to the literacy requirements:
 - [Non-ELA, CTE, and pre-K-12 webinar](#): This webinar was originally created for CTE academic programs; however, this resource will support understanding of disciplinary literacy approaches, practices, strategies, and vocabulary applicable to CTE occupational programs.
 - [Non-ELA middle and secondary, CTE, and pre-K-12 programs rubric](#): All literacy requirements and question responses will be evaluated using this rubric.

Disciplinary Literacy Resources And Readings

The resources provide additional information related to disciplinary literacy in CTE occupational areas:

- [Maine Department of Education – CTE and ELA Intersections](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction: Disciplinary Literacy Resources](#)

The following readings may be helpful to EPPs looking to further their understanding of disciplinary literacy skills, strategies, and vocabulary.¹

- International Literacy Association. (2017). *Content area and disciplinary literacy: Strategies and frameworks* [Literacy leadership brief]. Newark, DE: Author.
- Shanahan, C. (2015). *Disciplinary literacy strategies in content area classes*. International Literacy Association.
- Shanahan, T., & Shanahan, C. (2012). What is disciplinary literacy and why does it matter? *Topics in Language Disorders*, 32(1), 7-18.
- Wolsey, T.D., & Lapp, D. (2017). *Literacy in the disciplines: A teacher's guide for grades 5-12*. The Guilford Press: New York.

With questions regarding the literacy requirements for CTE occupational programs, contact Annie.Insana@tn.gov.

¹ Reference to any resource, organization, activity, product, or service does not constitute or imply endorsement by the Tennessee Department of Education.