



# IMSE CERTIFICATION

2023-2024

## WHY EDUCATORS AND DISTRICTS CHOOSE THE IMSE PRACTICUM

- The IMSE practicum provides support in implementing IMSE OG strategies with fidelity. Educators will be able to ask questions, receive resources, and receive feedback as they implement Orton-Gillingham strategies with their students.
- Graduates will be listed on the IMSE website as a certified IMSE OG educator/tutor.
- Graduates have the opportunity to be listed on the Learning Ally website as an OG certified educator/tutor.
- Educators who complete one practicum may use their practicum to apply for the CERI Structured Literacy Dyslexia Interventionist certificate.
- Graduates may have opportunities to apply to be an IMSE instructor, practicum supervisor, or district practicum supervisor.

## IMSE Practicum FAQ

### Am I eligible to apply?

Candidates must possess either a current and valid teaching certificate (or another educational licensure) or a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in education (teaching, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, social work, psychology) and proof of current employment in an education setting with a background check. A letter from the school on letterhead stating that the applicant is currently employed and has passed the background check will be uploaded in place of the license. If a candidate has a Bachelor's degree but does not meet all of the above requirements, they may contact [certification@imse.com](mailto:certification@imse.com) and request a waiver form.

Candidates must apply within 24 months of completing the required training. If it has been over 24 months, Comprehensive/Comprehensive OG Plus practicum applicants will be required to complete the IMSE Fidelity course. This is a 15-hour asynchronous course. The fee for the course is \$375 and this fee can be deducted from the practicum fee if a candidate is accepted into the practicum within two years of completing the Fidelity course. The Fidelity course may be purchased by anyone that has completed the 30 hour Comprehensive/Comprehensive OG Plus course. [Fidelity Course Information](#)

### **Comprehensive/Comprehensive Orton-Gillingham Plus practicum**

Candidates must have completed the IMSE Comprehensive/Comprehensive Orton-Gillingham Plus course and the IMSE Phonological Awareness course. The IMSE PA course is offered as a live virtual course or as an asynchronous course. If the course is taken asynchronously, the candidate is required to pass a quiz in order to receive a certificate of completion and to be eligible to apply for the practicum. Candidates get two attempts to pass the asynchronous course quiz. Please check the current training schedule for the live virtual PA course offerings: <https://imse.com/training/>. The asynchronous PA course can be purchased under the 'Products' section of the IMSE website:

<https://imse.com/products/asynchronous-phonological-awareness-course/>

Candidates who have completed a minimum of 12.5 hours of Phonological Awareness instruction through a college-level course or different program may apply for a waiver to the IMSE PA course requirement. Waiver applicants will be required to pass a Phonological Awareness quiz (the quiz link is located in the waiver form). Waiver applicants receive one attempt to pass by 80% or higher. Please see the link to the waiver form below. If the waiver applicant passes the quiz, a completed copy of the waiver form needs to be sent to [certification@imse.com](mailto:certification@imse.com) for approval. Candidates that do not pass the waiver quiz by 80% or higher are required to complete the IMSE PA course if they want to proceed with certification.

### **Waiver Request form**

### **Intermediate practicum**

Candidates must have completed the Intermediate course within the last two years. 2023 will be the last year the Intermediate practicum is available. If it has been over two years since the candidate has completed the Intermediate course, they are not eligible to apply for the Intermediate practicum.

Candidates who have ONLY taken the Morphology Plus course are not eligible to apply for an IMSE practicum unless they have already completed Comprehensive OG certification.

### **Specialist certification**

Candidates who have completed the Comprehensive practicum and the Morphology Plus course, may apply for the IMSE Specialist/Morphology Plus practicum.

Candidates who complete both the IMSE Comprehensive/Comprehensive OG Plus practicum and the Intermediate/Morphology Plus practicum will receive an IMSE Specialist certificate. Candidates must work with at least three students with heterogeneous needs (three total during the two practicums). During their second practicum, educators are required to work

with a focus student and at least one back up student. These students must have heterogeneous needs.

Candidates that complete the IMSE Specialist certificate are eligible to apply for the Center for Effective Reading's Structured Literacy Dyslexia Specialist certificate. Those that complete the IMSE Specialist certification in 2022 or after, may use CERl's standard application for the Structured Literacy Dyslexia Specialist certificate. Those that completed the IMSE Specialist certificate prior to 2022 must use the CERl alternate route application to apply for this certificate.

### **What do I need to have to apply?**

**The following application documents are required and must be uploaded in order to submit your application. It is best to gather these documents prior to enrollment opening:**

1. A valid education license or proof of a background check (confirmation from your school on letterhead or an FBI level background check.)
2. Transcripts from your college/university (these may be copies)
3. Two letters of recommendation. One should come from an administrator or supervisor. The other can be from a co-worker or the parent of a student. Letters must include contact information.
4. Certificate of completion from the IMSE PA course or the approved PA waiver form (Comprehensive practicum applicants only).

### **Candidates will need to complete a literacy knowledge quiz prior to submitting an application.**

This quiz is untimed and open-book. Candidates are only permitted one attempt to pass and must score at least 80% to apply for the IMSE practicum. Candidates need to log into their IMSE account and click on 'OG Certification Program'. At the bottom of the page, there is a box for each practicum type. Expand the appropriate certification box to access this quiz.

### **When can I apply?**

**Candidates may apply for the IMSE practicum during the enrollment window: 8/1-9/30 (or until the practicum becomes full).** The application will not be available until 8/1, but applicants should gather the required application documents ahead of time.

### **How do I apply?**

Candidates may submit their application online during the open enrollment period. To access the online application, candidates need to log into their IMSE account and click on 'OG Certification Program'. At the bottom of the page, there is a box for each practicum type. Expand the appropriate box to access the online application. You will be notified of acceptance on 10/13. You will be assigned a Practicum Supervisor at the time of acceptance.

### **Open Application Period:**

- The application window opens August 1st.

\*\*IMSE accepts a limited number of applications per enrollment period. Please try to submit your application as soon as possible. Once the maximum number of submitted applications is reached, applicants will be placed on a waitlist. If all submitted applications get approved, the waitlist will be cleared, and no more candidates will be accepted. Those individuals not accepted will need to reapply during the next enrollment period. Candidates will not be charged an application fee while on the waitlist.

### **When will I find out if I am accepted into the practicum?**

Candidates will receive an approval or denial letter via email on 10/13. Please check your spam email if you don't receive an email after two weeks of closing.

### **How long will the practicum take?**

The practicum will take a minimum of six months and must be completed within 12 months. Participants should have access to their practicum student for 12 months without interruption.

### **Can I use IMSE OG strategies without being certified?**

The practicum/certification is not required to implement IMSE OG strategies with students. Teachers may implement these strategies with students after completing an IMSE course. Although certification is not a requirement, some educators wish to pursue certification to meet their professional or personal goals.

### **Can I work with students virtually?**

Yes, IMSE practicum participants can work with students in person or virtually.

### **If a district pays ahead of time, can IMSE hold slots for their educators?**

IMSE has limited space in this competitive program. Therefore, spaces can't be held for applicants. Each applicant must apply for the practicum, and their application will be reviewed. If all available spaces are filled by the time the applicant applies, IMSE will provide a full refund.

## How much does the practicum cost?

Total cost \$2350

- A nonrefundable **\$100** fee will be assessed for the application fee (regardless of acceptance).
- In addition to the application fee, if paid in full, the practicum cost is **\$2250** which includes video observations. This must be paid before the first lesson is submitted. There may also be an option of breaking the practicum cost into payments through PayPal. If a practicum participant quits before any observations, a portion of the cost can be refunded. Contact Heather Manley at [heather.manley@imse.com](mailto:heather.manley@imse.com) for more information.
- If an applicant does not pass the literacy knowledge quiz and requires an Online Coaching session, each session is \$250.
- If an accepted participant receives an "ineffective rating" twice on the same strategy, the participant must complete a practicum tutorial which will cost an additional \$175 in order to continue with the practicum.
  - More than two ineffective scores may result in removal from the practicum.
- In addition to reading all IMSE materials and books included in your training, there are three required readings due over the course of the practicum. IMSE will provide the expectations packet upon acceptance, but participants must purchase or borrow the two books listed below.

### Comprehensive Practicum:

- *Overcoming Dyslexia* by Sally Shaywitz
- *Uncovering the Logic of English* by Denise Eide

### Intermediate/Morphology Plus Practicum:

- *Equipped for Reading Success* by David Kilpatrick
- *Reciprocal Teaching at Work* by Lori Oczkus

## PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS

**(Failure to follow any of the below requirements could result in an incomplete practicum.)**

After completing the online practicum application process and upon acceptance into the practicum, candidates must:

- Complete 25 weekly lesson plans (that represent two hours of instruction). Lessons may involve a small group, whole class or individual student. The lessons should be done with the same student, group of students, or class throughout the entire practicum. It is HIGHLY recommended that you choose at least two students (near the same ability) for the practicum in case one student moves or discontinues. Participants will be required to submit a minimum of 15 videos of their work with the student(s).
  - The practicum is a minimum of six months and a maximum of 12 months (or longer if mastery is not shown.)
  - You should have access to the same student(s) for a full year in order to complete the practicum. Summer break should not interfere with the practicum. Keep this in mind when choosing a student(s) for the practicum.
  - You may need to tutor over the summer months to fulfil your requirements. Failure to meet this requirement could result in an incomplete practicum.
  - Participants must complete all lessons within 12 months of the approval date.
    - Lessons are submitted one at a time with feedback given for each.
    - Participants must submit one plan per week without gaps in submissions.
    - Participants will be given a one-year subscription to Interactive OG free of charge for use with the practicum. Participants will read and abide by all IMSE Practicum Expectations, as well as recommendations from the assigned Practicum Supervisor.
- Administer ongoing progress monitoring. Acadience Reading K-6 is preferred for progress monitoring and benchmark assessments for fluency. Here is a link to download the manual and student forms for free:  
<http://www.acadiencelearning.org/acadience-reading-materials-download/>

- If you are currently using DIBELS 8th Edition, you may choose to use this for progress monitoring and benchmark assessments for fluency. Here is a link to download DIBELS 8th edition materials:  
<https://dibels.uoregon.edu/assessment/index/materialdownload/?agree=true#dibelseight>
- If your district uses a different fluency benchmark, contact IMSE for approval.
- Write and submit an assessment report(s) on your student(s). This is part of the application process and must be completed prior to notification of acceptance. This will allow participants to begin as soon as they are notified.
- Complete Learning Outcomes as well as required readings.
- Pass the KPEERI exam.
  - Participants should plan on taking the KPEERI exam as soon as possible after they complete their other practicum requirements.
  - They must pass the KPEERI exam within six months of submitting their final assessment report.
- This practicum requires knowledge of the use of technology including uploading PDF lessons, recording lessons, and uploading links to videos.

## **SELECTING STUDENTS**

- Participants may work with one student or a group of students. The students must be seen at the same time and must be working off the same lesson plan. Students may be seen virtually or in person. Participants must see their student at least two hours per week and have access to their student for up to 12 months. The practicum usually takes 6-12 months.
- Those applying for the IMSE Specialist certificate must work with two students during their second practicum (minimum of three students across both practicums). One will be a focus student and the other a backup student. The students should have heterogeneous needs (students must differ in their intervention needs).
- Students must be at least five years of age by 8/1/2023.
- Participants may use family members for the practicum, but must still provide the IMSE parent consent form to participate in the practicum.

- Comprehensive students should demonstrate a need for at least 25 weeks worth of instruction on skills related to the Comprehensive practicum (K-2 reading level).
- Intermediate/Morph Plus students should have mastered basic phonics sound/symbol correspondences. These students should be able to participate in lessons that focus on advanced spelling rules and morphology.
- The practicum supervisor will review the initial assessment report and let the participant know if they feel the student will be appropriate for the practicum. If it is determined that the student is not appropriate for the practicum, the participant must select another student.

### **GRADUATE CREDIT**

Upon completion of the practicum, participants are eligible to purchase three graduate credits through Ashland University in Ohio. Participants must wait until they receive their practicum exit documents to be eligible to purchase these credits. If you have questions, please email [certification@imse.com](mailto:certification@imse.com).

### **DISCLAIMER**

The policies, regulations, procedures, and fees in this document are subject to change without prior notice, if necessary; to keep in compliance with the Institute for Multi-Sensory Education.

The Institute for Multi-Sensory Education reserves the right to change curricula, rules, fees, and other requirements, of whatever type, for the betterment of the practicum.

Nonrefundable application fee will be processed regardless of acceptance into the practicum.

Upon completion of the practicum, candidates are certified to teach students in the OG methodology. Candidates are not certified or permitted to teach other educators/instructors how to implement IMSE's OG. All materials are copyrighted and solely owned by IMSE. Unlawful use of our materials is not permitted. Anyone interested in pursuing a career as an IMSE OG Instructor can send their resumes to [Kimberley.collins@imse.com](mailto:Kimberley.collins@imse.com) and [Laura.Sabido@imse.com](mailto:Laura.Sabido@imse.com).

Failure to comply with any of the requirements of IMSE's practicum may result in removal from the practicum. Free IOG and other provided resources are only available to those actively enrolled in the practicum.

**If you have any further questions about certification or the practicum process, please contact IMSE at 800-646-9788 or email [certification@imse.com](mailto:certification@imse.com).**