

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[press@reading.org](mailto:press@reading.org)

## TWO SALISBURY UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS RECEIVE ILA NATIONAL RECOGNITION

NEWARK, Del. (March 14, 2022) — The International Literacy Association (ILA) today announced that Salisbury University is the latest recipient of ILA National Recognition—and the first university to receive the honor for two of its programs.

Salisbury's undergraduate Early and Elementary Education program was honored in the Elementary/Intermediate Classroom Program category of National Recognition, while the university's Master of Education Reading Specialist program was recognized in the Reading/Literacy Specialist category.

ILA's National Recognition program honors outstanding licensure, certificate and endorsement programs that prepare reading/literacy specialists and elementary/intermediate classroom teachers in the United States.

Universities that achieve this honor go through a rigorous review process that closely examines all course offerings and each aspect of their teacher preparation program, ensuring strict adherence to the standards and high benchmarks set forth in ILA's [Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals 2017](#). Achieving recognition confirms that their programs are of the highest quality and graduates will be prepared to address today's challenges in literacy education.

"We were honored to go through this process with Salisbury University and to award two of their programs," said J. Helen Perkins, ILA Board member and chair of the ILA Commission on National Recognition. "This particular achievement is to be commended. To earn recognition at both the undergraduate and graduate level displays a staunch commitment to program cohesion. Combine that with their strong connection between courses and field experiences, and their dedication to continual reflection and to understanding how the diversity of students, families and communities impacts literacy learning, and Salisbury clearly displays that they are among today's leaders in teacher preparation."

The growing list of ILA National Recognition recipients includes Grambling State University, Loyola University Maryland, Notre Dame College and The University of Texas Permian Basin. Three universities have also received ILA National Recognition With Distinction, ILA's highest institutional honor: University of North Georgia, The University of Texas at San Antonio and West Virginia University.

To learn more about ILA National Recognition and ILA National Recognition With Distinction, visit the ILA [website](#).

### ***About the International Literacy Association***

The International Literacy Association (ILA) is a global advocacy and membership organization dedicated to advancing literacy for all through its network of more than 300,000 literacy educators, researchers and experts across 128 countries. With over 60 years of experience, ILA has set the

standard for how literacy is defined, taught and evaluated. ILA's Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals 2017 provides an evidence-based benchmark for the development and evaluation of literacy professional preparation programs. ILA collaborates with partners across the world to develop, gather and disseminate high-quality resources, best practices and cutting-edge research to empower educators, inspire students and inform policymakers. ILA publishes The Reading Teacher, Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy and Reading Research Quarterly, which are peer reviewed and edited by leaders in the field. For more information, visit [literacyworldwide.org](http://literacyworldwide.org).

###