




# The Minnesota Reading to Ensure Academic Development (READ) Act

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# The Read Act

## Minnesota's BOLD Plan for Literacy Achievement

- Minnesota Reading to Ensure Academic Development Act, known as the READ Act, was passed and signed into law by Governor Tim Walz on May 24, 2023.
  - The READ Act replaces Read Well by Third Grade (RWBTG) in Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 120B.12, effective July 1, 2023.
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# Literacy Goal


To have every child reading at or above grade level every year, beginning in kindergarten, and to support multilingual learners and students receiving special education services in achieving their individualized reading goals.



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# READ Act

## REQUIREMENTS:

- Identification Process: Universal Screening
  - Evidence Based Curriculum and Intervention
  - Training in Structured Literacy
  - Employ a District Literacy Lead
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# Identification: Universal Screening

- Grades K-3: Twice per year (beginning 2024-2025 school year) must screen every student using a screening tool approved by the Department of Education within the first and last six weeks of the school year.
- Grades 4-12+: We must utilize a screening tool to measure foundational literacy skills and mastery identified by the Department of Education for:
  - students who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia; and
  - students in grades 4 to 12 who are identified as not reading at grade level.

# Curriculum and Intervention

- The district literacy curriculum, intervention, and supplementary materials must be evidence-based as defined in Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 120B.1118.
  - January 1, 2024 – approved curriculum list released along with reimbursement process
- A district is encouraged to provide reading intervention through a MTSS framework.
  - District intervention methods shall encourage family engagement and, where possible, collaboration with appropriate school and community programs.
  - By the 2025–2026 school year, intervention programs must be taught by an intervention teacher or special education teacher who has successfully completed training in evidence-based reading instruction approved by the Department of Education.

# Required Training in Structured Literacy

- A district must provide training on evidence-based reading instruction to teachers and instructional staff.
  - The training must include teaching in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, reading comprehension, and culturally and linguistically responsive pedagogy.
  - A district must provide staff in early childhood programs sufficient training to provide children in early childhood programs with explicit, systematic instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness; oral language, including listening comprehension; vocabulary; and letter-sound correspondence.

# Required Training in Structured Literacy Timeline



- By July 1, 2025:
  - PreK Classroom Teachers
  - K-3 Classroom Teachers
  - K-12 Reading Intervention Teachers
  - PreK - 12 Special Education Teachers Responsible for Reading Instruction
  - PreK - 5 Curriculum Director
  - PreK - 5 Instructional Support Staff who Provide Reading Support
  - PreK - 5 Employees who select literacy instructional materials
- By July 1, 2027:
  - 4-12 Classroom Teachers Responsible for Reading Instruction
  - PreK - 12 Teachers who Work with English Learners
  - K - Age 22 Teachers who Work with Students who Qualify for the graduation incentives program under section 124D.68
  - 6-12 Instructional Support Staff who provide Reading Support
  - 6-12 Curriculum Director
  - 6-12 Employees who select literacy instructional materials



# Employ a District Literacy Lead

- A district must employ or contract with a literacy Lead, support a designated literacy specialist in becoming a literacy lead, or contract with another district or a cooperative.

# Next Steps

- December/January: Decision on Screener and Professional Development
- January: Approved Curriculum List Released
- Jan-June: Preparation for Professional Development around Screening Process and Literacy
- March: New Local Literacy Plan template and data collection process released
  - First submission for Local Literacy Plans will be June 15, 2024

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# Questions

More Information

<https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/READ/>