

INSTRUCTION

Early Literacy Targeted Intervention Programs

The Board seeks to collaborate with the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction to provide parents with voluntary early scholastic literacy targeted interventions for their children.

Scholastic literacy means a comprehensive competency in a variety of academic standards and developmental domains necessary to prepare a child to be successful in the child's primary, secondary, and postsecondary pursuits. The academic standards include English language arts, literacy, mathematics and numeracy.

Program goals include:

1. Increasing the number of children who are reading and math proficient at the end 3rd grade;
2. Helping children develop their full educational potential pursuant to Article X, Section 20 (1)(1) of the Montana Constitution, and
3. Fostering a strong economic return for the state on early scholastic literacy investment through enhancing Montana's skilled workforce and decreasing future reliance on social programs and the criminal justice systems.

A child is eligible for an Early Scholastic Literacy Targeted Intervention Program if, based upon an assessment administered at the request of and with the consent of the child's parent or guardian, the child is evaluated to be below trajectory for 3rd grade reading or math proficiency for the child's age or grade level for the subsequent school year. A child's eligibility must be reevaluated using the evaluation methodology at least annually. The assessment used shall be in accordance with the methodology approved by the Board of Public Education.

The Board has determined it will offer the following Early Scholastic Literacy Targeted Intervention Program(s) for an eligible child:

A full-time based program for eligible children who are four (4) years of age or older on or before September 10 of the year in which the children are to participate in the program and are not entering and have not completed kindergarten. The classroom based program must align with developmentally appropriate early education learning standards determined by the Board of Public Education.

A jumpstart program for eligible children who are aged five years of age or older on or before September 10 of the year in which the children are to participate in the program and who have not yet completed 3rd grade. The jumpstart program shall occur during the time between the end of one school calendar year and the start of the next school calendar year as

determined by the Board preceding a child's entry into kindergarten, 1st grade, 2nd grade, or 3rd grade. The jumpstart program shall be at least 4 weeks in duration and provide at least 120 instructional hours and be aligned to the framework determined by the Board of Public Education. The jumpstart program shall be designed in a manner to increase the likelihood of a child being evaluated at the end of the ensuring school year to be at or above a trajectory leading to reading and math proficiency at the end of 3rd grade.

Cross Reference: 3110

Entrance, Transfer, and Placement

Legal Reference: § 20-7-1801, *et seq.*, MCA
Title 10, Chapter 63, ARM

Early Literacy Targeted Interventions
Early Childhood Education Standard
(Eff. July 1, 2025)

Policy History:

Adopted on: 05.14.2024

Revised on: 02.10.2026