

District-Wide Early Education Program-0.5 ADM Approval

The Alaska Reads Act (House Bill 114, Chapter 40, SLA 2022) provides school districts with the opportunity to build and grow their early education programs for 4- and 5-year-old students by providing Foundation Formula funding to approved district-wide early education programs.

For a school district to count early education children as one-half (0.5) of a full-time equivalent student, DEED must approve its early education program as a High-Quality Early Education Program. School districts will:

- Submit an application for District Wide Early Education Approval-0.5 ADM Funding by May 15;
- Consult with all high-quality early education programs within the district service area;
- Provide evidence that all Alaska Early Education Program Standards are currently being met; and,
- Receive approval from the Department of Education and Early Development by September 1.

Eligible students for Foundation Formula funding will be 4- and 5-year-old children (5-year-olds who missed the kindergarten age cut-off date) who are enrolled in a DEED approved school district early education program.

There are instances when 4- and 5-year-old students cannot be counted in a district's average daily membership (ADM) that determines Foundation Formula funding. Students that are enrolled in early education programs that receive state and/or federal funding specifically for pre-kindergarten programs are not eligible to be counted in a district's ADM. See the table below. For example, the District-Wide Early Education Program Grant and the State Pre-Elementary Grant have one purpose, to improve early education in the state, thus students attending these programs **cannot** be counted in a district's ADM.

On the other hand, funding sources that have multiple purposes, not solely for pre-kindergarten programs, can supplement Foundation Formula funding. For example, Title I, Part A funds can be used for a variety of purposes. These funds are provided to districts with high numbers or percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging academic standards. Since these funds can be used for K-12 education, they are not provided specifically for early education programs. Students who are 4- and 5-years old attending these programs **can** be counted in a district's ADM.

Local/State/Federal Funding Sources {AS 14.17.500(e)}	
Allowable	Not Allowable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title I, Part A funds can supplement Foundation Formula funding • Title I, Part C Migrant Education Program funds can supplement Foundation Formula funding • Local funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Grants that go directly to the district for pre-kindergarten purposes only • Head Start State Grant • Head Start Federal Grant • State Pre-Elementary Grant • State District-Wide Early Education Program Grant