



## **Alaska Reads Act Frequently Asked Questions**

### **General Questions**

1. I would like to start receiving the subscription of Alaska Reads Newsletter. How can I get this started?

Please go to <a href="https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AKDEED/subscriber/new?qsq-AKDEED\_2">https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AKDEED/subscriber/new?qsq-AKDEED\_2</a> and enter your email address, then select which topic(s) you would like to subscribe to.

2. I would like to learn more about the Alaska Reads Act, where can I find more information on the requirements?

Current and updated information on the Alaska Reads Act can be found on the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) website at: https://education.alaska.gov/akreads

- 3. How will district leaders receive Reads Act requirements and forms?
  - Current and updated information on the Alaska Reads Act can be found on the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) website at: <a href="https://education.alaska.gov/akreads.">https://education.alaska.gov/akreads.</a> In addition, a series of weekly webinars will begin on January 12, 2023 to support leaders in implementation of the Reads Act. Forms will be included in the Department form page on the DEED website.
- **4.** I have questions or input on Reads Act requirements, who can I contact for support? Email questions or comments to <a href="mailto:akreads@alaska.gov">akreads@alaska.gov</a> for the quickest response.
- 5. How will the planning tool and other resources reviewed during webinars and presentations be shared and/or where could we find it?

AK Reads Act Webinar recordings and supporting documents can be found at <a href="https://education.alaska.gov/akreads">https://education.alaska.gov/akreads</a>. Posted resources are listed on the righthand column.

## **District Reading Intervention**

## 1. I would like to learn more about what documentation a District would need to provide in order to qualify for this program.

All districts will be required to implement the requirements in the District Reading Intervention portion of the Reads Act. Each district will need to submit a K-3 MTSS Plan that outlines the core curriculum, intervention, group sizes, screening, and progress monitoring. The plan will be posted on the DEED website. A draft plan is available for reference on the Reads Act website.

#### 2. When will K-3 MTSS Plans need to be approved by?

K-3 MTSS plans are due September 1<sup>st</sup>. DEED will work with districts as they develop and implement their plans.

#### 3. Do State approved Charter schools submit separately?

If a school has a K-3 MTSS plan different than the district's K-3 MTSS plan, then the school will submit their school's plan with the district's plan.

#### 4. Are you working with the MTSS Refresh group?

The RTI/MTSS Refresh is a partnership between DEED and the Alaska Council of School Administrators (ACSA) and the Alaska Staff Development Network (ASDN). The project is being tailored to the needs of the individual districts, including the Alaska Reads Act requirements. Specific work will be done to complete the K-3 MTSS Plan.

#### a. When do you plan to start a new cohort for the MTSS Refresh program?

There are no more slots available for the current two-year cohorts. There may be opportunities for districts to participate in upcoming RTI/MTSS events/discussions. Contact <a href="mailto:dgray@alaskaacsa.org">dgray@alaskaacsa.org</a> for more information.

#### 5. Will money be available from the state to hire more MTSS tutors in districts?

The AK Reads Act does not specifically set aside money for hiring of staff. Districts have begun creative planning in preparation. Please review the guidelines of various state and federal grants your district receives. District leadership may benefit by creating cross-district collaborations to problem-solve together. DEED is here to assist in brainstorming solutions. Please reach out if you would like further assistance.

- **6.** Section 14.30.765 (e) reads: A student in grade three should demonstrate sufficient reading skills to progress to grade four. A student demonstrates sufficient reading skills to progress to grade four by (1) scoring at grade level or higher on the statewide screening tool or on the statewide summative assessment;
  - (2) achieving an acceptable score on an alternative standardized reading screening as determined and approved by the department; or
  - (3) demonstrating mastery of reading standards through a student reading portfolio based on

criteria established by the department.

Does a student need to meet all three criteria?

This portion of the Reads Act refers to a student in grade three. They need to have at least one of the three criteria to demonstrate readiness for fourth grade.

7. Is there a discussion on the scoring range for above and below proficient? If a student does score below proficient, are there opportunities to supplement with other data?

The department plans to use the scoring for the literacy screener to determine reading deficiencies. As an alternative, a student reading portfolio developed by the Department may be used to provide documentation of proficiency.

- 8. Section 14.30.765 (c) reads: If at any time during the school year a student in grades kindergarten through three demonstrates a reading deficiency, the district or school shall notify the student's parent or guardian. In the fall kindergartners have not had exposure to direct instruction, as preschool and kindergarten are not required in the State of Alaska. Is there a grace period for kindergarteners to gain exposure prior to being declared deficient and put on an RTI plan?
  - There is not a "grace period" stated in the law. If a student is identified in kindergarten as below benchmark for that time of year, intervention would be provided.
- 9. Reading teacher is only allowed to teach the tier III level. With interventions would a regular education teacher be certified to teach tier III interventions with proper certification?
  In Section 14.30.765, the act states that to the extent practicable, intensive reading intervention service must,
  - (1) be provided by a district reading teacher, or paraprofessional under the supervision of a reading teacher, to all students in grades kindergarten through three who are determined to have a reading deficiency based on the statewide screening tool adopted under AS 14.30.760(a)(1).

According to this language, a reading teacher could design and direct the intervention and it could be delivered by the reading teacher or a paraprofessional.

10. Would a tier 3 kiddo get a double dose intervention? Tier 3 are the far below kiddos who need intervention outside the school day correct? So they would get in school intervention AND outside of the school day intervention?

Students that are Tier 3 would receive Tier 1 core instruction and Tier 3 intervention during the school day. In addition, if the student scored at the lowest level on the literacy screener, they would receive intervention outside of the school day.

Scoring at the lowest level on the literacy screener initiates outside of school intervention. Typically, a student scoring far below proficient would be in Tier 3.

11. What ideas do you have for "outside of school day" interventions? Financially or capacity of teachers?

Districts have begun creative planning in preparation. Some districts are choosing before-school or weekend options. Please review the guidelines of various state and federal grants your district receives. District leadership may benefit by creating cross-district collaborations to problem-solve together. DEED is here to assist in brainstorming solutions. Please reach out if you would like further assistance.

#### 12. Is there a list of approved intervention resources?

DEED is currently constructing a list of vetted or suggested intervention resources. It will be posted on the DEED website when complete.

#### 13. Will there be money given to schools to service tier II and tier III students?

This is a two-part answer:

- a. As part of an MTSS/RTIi model, students receive intervention if they are in tier II or tier III. While additional funding will not be provided for this specifically, districts may opt to use other funding sources to purchase added intervention materials as they prioritize this in their budget. Some schools may already have evidence-based intervention materials.
- b. Funding for schools that apply and are accepted into the Department Reading Program will have some funding available for supports.

## 14. Someone with a low IQ might not qualify for special education but will always test below proficient and be an RTI student. Does the State of Alaska have a plan for these students?

For students with this situation, an individual reading improvement plan would be appropriate to meet the individual needs of that student. Regular communication with parents and progress monitoring would be appropriate for any student that struggles in reading.

#### 15. Is there a list of approved screeners?

Amplify's mCLASS with DIBELS 8<sup>th</sup> edition is the state-sponsored literacy screener.

#### 16. How will the screener be used in fourth and fifth grades?

The AK Reads Act speaks to the literacy screener in grades K-3, however, DEED has purchased mCLASS with DIBELS 8<sup>th</sup> edition for use with all K-5 students.

#### 17. Does the state recommend specific diagnostic tools?

DEED does not currently have a list of recommended diagnostic tools.

#### 18. Will a diagnostic tool be required?

It is best practice to use a diagnostic tool for students demonstrating a reading deficiency, however, it is not required by DEED.

#### 19. Is having the dyslexia screener part of the requirements of the screener if districts want a waiver?

Yes, a dyslexia screener is part of the requirements of the screener if districts choose to apply for a waiver to use an alternate district adopted literacy screener.

#### 20. Will there be a specific dyslexia screener required statewide?

The dyslexia screener is included in the state adopted mCLASS literacy screener. If a district completes a waiver to use their own literacy screener, it must have a dyslexia screener as part of the requirements for approval.

## 21. Will the dyslexia screener allow educators to diagnose dyslexia? Or will it simply indicate a risk level for dyslexia?

The dyslexia screener will indicate the risk level. Further assessment would be required to diagnose dyslexia.

#### 22. Would the new reading plans begin next school year 23/24?

The Reads Act will be implemented beginning July 1, 2023. Programs associated with the Act will be implemented at that time.

## 23. The goals for reading proficiency are for English reading only, is that correct? Could this lead to conflict in schools where native language is strongly integrated into curricula?

The Reads Act applies to all state-funded schools serving kindergarten through grade three and includes world and Native languages. DEED will work to support districts with World and Native Language programs upon request.

#### 24. What will be the recourse for districts unable to meet requirements of the Reads Act?

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development realizes that requirements of the Reads Act will be a process. They will work to support districts in implementation.

## 25. Can you give examples of what parent training would look like and how you might expect districts to communicate with their communities?

For districts using mClass by Amplify, there is a report that could be used for home support of reading. Other ideas for Parent Training include Parent nights where supporting reading at home is the focus.

## 26. Will a parent/family handout about the Reads Act Requirement and Regulations be made available to districts and community stakeholders?

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development is drafting supporting documents that may be used to inform stakeholders.

# 27. Will educators still be able to use their professional judgment to select materials and means of instruction to determine the student interventions based on on-going student assessment data rather than utilizing only one set of materials or program determined by the state?

The Reads Act requires districts serving kindergarten through third grade to use materials based on the science of reading to instruct students. Intervention materials and core curriculum will be part of the K3 MTSS Plan each district or school will submit to the Department for approval each year. Part of the approval process will include adherence to usage of evidence-based intervention materials.

#### 28. When will the approved curriculum for core ELA instruction be identified?

The Reads Act requires districts to use materials based on the science of reading for grades kindergarten through third grade. Each district will submit the curriculum used for core ELA instruction as part of their K-3 MTSS Plan. Approval of that plan will include using a core ELA curriculum that is aligned to Alaska ELA standards and science of reading.

#### 29. What does after school hours look like?

After school hours will look different in each school and/or district, depending on resources for implementation. It was intentionally left flexible to incorporate best practice and evidence-based curriculum into individual context.

## **30.** How does the Reads Act apply to homeschool and correspondence families and what is the impact on districts?

If the district employing a homeschool or correspondence program receive state funds, it must comply with the Reads Act. DEED will work with the administrators in charge of those programs to assist them in meeting the requirements of the Reads Act.

## 31. How does the Reads Act apply to public charter schools in terms of the requirements of the Reads Act and us of screeners and resources?

If they district receives state funds, they must comply with the Reads Act. DEED will work with the administrators in charge of those programs to assist them in meeting the requirements of the Reads Act.

## 32. Does a Tier III intervention imply a likely learning disability and trigger IDEA with 504 or IEP intervention?

Tier III doesn't automatically mean there is a learning disability. Many factors affect students in their reading journey. If evidence-based intervention occurs and adjustments are made throughout a year with no improvements, a team (including parents) may determine to explore whether a learning disability exists or not.

# 33. If student is already identified as having a disability (therefore has an IEP), or is new to the country (ELL) will they also need an individual plan through Alaska Reads?

Students that have identified reading deficiencies as identified on the literacy screener would have an individual reading improvement plan. If a student has a disability AND there are goals in the area of reading, only a portion of the individual reading improvement plan would be completed. If there is an identified disability and there are no goals in the area of reading, the student would have an individual reading improvement plan.

# 34. Will there be different requirements for implementation of the Reads Act based on whether a school is a Title 1 school or not?

No.

# 35. It sounds like this new assessment would replace district adopted MAP Growth screening. How often would this assessment be administered? How many times would a single student take this assessment?

As part of the District Reading Intervention, each student must be screened using state approved literacy screener three times each year. If a student is at benchmark after the first screener, the Reads Act does not require further screening, although it is recommended through best practice. The literacy screener does not necessarily replace Map Growth.

- 36. Will all districts be required to use the Amplify screener? I had heard that there would be options to continue with the one currently in use (for example, Fastbridge used by Anchorage SD). Amplify's mCLASS is the state adopted literacy screener. If a district chooses to use an alternative district literacy screener, they must complete a waiver that has to be approved by the department.
- 37. Can you speak to the requirement to submit a waiver for students moving from 3rd to 4th grade with a deficiency and the summer plan requirements for supporting learning?

  This topic is addressed in the February 2, 2023 AK Reads Act webinar. AK Reads Act Webinar recordings and supporting documents can be found at <a href="https://education.alaska.gov/akreads">https://education.alaska.gov/akreads</a>.
- **38.** Who provides the **20** hours of summer reading support for the waiver? It will be up to the districts to determine.
- 39. Do you have thoughts about how to track individual student plans and student data in relation to student mobility within the state, between schools, etc.?

A student's cumulative file would be a suggested place to house Individual Student Plans and data.

40. Who is going to fund the out of school interventions?

Districts have begun creative planning in preparation. Some districts are choosing before-school or weekend options. Please review the guidelines of various state and federal grants your district receives. District leadership may benefit by creating cross-district collaborations to problem-solve together. DEED is here to assist in brainstorming solutions. Please reach out if you would like further assistance.

41. Individual Reading Intervention Plans (IRIP) are the responsibility of a team that instructs the student, correct? If the district has one Reading Specialist, is it that person's responsibility to be involved in every plan and report?

The Alaska Reads Act states that a team would design the plan. A reading teacher (using the Reads Act definition) would help design the plan. Implementation of the IRIP could be the classroom teacher or paraprofessional under the direction of a teacher.

## Department Reading Program

1. Am I understanding correctly that the year of Reading Program participation is the year of implementation, NOT the year of planning?

The Department Reading Program spans two school years. In year one, ranking of schools, notification of ability to apply for participation, and acceptance in the program occur between October and April. Between April and May, a Department Reading Specialist is assigned to the participating schools and a K-3 Intensive Reading Improvement Plan is designed specifically for the school with collaboration from the reading specialist and the school staff. In year two, the plan is implemented with the school.

# 2. How are the "Department Reading Specialists" as defined in the Reads Act going to be selected? Will they be on site so these individuals are informed firsthand about the unique needs of AK rural remote schools?

The Department Reading Specialists Identified in the Reads Act will be employees of the Department of Education. Reading Specialists will be assigned to multiple schools that participate in the Department Reading Program. They will not live in the district, but draft regulations indicate a minimum of one site visit per year. Interactions with school staff will help each specialist understand the unique needs of each school and community.

### **Early Learning Program**

#### 1. What are Early Education Programs?

The Reads Act updated language from "Pre-Elementary Programs" to "Early Education Programs" as part of their expanded definition of what can constitute an elementary school. Early Education Programs are programs which are primarily designed to prepare children, 3-5 years of age, for elementary school; regularly serve a group of five or more children; and is operate by a school district or a Head Start agency.

#### 2. What is the Early Elementary Grant Program?

The Early Education Grant Program supports school districts who want to start or improve an early education program for 4- and 5-year-old children. There will be \$3,000,000 available annual to fund 3year grants to eligible districts. Districts receiving funding will work toward meeting the Early Education Program Standards. At the end of the grant, districts who have not met all of the standards, may receive an additional year to finish meeting their goals.

#### 3. What are the requirements to apply for the Early Education Grant Program?

Districts will fill out an application that will be available in early 2023. As part of the application process, districts are required to describe the program they would like to start or improve, as well as consult with each Head Start and quality early education/pre-kindergarten programs and submit documentation of the consultation process. A review team at DEED will review the applications and application materials for completeness. Districts with low performance according to the department's accountability system.

#### 4. What are the Early Education Program Standards?

The Early Education Program Standards are standards adopted by the State Board of Education outlining the requirements for high-quality early education programs. The standards are based on Head Start Program Standards and other federal standards required for early education programs to receive federal funding.

#### 5. Who is required to meet the Early Education Program Standards?

Districts receiving grant funding have three years to meet the Early Education Program Standards. If a district is not able to meet the standards during the three-year grant, there is a provision in the act to provide an additional year to work on meeting all of the Early Education Program Standards.

Districts applying for formula funding will need to provide evidence that all of the standards are being met.

## 6. What assessments for early education programs are required this coming fall because of the AK Reads Act?

As part of the proposed standards, grant funded and approved Early Education Programs will be required to utilize the Statewide Assessment Tool (Teaching Strategies GOLD) provided to by the state. The proposed Early Education Program standards also require programs to utilize the Statewide screening tool (The Ages & Stages Questionnaire) and programs may utilize their own self-assessment tool.

The Reads ACT requires the use of a literacy screener (mClass) in K-3, but not in early education. \$3,000,000 will be awarded, in 2023-2024 the award will be \$6,000,000, in 2024-2025 the award will be \$9,000,000, and so on until the end of the act in 2034.

#### 7. What is the AK Reads Act Early Education Program Grant?

The Alaska Reads Act states up to \$3million will be allocated to approved applicants for the AK Reads Act Early Education Program Grant for the next 10 years. This grant funds grantees for three years, with the purpose of establishing and maintaining a quality early education program that meets DEED-Early Education Program standards. At the end of the three years, the district may apply to fund their program through receiving a .5 ADM for each 4- and 5-year-old students enrolled in their early education program. An additional year may be available to provide additional time for a district to meet the standards.

# 8. Is the Early Education Program Approval application the same as the Pre-Elementary Approval to Operate application?

No, the Early Education Program Approval application is not the same as the pre-elementary approval to operate application. The Early Education Approval application is a process for School District programs to provide documentation that they are meeting the Early Education Program standards. Once a school district is approved, they can count their preschool students as part of their average daily membership to receive half foundation funding.

# 9. Are Early Education Programs still required to do the annual Early Education Authorization to Operate application (Formerly known as the Pre-Elementary Approval to Operate)?

Yes, all Early Education Programs operated by a school district or a Head Start agency (which are primarily designed to prepare children, 3-5 years of age, for elementary school; regularly serve a group of five or more children) are still required to do the annual authorization to operate application and complete the annual end-of-year report.

## 10. What is DEED's role in examining/verifying/enforcing the important do no harm and non-compete components of the Act?

DEED will only approve Reads Act grant applications for programs who have competed the required consultation form for the Reads Act Early Education Program application.

#### Virtual Education

#### 1. What is the vision for the Alaska Virtual Consortium?

DEED is exploring options and creating a framework for the Alaska Virtual Consortium (AVC) with the intent of creating greater access to virtual education resources to support educators and students statewide. Once the AVC is recruited and convened, the consortium members will be tasked with exploring the collected resources and refining the plan for the consortium vision and model. A website will be developed to post appropriate information, resources, and guidelines.

- 2. I'd like to know more about the forming of the AVC. Has it happened already? How will participants be nominated and selected? Representative distribution of districts/stakeholders? DEED has created draft bylaws for the AVC, which include membership guidelines. The AVC membership will not exceed 15 members and will include the following stakeholder representatives:
  - a. Regional educators, to include both teachers and administrators from both rural and urban school districts
  - b. Tribal Representatives
  - c. Parents and/or students
  - d. Statewide Education Organizations
  - e. State Board of Education Member

The AVC will be convened following State Board of Education approval of the Virtual Education regulations, which include membership recommendations.

#### 3. Will districts be required to participate in the Alaska Virtual Consortium?

The AVC will be an optional resource to districts designed to support resource sharing, alignment of standards of practice, and professional learning to support virtual content delivery. The AVC committee, once convened, will develop guidelines and resources to support districts and provide guidance and suggestions to DEED on how to support virtual education needs statewide.

#### **Teacher Certification**

1. Do the Alaska Reads Act certification requirements apply to all teachers or only to new teachers into the profession?

Both veteran teachers and teachers new-to-the-profession will need to meet the training, coursework, or testing requirements of the Reads Act. The State Board of Education will determine what the requirements will be.

#### 2. What will currently certified K-3 teachers need to do to maintain certification?

The Reads Act requires that all educators working with K-3 grade students complete training, coursework, or testing to demonstrate competency in the Science of Reading regardless of when they were certified. The state board will determine what training, coursework, or testing will meet the requirements through regulations. The proposed regulations will provide options that will include training, coursework, and testing.

## 3. If a teacher has a master's in language and literacy with a K-12 Reading Endorsement, are they required to take the Praxis?

The State Board of Education will determine through regulations what will be required. It is being proposed through regulations that educators will be able to meet the requirement in a variety of ways, including taking a test.

#### Is there a fee for this?

If an educator elects to take a test to meet the requirements, the educator will need to pay for the exam.

- 4. I wonder about the National Board Teachers who have achieved endorsement in Reading in the acquisition of language or literacy. Has there been conversations about the NBCT teachers? National Board-Certified Teachers will need to meet the requirements as determined by the State Board of Education through regulations. The proposed regulations require all educators, regardless of current or previous certification or training, to meet the same requirements.
- 5. Who will be funding the tests teachers need to take?

If an educator elects to take a test to satisfy the requirements, the educator will be expected to incur the cost of the exam.

6. Will teachers have to pay for the courses and tests that are required?

Yes, educators may need to pay for the required training, coursework, or testing. The department is working to provide options to educators that will be at little to no cost.

7. Is there someone looking at our credential to be very specific with what we need in order to be valid?

For the Reads Act, it is being proposed through regulation to add Reads Act Endorsements to verify the teacher has met the requirements of the Act.

## **Correspondence Schools**

1. If all teachers use the DIBELS assessment, do all teachers need reading certifications K-3 (even if certified 6-12)?

Teachers who teach or oversee reading instruction in grades K-3 will need their Reads Act verified K-3 Teacher endorsement.

2. What screeners, besides mCLASS, are being considered by schools?

Amplify's mCLASS is the state adopted literacy screener. If a district chooses to use an alternative district literacy screener, they must complete a waiver that has to be approved by the department.

## 3. What about qualifications for parents as teachers in reference to the literacy screener administration?

If a correspondence school would like parents to administer the progress monitoring portion of mCLASS with DIBELS 8<sup>th</sup> edition, parents will need to be trained prior to administering the progress monitoring measures.

#### 4. What does accountability look like for us working with our Tier 2 and Tier 3 students?

The Individual Reading Improvement Plan (IRIP) can be an extension of the home learning plan. Accountability can be documented by the dates of progress monitoring, alignment of intervention to reading need identified, and what training or support is being provided to the parents. Amplify's mCLASS does have parent update letters which are part of the IRIP, but also support parents by providing tangible targets to teach their students.

#### 5. Can parents still opt out of assessments?

The Reads Act provides the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) the authority to create measures for a Reading Portfolio that allows districts to show that students have demonstrated mastery of reading standards based on a set of criteria established by the department (AS 14.30.765(e)(3). This portfolio is noted as an alternative to the statewide screening tool for reporting proficiency of students to the Department (AS 14.13.120(h)(2)(G)) and for the consideration in progression for students completing grade 3 (For consideration in progression for students completing grade 3. AS 14.30.765(e)(3)).

#### 6. What are the testing requirements for correspondence schools?

Correspondence school testing requirements are the same as all schools. Correspondence schools are required to administer all required, statewide assessments, to inform families of how to access and participate in assessment, and to provide reports according to regulatory timelines.

It is the recommendation of the department, with increased enrollment in correspondence programs, that districts and correspondence schools make greater efforts to inform families of the purpose and value of assessment, guidance on how to use assessment data to inform instruction of their students, and resources to assist them accessing assessments during administration windows.

Some districts have had some success with creative approaches, and the DEED Assessment team is happy to assist in connecting interested schools and districts to appropriate contacts to explore options.

Additionally, the DEED Assessment team has developed several resources for parents and families that may be useful for outreach.

#### 7. Will there be funding that will go directly to correspondence schools?

All funding will go through the district office. The increase in foundation funding will be provided to the district. It will be up to the governing body of the school district (school board) to decide how the funding will be budgeted.

#### 8. How do you envision correspondence programs providing intervention support?

In correspondence or homeschool programs the focus should be aligning the individualized reading interventions targeting the source of reading need. The format would not be specifically Tier 2 or Tier 3 minutes/program choices- as intervention can be both increase of time/intensity and group size. Homeschool and correspondence programs may be one parent with one student. With correspondence schools it would be defining which intervention is being implemented for each reading need identified.

## 9. Will the at-home Amplify embedded lessons be available to give to parents to use at home as Tier 2 or 3 interventions?

Yes, the Amplify embedded lessons are available to be printed (or sent electronically) and given to parents for use as Tier 2 or 3 interventions.

## 10. What documentation/intervention tracking is required (thinking of parents working 1:1 at home with child)?

Within the IRIP it would be defining which intervention is being used for the reading need and progress monitoring.

#### 11. What are some intervention ideas that are parent-friendly?

This can be either a program or teaching strategies. DEED has published lists of reviewed interventions on the website: <a href="https://education.alaska.gov/alaska-reading-resources/Science-of-Reading-Resources">https://education.alaska.gov/alaska-reading-resources/Science-of-Reading-Resources</a>

Interventions that have high usability and parent friendly could include: UFLI Foundations (phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency), 95% group (phonics, phonemic awareness), Explode the Code (phonics), McGraw Hill Early Interventions in Reading, and Phonemic Awareness. Digital programs options include Waterford or Smarty Ants.

## 12. What communication strategies and formats regarding AK READS Act are specifically for correspondence schools & families.

Providing communication that directs parents to learn more about the Alaska Reads Act through the AK DEED Reads Act webpage: https://education.alaska.gov/akreads

Meet with parents to explain how the Alaska Reads Act will be implemented in your program using resources on the Alaska Reads Act webpage. Resources also exist on the Reading Resources webpage of the DEED website: https://education.alaska.gov/Alaska-Reading-Resources

Using Amplify results, send the screener results with ideas for parent support to parents.

#### 13. Where do we find information on specific classes available for teachers and administrators?

Please visit our new reading resource page for professional development on the DEED website at: <a href="https://education.alaska.gov/Alaska-Reading-Resources/DEED-Professional-Development">https://education.alaska.gov/Alaska-Reading-Resources/DEED-Professional-Development</a>

### 14. What about progress monitoring- train the trainer opportunities?

This is currently being discussed and will be shared with correspondence programs soon.