

Alaska Department Reading

Program Application



**EDUCATION
& EARLY DEVELOPMENT**

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development

PO Box 110500

Juneau, AK 99811-0500

education.alaska.gov

Application Available	Notification and Application Due
	January 14, 2025
Informational Q and A Sessions	January 28 & 30, 2025, 2-3 PM
Department Reading Program Application	February 14, 2025
Department Reading Program Information	April 1, 2025
Department Reading Program Period	May 1, 2025 - June 30, 2025
End of Program Report Due	June 14, 2025

Part 1 - Requirements

School Information

Applicant name: School Name

Position/Title: Principal or Chief Instructional Officer

Email: schoolname@alaska.gov Phone: 907-555-1234

School Address: 123 Main Street, Juneau, AK 99801

School District: Juneau School District

Website: www.juneau.k12.ak.us

Alaska Department Reading Program Purpose and Information

The Alaska Department Reading Program, established under Alaska's Reads Act, is a voluntary initiative for schools serving kindergarten through third grade that receive state funding and meet eligibility requirements as identified through Alaska Statutes 14.03.123 and described in AS 14.30.765 and 14.30.770.

Designed to provide direct support for participating schools in raising literacy proficiency in Alaska's lowest-performing 25% of K-3 schools, this program offers comprehensive support from a Department Reading Specialist for each participating school. Through collaborative planning, the District Reading Improvement Plan/Multi-Tiered System of Support (DRIP/MTSS) will be strengthened. As part of the plan, the program will enhance the ability of schools to implement a K-3 Intensive School Reading Improvement Plan (ISRIP). Support addresses evidence based instructional materials and practices, data dialogue, professional development, student focused scheduling and intervention practices, and communication with parents/guardians and other stakeholders.

DEED will notify eligible districts/schools about the opportunity to apply for the Department Reading Program. All completed applications received by DEED on or before the due date will be reviewed. Selection of program participants will be based on the evidence provided in the completed application packet and the district/school's readiness to receive and implement department reading intervention support.

Completed applications and all required documents are to be submitted to: Diane.Ditton@alaska.gov. All applicants will receive an application receipt acknowledgment by email.

Questions about the program, please contact: Diane.Ditton@alaska.gov

Annual Notification of Opportunity to Participate	Notifications and Application: Fall
Application Available	January 14, 2025
Informational Q and A Sessions	January 28 & 30, 2025, 2-3 PM
Department Reading Program Application Due:	February 14, 2025
Department Reading Program Notification of Acceptance:	April 1, 2025
Department Reading Program Period:	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026
End of Program Report Due:	June 30, 2026

Part 1 - Requirements

School Information

Applicant name: Anastasia Ishnook

Position/Title: Principal of Chief Ivan Blunka School

Email: aishnook@swrsd.org Phone: 907-693-3144

School Name: Chief Ivan Blunka School

School District: Southwest Region School District

Mailing address: 29 Old Airport Way, New Stuyahok, Alaska 99636

The Department Reading Program's application process follows AS 14.30.770 and AAC 06.310.

The Department Reading Program, as outlined in AS 14.30.777, aims to support schools within the lowest performing 25% of schools. The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) will evaluate eligible applicants by reviewing historical and current student achievement data and the District Reading Improvement Plan (DRIP/MTSS). Complete all three parts of this application. Part 1 requires the following:

- Attach your District Reading Improvement Plan (DRIP/MTSS)
- Complete the following data tables

AK Star 3 rd Grade ELA Approaching Proficient/Needs Support	
Year	3 rd Grade ELA Data
2022-2023	9 Needs Support, 1 Approaching Proficient
2023-2024	10 Needs Support, 0 Approaching Proficient

mCLASS DIBELS 8 Grade K-3 Composite Score Below/Well Below Benchmark						
Year	Completion Rate	Beginning of Year (BOY)	Completion Rate	Middle of Year (MOY)	Completion Rate	End of Year (EOY)
2023-2024	91%	80%	91%	100%	95%	80%
2024-2025	97%	70%	88%	80%	N/A	N/A

Part 2 - Self-Evaluation of Readiness to Engage with DRP

The Self Evaluation of Readiness tool is designed to help applicants assess their school's readiness to engage with Department Reading Program (DRP). Evaluate the following elements based on your school's current literacy practices. Identify strengths and areas for improvement to enhance literacy outcomes for students. Each rating should be grounded in evidence, not perceptions, to accurately reflect the school's progress in implementing the AK Reads K-3 District Plan.

1 = Important, but not feasible now

3 = Partially in place, under development

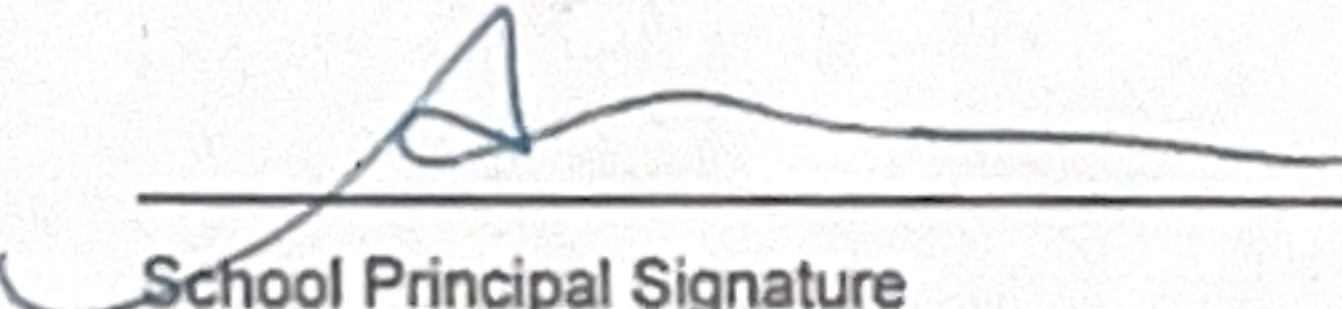
2 = Area to Develop

4 = Completely in place

Area to Evaluate	Rating Self-Score	Comments to Support Score
Our District was served by Department Reading Program (DRP) in FY 24-25	No	We did not receive services from Department Reading Program.
Multi-Tiered System of Support	3	Our teachers have developed intervention groups based on DIBELS BOY assessment.
Evidence-based Literacy materials	3	We use MyView and UFLI. This is the first year UFLI has been implemented, and I would like more professional development to teach the curriculum with fidelity.
Universal Instruction (aka Core Instruction, Tier I)	4	All our elementary teachers teach our district-adopted curriculum MyView.
Interventions (Tier II, Tier III) Time and Intensity	3	We use UFLI and are gradually implementing Tier II interventions.
Assessment (literacy screener, diagnostics, summative assessments, etc.)	4	We use DIBELS BOY, MOY, and EOY assessments along with progress monitoring. We also administer MAP assessments.
Data-based Decision Making	3	The teachers use the DIBELS BOY assessment to create groups for Tier II & III. These groups are tracked through progress monitoring so teachers can make decisions.
Professional Development	3	We have site and district professional development.
Community & Family Involvement	3	Our school participates in the Elder Mentor Program, with elders present in classrooms in the mornings.

Part 3 - District/School Commitment to Student Learning

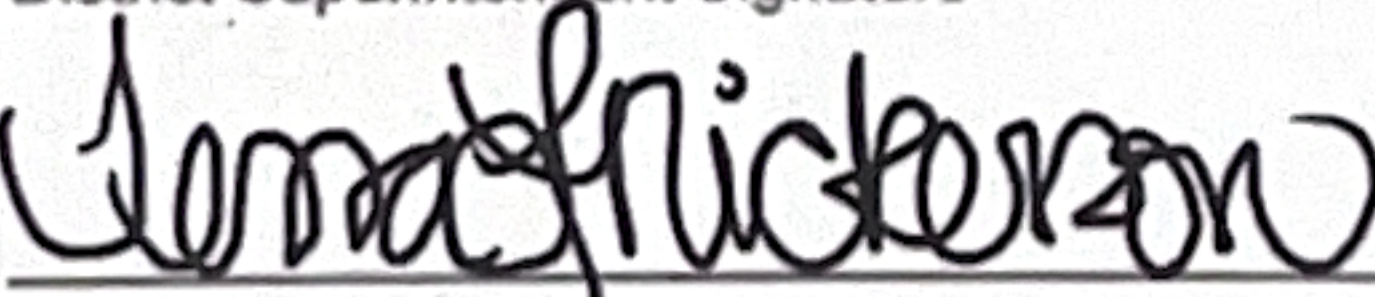
Required Component	Response
Provide a statement describing the district or school's commitment and dedication to enhancing reading outcomes and implementing targeted reading improvement goals through the Department Reading Program.	Chief Ivan Blunka School is deeply committed to enhancing reading outcomes and fostering a culture of literacy excellence. We prioritize implementing targeted reading improvement goals to ensure our students are reading at grade level by the end of 3rd grade.
Based on your self-assessment, describe the desired support and how it will improve K-3 reading proficiency.	At CIBS, we are seeking additional support for implementing effective reading interventions to improve K-3 reading proficiency. With more than 50% of our students performing below or well below grade level in reading, it is critical to provide targeted interventions to decrease this gap. Additional resources, professional development, and support for small group- or individualized interventions would greatly enhance our ability to meet the diverse needs of our students.


School Principal Signature

1-28-25
Date


District Superintendent Signature

2/14/2025
Date


School Board Representative Signature

02/14/2025
Date