



Alaska Department of
Education & Early Development

June 2026 CLSD 2024: Technical Assistance & Updates

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CLSD 2024: Technical Assistance & Updates

Monthly News From Your AK Reads Team

June 2026

GMS Update

General Information

CLSD Reimbursements:

Quarterly reimbursements are due 30 days after the end of each quarter: October 31, January 31, April 30, and **July 31**. Final expenditure reports are due July 31 for State General funding and August 15 for federal funding.

Announcements

Save the Dates: Professional Learning Opportunities

Write Now: Alaska, Free Summer PD Aligned with CLSD Goals

CLSD subgrantees and district teams are encouraged to register for Write Now: Alaska 2026, a free virtual conference taking place August 10, 2026.

This event directly supports the professional learning goals at the core of your CLSD work.

The full-day program includes:

- Keynote: "The Writing Rope: Integrating Reading and Writing Instruction," Joan Sedita, Keys to Literacy
- From Talk to Text: Evidence-Based Writing for Multilingual Learners, Brock & Calderón
- Syntax as a Multi-Tool for Reading Comprehension and Writing in Grades 5–12, Dr. Michelle Elia
- The Science of Handwriting: Where Reading, Writing, and Learning Connect, Dr. Cheryl Lundy Swift
- Leading the Shift to Effective Writing Instruction, Pati Montgomery, Keys to Literacy

All sessions are recorded with closed captions. This event counts toward your team's professional learning hours and complements the structured literacy focus of your CLSD grant activities.

Free registration, open to all CLSD district team members.

Register now: keystoliteracy.com/alaska-deed-write-now

Current Happenings

Communities of Practice (COP)

Gatherings will resume in the fall.

CLSD May 26 Convening

District teams

- Reviewed their MTSS practice rubric and audit
- Reflected on progress made since the Fall convening.
- Discussed:
 - What is now in place that was not before?
 - Areas still needing improvement
 - How district focus has shifted since September
 - Priorities and next steps for next year's CLSD work

CLSD Project Workbook

- Due June 30, 2026
- Tabs 1–4 must be completed.
- Tab 4 includes the Year 2 Budget Planning Tool for preapproval of next year's funding
- Email AKReads with the subject line: *CLSD Workbook Ready for Review*.

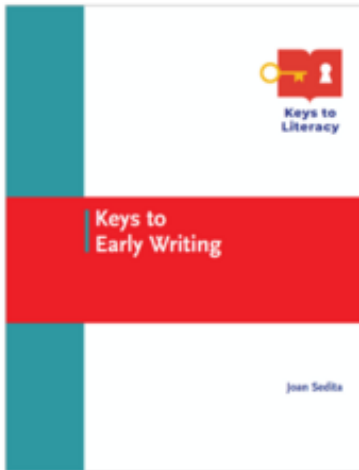
Support Contacts

- Kathy, Dianne, or Tammy — General questions
- Catelyn and Carrie — Workbook results and Tab 2 support
- Wednesday office hours remain available for district assistance.

Planning Ahead

- National Center on Improving Literacy resources support planning and continuous improvement for next year
-

Supporting Writing Across Your District



[Keys to Early Writing](#)

Keys to Early Writing is a K–2 course that builds foundational knowledge for teaching beginning writing instruction. It provides developmentally appropriate strategies that integrate into any curriculum and align with state standards. The course bridges framework to practice through The Writing Rope. Topics include writing basics, building a community of writers, writing process, narrative, informational, and opinion writing structures, drawing/labels/lists, sentence development, paragraph and source writing.

Participants may earn 1 CEU by completing the course and its implementation.

Ideal for self-paced learning, PLC collaboration, and staff professional learning.

Topics include:

- Writing basics⁴
 - Building a community of writers
 - Writing process
 - Writing craft & structures - narrative, informational, and opinion
 - First Steps - drawing/labels/lists
 - Syntax and sentence development
 - Paragraph writing
 - Writing from sources
-



[Keys to Content Writing](#)

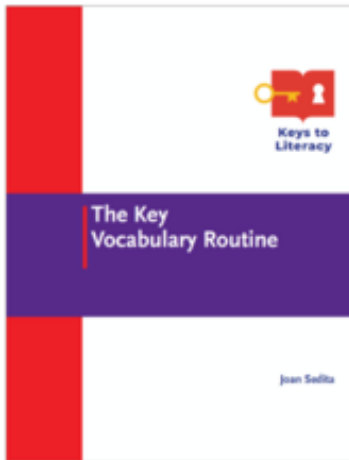
Keys to Content Writing is a professional development course for educators in grades 3–12 that integrates evidence-based writing instruction across content areas. Participants learn practical strategies to support learning to write and writing to learn through scaffolds, authentic writing tasks, and content-based instruction aligned to state literacy standards. Topics include writing basics, quick writes, summaries, writing from sources, and the writing process.

Participants may earn 1 CEU by completing the course and its implementation.

Ideal for self-paced learning, PLC collaboration, and staff professional learning.

Topics include:

- Writing Basics
 - Quick Writes
 - Sentences & Paragraphs
 - The Writing Process and scaffolds
 - Summary Writing
 - Three Types of Writing - Informational, Opinions/Argumentative, Narrative
 - Writing from Sources
-



[The Key Vocabulary Routine](#)

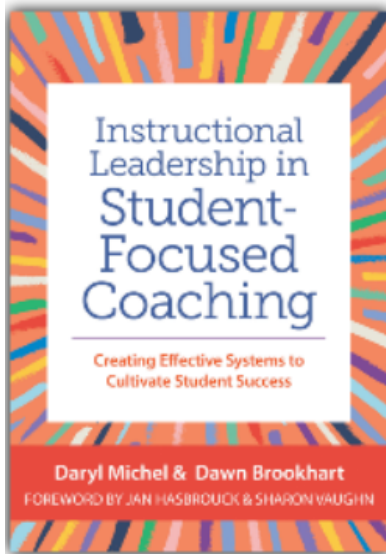
The Key Vocabulary Routine provides research-based instructional practices for teaching academic vocabulary in grades 4 –12 across all content areas. Teachers learn to use direct and indirect strategies embedded within existing curriculum materials to build word knowledge, deepen comprehension, and promote consistent instruction across grade levels. Routines include explicit vocabulary selection, semantic analysis, word-learning strategies, and student-friendly definitions that strengthen word consciousness and support transfer across subjects.

Participants may earn 1 CEU by completing the course and its implementation.

Ideal for self-paced learning, PLC collaboration, and staff professional learning.

Topics include:

- Vocabulary Basics
 - What is Key Vocabulary Routine?
 - Previewing Words
 - Teaching Targeted Words In-Depth
 - Selecting Words
 - Teaching Suggestions
 - Activities to Connect Words
 - Word Learning Strategies: Use of Context and Word Parts
 - Fostering Word Consciousness
 - Putting It All Together
-



[Instructional Leadership in Student-Focused Coaching](#)

This course is designed for individuals who serve, or aspire to serve, as instructional leaders with a primary responsibility for leading instruction. Participants explore how to bridge research- and evidence-based instructional practices with the realities of classroom instruction. The course also builds knowledge of instructional coaching, emphasizing how coaching practices strengthen leadership, model continuous learning, and support sustainable instructional improvement.

Participants may earn 1 CEU with this course.



Live UFLI training available via Zoom! This session covers implementation, tools and resources, progress monitoring, differentiation, and more.

Single Session:

- Wednesday, August 26 from 8:30 AM–12:00 PM

Training can be projected on a screen if staff want to sit together, or individually join from separate locations.

Sign up contact: melinda.krise@alaska.gov.

Lexia LETRS for Elementary Educators Professional Learning

Participant Information



The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) provides evidence-based instruction grounded in the science of reading at no cost to eligible elementary educators.



Lexia® LETRS® for Elementary Educators

equips teachers with the essential knowledge and skills needed to master the fundamentals of literacy instruction, strengthen classroom practice, and drive meaningful, long-term improvements in student learning.



Earn your Alaska Reads Act Endorsement

Participants can earn the Alaska Reads Act endorsement in as little as 6–9 months.*

This course of study includes eight units of instruction over a two-year license. To complete the course, participants must read the manual, complete the online activities, and attend all live professional learning sessions.

*To earn the Alaska Reads Act endorsement, participants must successfully pass the LETRS training (which requires mastery of 80% or higher on all online assessments).

Sign up and make the commitment to improve reading proficiency and transform student lives.

Fill out the pre-registration form to secure your seat in an upcoming LETRS cohort.

Seats are limited, so reserve your spot now.



sign up
today
FOR FREE

lexialearning.com/ak-lettrs

Lexia® All for Literacy

Lexia LETRS for Early Childhood Educators Professional Learning

Participant Information



The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) provides evidence-based instruction grounded in the science of reading at no cost to eligible early childhood educators.



Lexia® LETRS® for Early Childhood Educators

provides deep knowledge of literacy instruction for the youngest learners. The more children know about language and literacy before they begin kindergarten and first grade, the better equipped they are to succeed in reading and beyond.



Earn your Alaska Reads Act Endorsement

Participants can earn the Early Education Lead endorsement in as little as 2 months.*

This course of study includes four units of instruction over a one-year license. To complete the course, participants must read the manual, complete the online activities, and attend all live professional learning sessions.

*To earn the Alaska Reads Act endorsement, participants must successfully pass the LETRS training (which requires mastery of 80% or higher on all online assessments).

Sign up and make the commitment to improve reading proficiency and transform student lives.

Registration closes June 1.

Seats are limited, so reserve your spot now.



lexialearning.com/ak-letrs

Lexia® All for Literacy

Partner-Provided Courses - *NEW!*



The [Virtual Learning Consortium \(VLC\) Professional Development](#) section now offers a [partner-provided catalog](#) of asynchronous courses designed to support educators with high-quality professional learning. Ideal for individual learning or staff-led PD, these asynchronous courses allow educators to engage at their own pace while building knowledge and skills in key areas such as reading, math, behavior, explicit instruction, and intervention systems. CEUs can be earned with these courses.

Available Courses:

- Behavior Supports for Intensive Intervention
- Demystifying the Science of Reading: Understanding the Reading Brain and the Structured Literacy Approach
- Features of Explicit Instruction
- Intensive Intervention in Reading

These courses provide practical strategies, research-based practices, and tools that can be immediately applied to support student learning.

Partner-Provided Modules - *New!*



The [Virtual Learning Consortium \(VLC\) Professional Development](#) section now offers a [Partner-Provided Modules](#) page. Learning modules in this section have been vetted by the AK Reads Team and are provided by partner organizations. These self-paced modules range from 30 minutes to 4 hours and are ideal for individual learning, PLC collaboration, and staff professional development.

Professional learning topics include:

- Accommodations
- Analyzing Data & Making Decisions
- Assessment
- Assistive Technology
- Behavior Support
- Classroom Management
- Coaching
 - Effective Practices for Coaching
 - Interactive Coaching Series
- Collaboration
- Content Instruction
- Data Based Intervention (DBI)
- Differentiated Instruction
- Disabilities
- Early Intervention/Early Childhood
- Explicit Instruction
- Intensive Intervention
- Learning Strategies
- Progress Monitoring
- Reading, Literacy, and Language Arts
- School Improvement, Leadership
- Student Differences
- Transitions

Reading Research & Resources

[How Writing and Reading Work Together: The Key To Strengthening Literacy Skills](#)

By Meredith Cooley

Questions on the Reads Act? Email AKReads@alaska.gov

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