

## Preschool ADM/Formula Funding Guidance

The Alaska Reads Act (House Bill 114, Chapter 40, SLA 2022) provides the opportunity to count 4- and 5-year-old students in the Average Daily Membership (ADM) count for purposes of the public-school funding formula. Eligible students will be counted at a rate of one-half of a full-time equivalent student, or 0.5 ADM [[Sec 14.17.500](#)].

The Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) must approve a district-wide early education program prior to counting students in the average daily membership (ADM) [[Sec 14.17.500](#); [Sec 14.07.020\(a\)\(8\)](#)]. According to [Sec 14.07.165\(a\)\(5\)](#), to be approved, districts will:

- Implement the Alaska Early Education Program Standards; and,
- Employ teacher(s) with the required and current teacher certification, including the Alaska Reads Act Early Education Lead Endorsement;

Per [AS 14.17.500\(e\)](#), districts receiving other state or federal funding specifically for pre-kindergarten programs are not eligible to count students for early education ADM funding. For example, districts receiving the Alaska Pre-Elementary Grant may not include pre-elementary students in a district's ADM. See table below for more examples.

Funding sources with multiple purposes can supplement early education ADM funding. For example, grant funding for use across PreK-12<sup>th</sup> grades, such as Comprehensive Literacy State Development Program Grants (CLSD) may be utilized alongside early education ADM funding.

Districts are encouraged to collaborate with local or tribal Head Start programs. When a district operates a preschool program and partners with a Head Start program, the district may be eligible for preschool formula funding. However, if a district partners with or supports a program operated by Head Start, then those students may not be included in the early education ADM count [[AS 14.17.500\(e\)](#), [4 AAC 60.210\(g\)](#)].

Approval is a required condition, but it is not a guarantee of payment in a given fiscal year. [AS 14.17.500\(f\)](#) establishes a statewide limitation on the total amount of early education ADM aid that may be generated from one year to the next. When the total eligible amount across all approved districts exceeds that statutory growth limit, the department is not authorized to fund districts beyond the available appropriation. When funding is limited, the department must give priority to school districts with lower performance, based on the department's ranking of districts.

Local/State/Federal Funding Sources [ <a href="#">AS 14.17.500(e)</a> ]	
Allowable	Not Allowable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title I, Part A funds</li> <li>• Title I, Part C Migrant Education Program funds</li> <li>• Comprehensive Literacy State Development Program Grants (CLSD)</li> <li>• Local funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal Grants that go directly to the district for pre-kindergarten purposes only</li> <li>• State Pre-Elementary Grant</li> <li>• State Early Education Program Grant</li> <li>• Head Start State or Federal Grant</li> </ul>