

Alaska Reads Act Webinar Series:

Weekly: January 12 – May 11, 2023

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

Susan McKenzie, Director of Innovation and Education Excellence

January 26, 2023




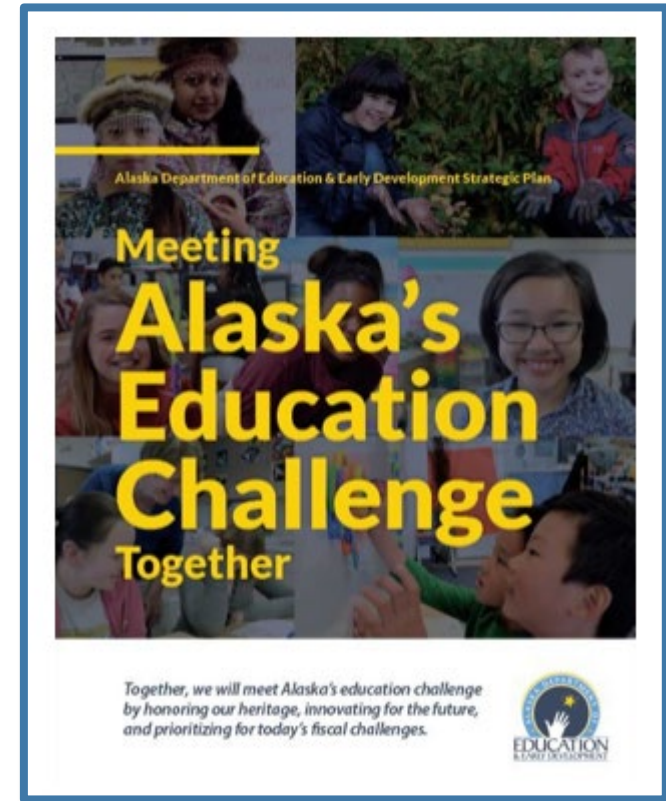
Mission, Vision, and Purpose

Mission	Vision	Purpose
An excellent education for every student every day.	All students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them. - Alaska Statute 14.03.015	DEED exists to provide information, resources, and leadership to support an excellent education for every student every day.

Strategic Priorities: Alaska's Education Challenge

Five Shared Priorities:

- 
1. Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.
 2. Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.
 3. Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.
 4. Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.
 5. Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.



education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge

Agenda

- Details of Alaska Reads Act webinars
- Alaska Reads Act Overview
- Alaska Reads Act: Educator Qualifications
- Questions





Details

Alaska Reads Act Webinar Schedule:

Weekly on Thursdays or Fridays from 3:15-4:15

Reads Act Focus:	Dates:	Leader and Presenter:
District Reading Intervention	January 12 to February 2	Susy McKenzie
Teacher Certification	February 9	Sondra Meredith
Department Reading Program	February 16 to March 2	Susy McKenzie
Early Learning	March 9 to March 23	Deb Riddle
Data Collections	March 30	John Jones
Virtual Education	April 6 to April 20	Kelly Manning
SOR Symposium Pre-Conference	April 28	Susy McKenzie
Office Hours	Feb. 10, March 10, April 7, May 4, May 11	ALL

Alaska Reads Act Timeline and Resources

TIMELINE

- Regulations
 - August 2022 – December 2022
- Preparation
 - September 2022 – March 2023
- State Board of Education regulation package
 - January 25, 2023
- Public Comment
 - February 2023 – March 2023
- Anticipated Adoption
 - April 2023

RESOURCES

<https://education.alaska.gov/akreads>:

- Webinar schedule and registration
- Recordings of webinars
- Slide decks
- Draft documents shared during webinars
- One-page supports
- FAQ



Communication

- Communicating during the Zoom webinar meetings:
 - Place questions in the Q & A area of Zoom
 - Comments are to be placed in the chat box
 - Communication will be through chat and Q & A in Zoom: microphones muted
 - Questions addressed as time permits
 - FAQ document
- Send questions to akreads@alaska.gov
- Request presentation for your district
- Reading Newsletter
- Alaska Reads Website (education.alaska.gov/akreads)
 - Weekly updates
- Planning in-person meetings around the state
- *THANK YOU to many who provided feedback*



*Please
remember...*

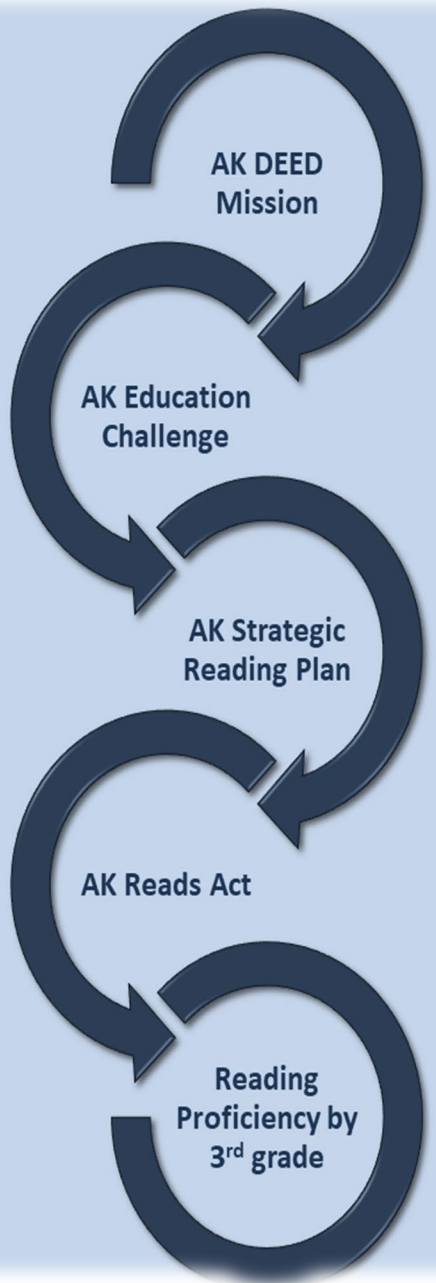
Regulations are in draft form. The final adopted regulations may result in some changes to what will be presented in each webinar. Thank for your patience as we work to balance processes with stakeholder communication.

DRAFT.



Alaska Reads Act Overview

Alignment



Alaska Reads Act Components



Alaska Reads
#akreads

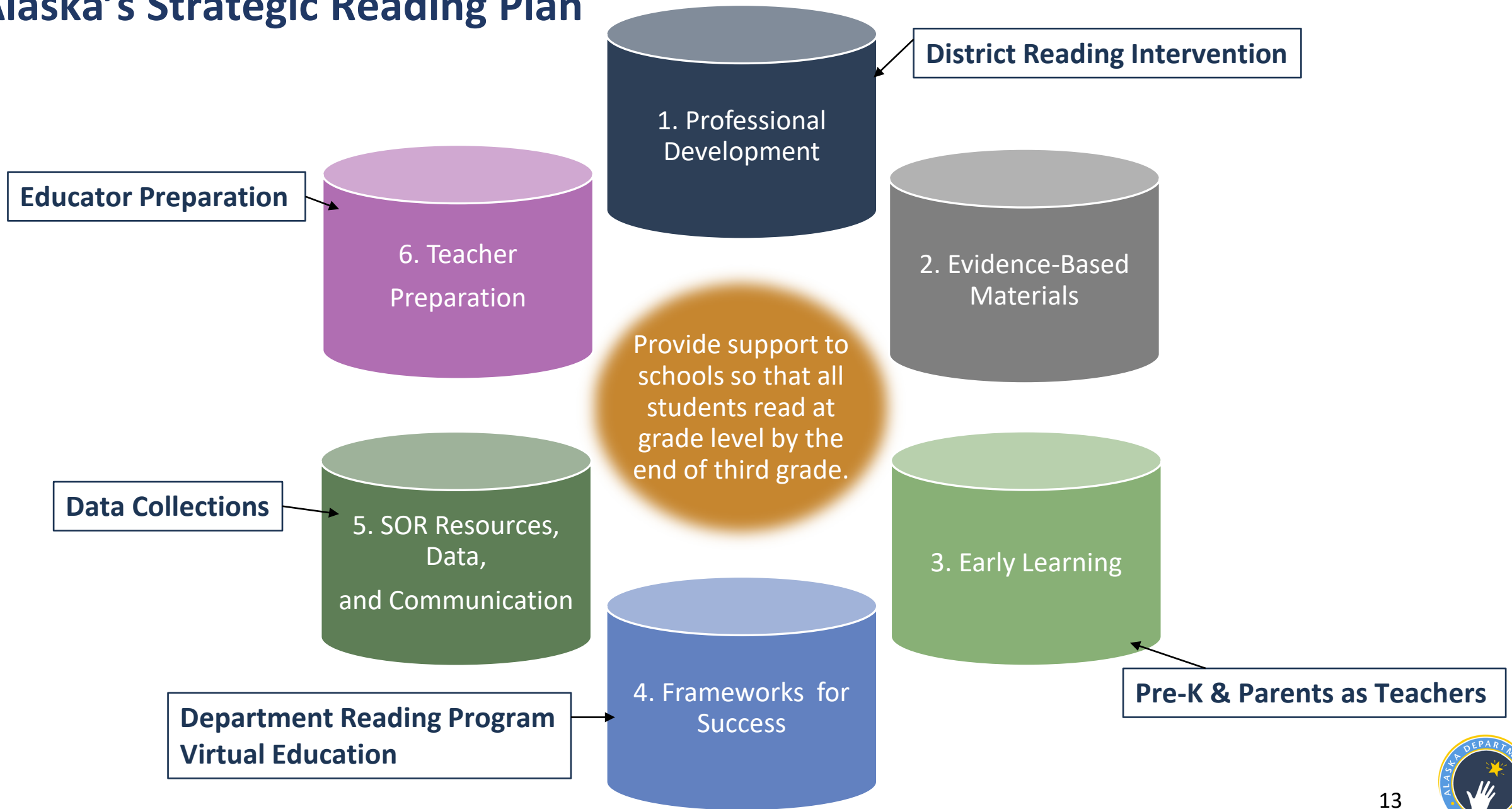
Reads Act Programmatic Elements:

- 1) District Reading Improvement
- 2) Department Reading Program
- 3) Pre-K and Parents as Teachers
- 4) Virtual Education

Other Components:

- 1) Educator preparation requirements
- 2) Reporting and data collections

Alaska's Strategic Reading Plan





Questions:

Send questions to akreads@alaska.gov

Alaska Reads Act: Educator Qualifications

Alaska Reads Act: Educator Qualifications

- Training, coursework, or testing in phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, oral language skills, and reading comprehension
- Approved by the state board in regulations



Alaska Reads Act: Educator Qualifications



Early Education



K-3 Educators



District Reading Teacher

Proposed Regulations

Educator Qualification Tracking

The department will add specific AK Reads endorsements to an educator's certification verifying qualification requirements have been satisfied.

- Reads Act Verified Early Educator Lead
- Reads Act Verified K-3rd Teacher
- Reads Act Verified K-3rd Administrator
- Reads Act Verified Reading Teacher



Proposed Reads Act Verified Early Education Lead Endorsement

- Two years to complete
- Requirements for the endorsement:
 - Valid teaching certificate
 - Training/Experience:
 - Six credit hours in early childhood education OR
 - Two or more years experience teaching kindergarten or an early education program and successful completion of an evidence-based reading training course approved by the department that includes a summative assessment.



Proposed Reads Act Verified K-3 Teachers & Administrators Endorsements

- Phased in over the next two years
- Requirements for the endorsement:
 - Valid teaching certificate
 - Training/Experience:
 - Successful completion of a three-semester hour (or equivalent) evidence-based reading training course approved by the department that includes a summative assessment OR
 - Evidence of obtaining a passing score on a department approved assessment



Proposed Reads Act Verified District Reading Teacher Endorsement

- Two years to complete
- Requirements for the endorsement:
 - Valid teaching certificate
 - Training/Experience:
 - One of the following:
 - Successful completion of a three-semester hour (or equivalent) evidence-based reading training course approved by the department that includes a summative assessment OR
 - Evidence of obtaining a passing score on a department approved assessment
 - Submission of a reading instruction efficiency evaluation form certified by a district representative



Proposed Regulations Evidence-based Reading Exams

- Achieve the required scores or higher on one of the examinations described in the following tables:

Examination	Test Code	Required score
ETS Praxis II Teaching Reading	5204	159
ETA Praxis II Teaching Reading: Elementary	5205	159
ETA Praxis II Teaching Reading: K-12	5206	156
Pearson Foundation of Reading	n/a	240

Proposed Regulations Evidenced- based Reading Training Courses

- Evidence-based reading course or training
 - phonemic awareness,
 - phonics,
 - vocabulary development,
 - reading fluency,
 - oral language skills, and
 - reading comprehension
- Three semester hours or the equivalent
- Includes a summative assessment
- Department of Education & Early Development approved

Proposed Regulations Endorsement Application Process

Educators will apply for the Alaska Reads Act endorsements

- Submit with application
 - Transcript, certificate, or test scores
 - District Assurance Form/
Documentation of student growth
(Reading Teacher only)
 - \$50.00 fee (Through 2028)



Reads Act Educator Requirements Supports

LETRS course

- R16CC Sponsored

Science of Reading Leadership Course

- NWEA
- Asynchronous and Synchronous
- February 8th-June 7th

Science of Reading Foundations Course

- Keys to Literacy
- Asynchronous and Synchronous
- February-May

More to come...



Questions:

Send questions to akreads@alaska.gov

February 10, 2023: Office Hours

February 16, 2023: Department Reading Program

February 23, 2023: Department Reading Program

WEBINAR REGISTRATION

[HTTPS://EDUCATION.ALASKA.GOV/AKREADS](https://education.alaska.gov/akreads)

TIME: 3:15-4:15

District Reading Intervention Committee

akreads@alaska.gov



Susy McKenzie
IEE Director/Chair



Deb Riddle
Division Operations
Manager



Jenn Miller
Academic Support Team



Kristi Graber
ELA Content Specialist



Tracy Parker
Reading Specialist



Brittney Bailey
Admin: SRS Team



Kristen Spencer
Early Learning Specialist

Contact Information

**Sondra Meredith, Administrator
Teacher Education & Certification
Innovation and Education
Excellence**

Sondra.Meredith@alaska.gov

(907) 465-8663



Stay Connected



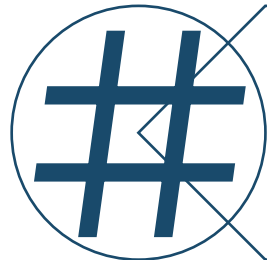
Website

- education.alaska.gov



Phone

- Main Line: (907) 465-2800
- Teacher Certification: (907) 465-2831



Social Media

- @AlaskaDEED