

# 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

February 16, 2023




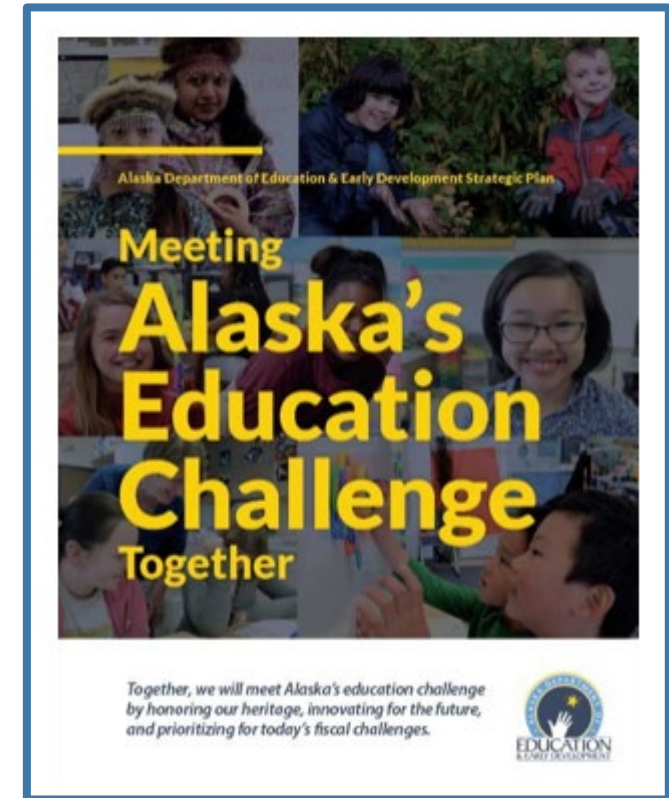
# Mission, Vision, and Purpose

Mission	Vision	Purpose
<p>An excellent education for every student every day.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>- Alaska Statute 14.03.015</p>	<p>DEED exists to provide <b>information, resources, and leadership</b> to support an excellent education for every student every day.</p>

# 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](http://education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge)

# Agenda

- Details of Alaska Reads Act webinars
- Alaska Reads Act Overview
- Department Reading Program Overview
- Department Reading Program: Application for Participation
- Questions



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# 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](mailto:akreads@alaska.gov)
- Request presentation for your district
- Reading Newsletter
- Planning in-person meetings around the state





*Please  
remember...*

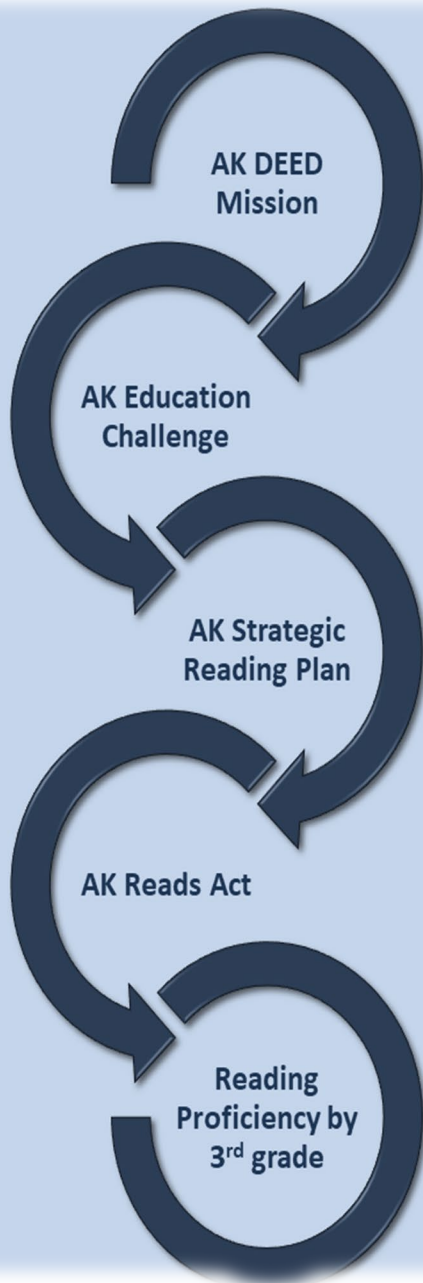
Regulations are in draft form. The final adopted regulations may result in some changes to what will be presented in each webinar. Thank for your patience as we work to balance processes with stakeholder communication.

**DRAFT.**



# Alaska Reads Act Overview

# Alignment



# Alaska Reads Act Components



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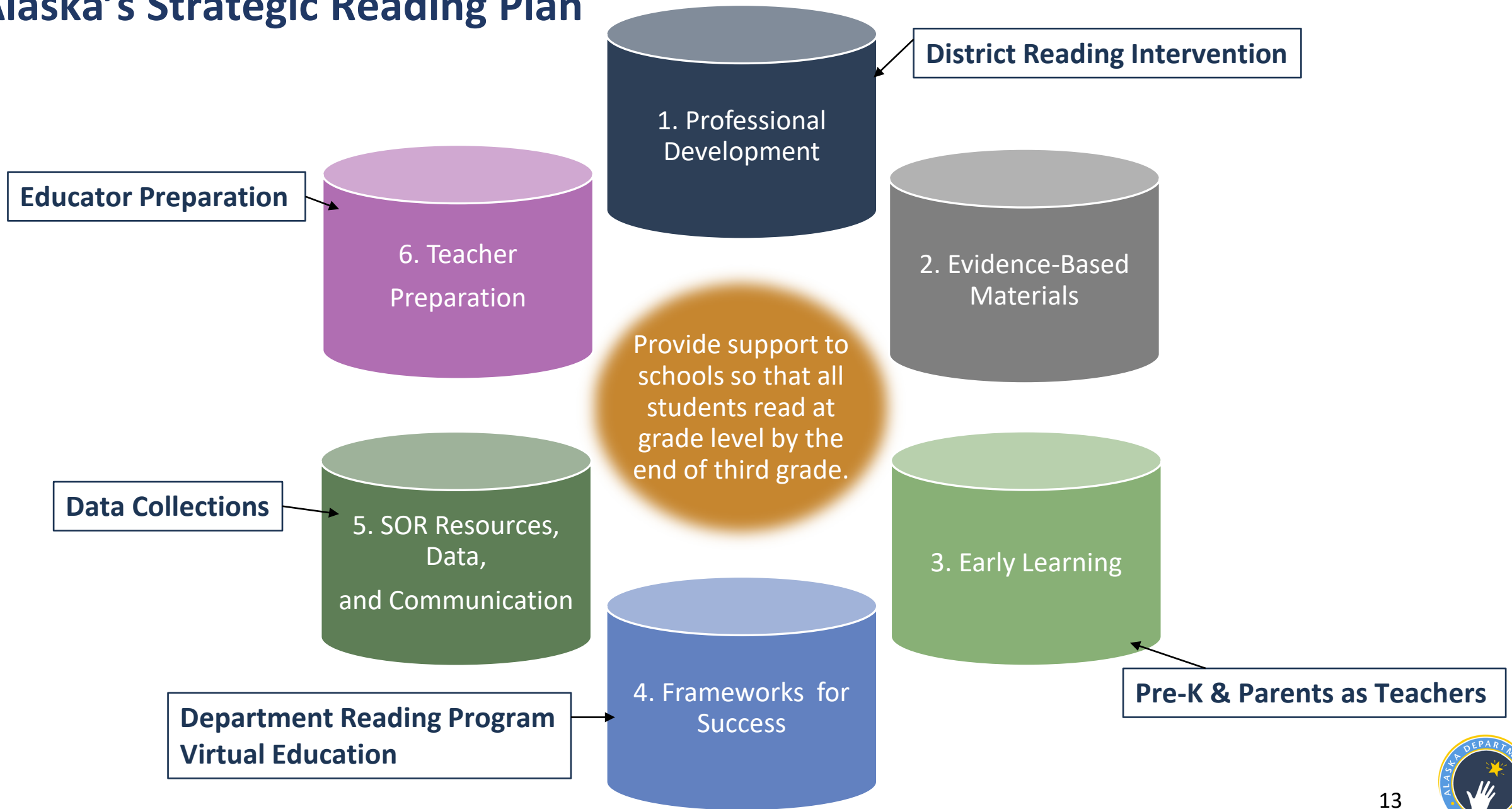
## Reads Act Programmatic Elements:

- 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



# Department Reading Program:

**-Overview**

**-Application for participation**

**Webinar 1 of 3 of Department Reading Program**

**Presented by: Susan McKenzie, Director of IEE**

**February 16, 2023**

# Department Reading Program: Overview



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# House Bill 114, Section 14.30.770

## Department Reading Program Language:

“The department shall establish a reading program to provide direct support for and intervention in intensive reading intervention services annually in the lowest-performing 25 percent of schools serving students in grades kindergarten through three as determined under AS 14.03.123.”

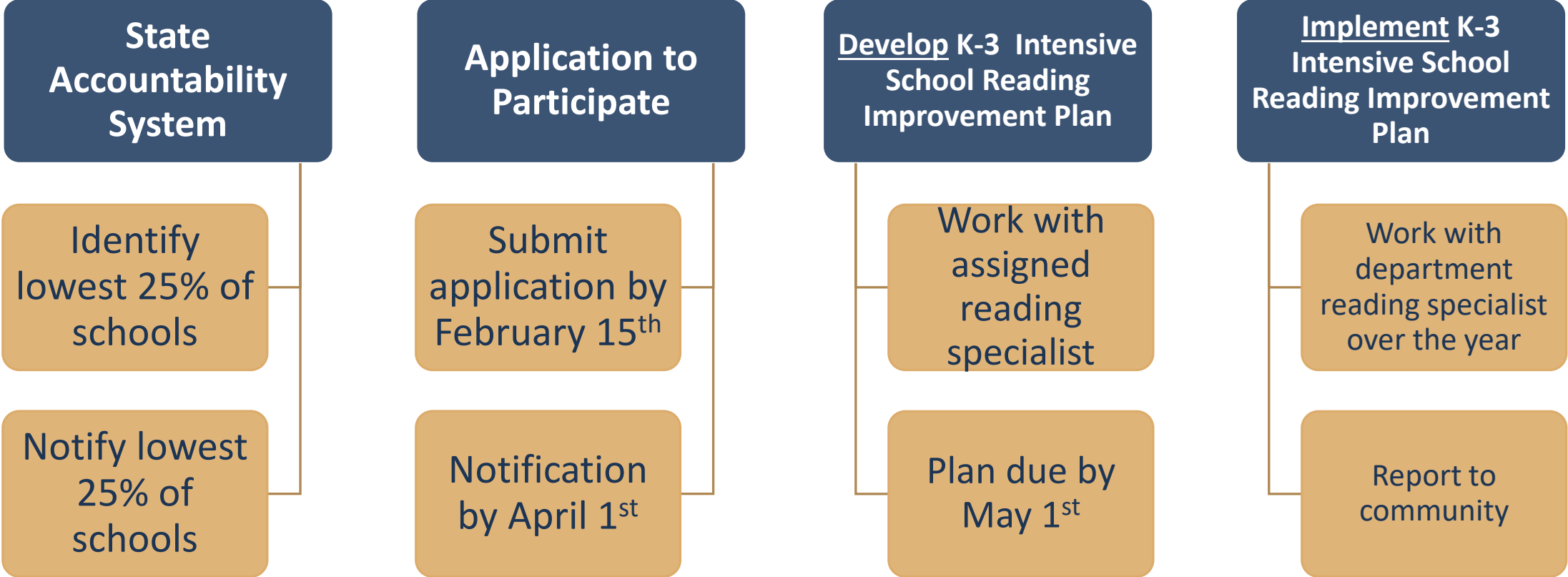


# House Bill 114: Section 14.30.770

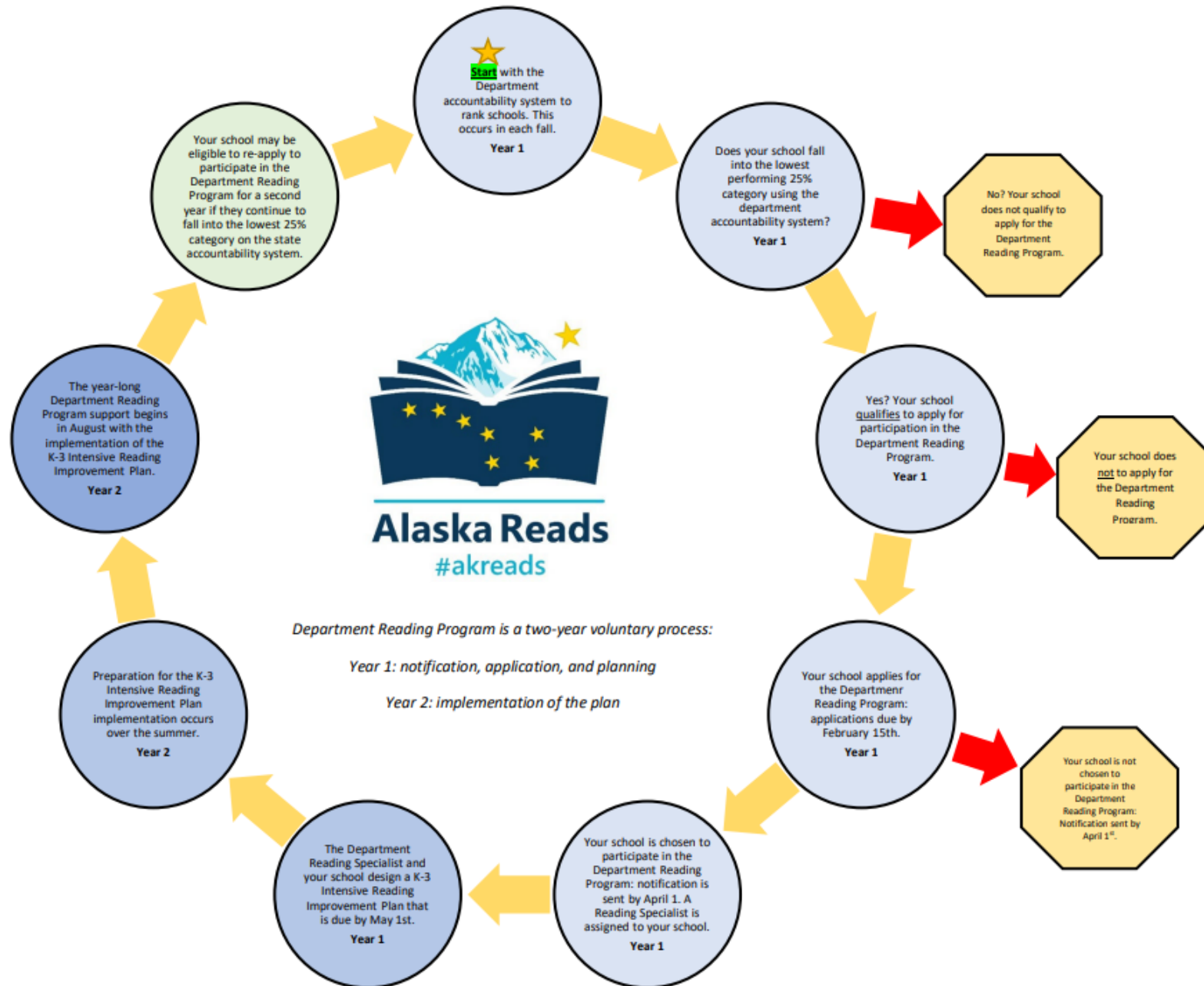
“In conducting the program, the department shall

- (1) use the accountability system established in AS 14.03.123 to identify low performing schools;
- (2) establish an application process for school districts to apply to Enrolled HB 114 participate in the program;
- (3) select low performing schools from the schools that apply to participate in the program;
- (4) employ and assign reading specialists to direct the implementation of the intensive reading intervention services established under AS 14.30.765”

# Department Reading Program Overview



# Department Reading Program Flowchart



# Department Reading Program

## Application for Participation

# *Preparing...*

## **to Apply for the Department Reading Program**

- Gather required documents
  - Summative assessment scores over the past two years
    - Include disaggregated information
  - K-3 MTSS Plan
  - Literacy Screener scores over the past year
  - School's commitment and priority to improvement
- Discuss readiness for intensive intervention and change
- Discuss prioritizing improvement work during the following school year

# Department Reading Program: Notification

## Notification of Eligibility:

[Notification of Eligibility Letter  
Template.AKREADS.Department.docx](#)



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THE STATE  
of ALASKA  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Education & Early Development

DIVISION OF INNOVATION &  
EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

333 Willoughby Ave., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, SOB  
P.O. Box 110500  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500  
Main: 907.465.2800  
Fax: 907.465.4156

[Month, Day, Year]

[First and Last Name], Superintendent  
[School District Name]  
[Address]  
[City, State Zip]

Dear Superintendent [Supt. Last Name]:

After considering criteria outlined in AS 14.30.770 of the Alaska Reads Act, the [school name] is eligible for participation in the Alaska Department of Reading Program for the 20xx-20xx school year.

The purpose of the Alaska Department Reading Program is to provide direct reading intervention support to participating schools with the goal of increasing reading outcomes for students in grades K-3. This is a one-year program.

As a participant in the Department Reading Program, the school will receive support from a Reading Specialist to create improvement goals for the selected schools, funds for instructional materials and intensive reading services, as well as support reviewing and updating staff development processes.

Please complete the Department Reading Program Application ([link](#)) and return to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) by February 15. You will be notified by April 1 if one or more of your schools were selected. Please note, priority will be given to the lowest performing schools as determined by the System of School Success, DEED's accountability system.

Please email any questions to [AKREADS@alaska.gov](mailto:AKREADS@alaska.gov). The Alaska Reads Guidebook ([link](#)) provides additional information regarding this program as well.

Sincerely,

# Department Reading Program: Application

## Application for Department Reading Program:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/323216dc15e445f39f0ebf57c015a86e>



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## Department Reading Program Application

### ALASKA DEPARTMENT READING PROGRAM PURPOSE

The purpose of the Alaska Reads Act Department Reading Program is to provide direct support for participating schools as identified through AS 14.03.123 and described in AS 14.30.765 and 14.30.770.

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) will prioritize schools that scored the highest on the rubric indicating a high level of readiness for the Department Reading Program intervention in their school.

### TIMELINE

Department Reading Program approvals are for one school year. This program will provide schools with an opportunity to develop or improve existing reading intervention programs.

**Notification of Eligibility to Participate:** Sent in the Fall

**Informational Webinars:** As announced

**Department Reading Program Application Due:** February 15

**Department Reading Program Notification of Acceptance:** April 1

**Department Reading Program Improvement Plan Due:** May 1

**Department Reading Program Period:** July 1 – June 30

**Quarterly Reports Due:** October, January, March, May

**End of Program report Due:** June 30

The completed application packet includes:

### Application

- Completed application with district name, school name, and submitted with school principal and superintendent signatures

### District Intervention Plan

- Submit the K-3 MTSS District Intervention Reading Plan (upload PDF attachment)

### Summative Assessment scores

- The school shall submit Summative assessment scores for the past two years – include disaggregated data by grade level and demographics (upload PDF attachment)

### School's Commitment

- The school shall articulate its commitment to its educational reading goals and the purposeful engagement strategies of staff, administration, and school board for the successful achievement of the stated goals

### Literacy Screener scores

- Literacy Screener scores submitted for grades K-3 over the past year- composite scores disaggregated by grade level (upload PDF attachment)
  - BOY- Beginning of Year
  - MOY- Middle of Year
  - EOY- End of Year

### School Readiness Score

- Self-Assessment of school's overall system of MTSS, use of evidence-based reading materials, evidence-based literacy screener, core reading curriculum, participation in professional development provided by DEED

## APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

All completed applications received by DEED on or before the due date will be reviewed. A rubric will be used to evaluate applications and awards will be based on the highest scores. A lottery method may be utilized depending on the number of qualified applications received.

## DEPARTMENT READING PROGRAM APPLICATION

School Information

**Name of Person Completing Form: \***

**Email: \***

**School Name: \***

# Rubric for Determining Participation

Department Reading Program:  
Application Scoring Rubric:  
Scoring Sheet Department Reading  
Program.[AKREADS.Department.pdf](#)



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## ALASKA DEPARTMENT READING PROGRAM APPLICATION SCORING RUBRIC



School: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Content Area	Description	Minimal (0-1)	Good (2-3)	Excellent (4-5)
Application	Application submitted by deadline, include the school principal and superintendent signatures are required	Was not submitted by February 15th	XXXX	Submitted by February 15th
District Intervention Plan	The school shall submit the District Intervention Plan, specific to K-3 reading (PDF attachment)	Does not provide District Intervention Plan	Provides incomplete District Intervention Plan	Provides a complete District Intervention Plan, K-3 reading
Summative Assessment scores	The school shall submit Summative assessment scores for the past two years – include disaggregated data by grade level and demographics (PDF attachment)	Provides less than two years of summative assessment scores	Provides two years of summative assessment scores	Provides two years of disaggregated summative assessment scores
School's Commitment	The school shall articulate its commitment to its educational reading goals and the purposeful engagement strategies of staff, administration, and school board for the successful achievement of the stated goals (Fillable Box)	Provides minimal commitment	Provides adequate commitment	Provides thorough commitment
Literacy Screener scores	Literacy Screener scores submitted for grades K-3 over the past year- composite scores disaggregated by grade level (PDF attachment)	Provides none of the BOY, MOY, or EOY composite scores	Provides some of the BOY, MOY, or EOY composite scores	Provides all of the BOY, MOY, or EOY composite scores
School Readiness	The school has partially implemented evidence-based practices prior to submission (MTSS, use of evidence-based reading materials, evidence-based literacy screener, core reading curriculum, participation in professional development provided by DEED)	Has not implemented evidence-based practices	Has implemented minor shifts of change in reading instruction	Has implemented major shifts in reading instruction

Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_ / 30 Points Possible







# Questions:

Send questions to [akreads@alaska.gov](mailto:akreads@alaska.gov)

# February 23, 2023: Department Reading Program- K-3 Intensive School Reading Improvement Plan

WEBINAR REGISTRATION ON [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

**Susy McKenzie, Director, Innovation and Education Excellence**

Susan.McKenzie@alaska.gov

(907) 269-4583



# Stay Connected



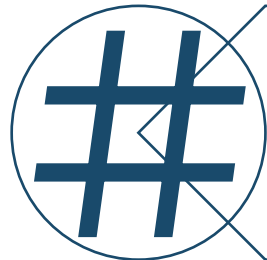
## Website

- [education.alaska.gov](http://education.alaska.gov)



## Phone

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



## Social Media

- @AlaskaDEED