



EARLY LITERACY TARGETED INTERVENTIONS
 Constitutional Players
 June 17, 2024

During the 68th Legislative session in 2023, the legislature passed [HB 352 \(20-7-18, MCA\)](#), providing for early literacy targeted interventions for eligible students. The Board of Public Education (BPE) and the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) are working closely with districts who are looking forward to implementing early literacy targeted interventions for the upcoming school year. To date, we have completed the following tasks:

BPE	OPI	School Districts
<p>Appointed an Early Literacy Advisory Council to provide recommendations to the BPE to meet the requirements of the legislation.</p> <p>Updated the Early Childhood Education Standards, 10.63.101-115, ARM</p> <p>Adopted Evaluation Methodology and Summer Jumpstart Program Framework Standards, 10.54.901-902, ARM</p> <p>Established eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Provided a list of approved screeners.</p> <p>Selected a home-based program.</p>	<p>Hired 2 FTE Early Literacy intervention specialists</p> <p>Updated guidance documents & FAQs for schools and parents.</p> <p>Worked with a select group of education stakeholders to create and lead the home-based program RFP process. <u>Waterford</u> scored the highest and was selected by the Board of Public Education. Districts will be notified soon of the first come first served access to the home-based licenses.</p> <p>Holds Early Literacy Office Hours to assist schools with implementation.</p>	<p>Trustees determine if their school will participate and which of the 3 types of interventions will be offered: Home-Based, Classroom-Based, Summer Jumpstart.</p> <p>School District Trustees administer the evaluation methodology in April, May, or June to a child who will be 4 years of age or older on or before September 10 and has not yet entered third grade. Each district determines eligibility cut scores utilizing the approved evaluation methodology.</p> <p>Districts determine the mechanism for how parents request this evaluation for district records. The OPI has provided sample template letters for both consent and eligibility.</p>

OPI’s EARLY LITERACY COLLABORATIVE:

The focus of the OPI’s Early Literacy Collaborative is to provide guidance on the implementation of [20-7-18, MCA](#) Early Literacy Targeted Interventions, including the summer jumpstart program, classroom-based program, and home-based program for eligible students. In addition, the Collaborative provided data and feedback to the Board of Public Education’s Early Literacy Advisory Council. The members of this collaborative have applied and been appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to this nongoverning committee. The Collaborative held meetings every month though June 2024.

EARLY LITERACY FUNDING AND PROGRAM NOTES:

	Classroom-Based	Jumpstart (Summer)	Home-Based
Funding	Districts receive full or half time ANB for each eligible student served in an Early Literacy Intervention Classroom.	Districts receive an additional .25 ANB for each eligible student served in a Summer Jumpstart Program.	Funding for up to 1500 (eligible) students to use the program-payment is made directly to the program (Districts appoint a Home-Based Program Liaison). OPI entered into contract and will facilitate the licenses on a first-come, first-served basis for the available licenses
Program Notes	Programming may be half or full-time (360 or 720 instructional hours). Class size is capped at 10 students per 1 appropriately licensed teacher, with an early childhood paraprofessional for any additional students over ten, for up to no more than 18 total students in a classroom with two adults. Instruction must align with the Early Childhood Education Standards.	Takes place in summer during the end of one school calendar and the start of the next (except 2024, the effective date of the bill is July 1, 2024, so for this summer only, all the hours/weeks of the summer jumpstart program must begin on or after July 1, 2024). Requires 120 hours of instruction in a minimum of 4 weeks of programming. Instruction must align with the Early Childhood Education Standards and the Montana Content Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy.	Must be research-based and proven effective at developing early literacy skills in populations at risk of not being reading proficient at the end of 3rd grade. Fosters parental engagement. At their May 2024 board meeting, the Board of Public Education approved Waterford as the vendor.

FISCAL SUMMARY

To open the fiscal Summary spreadsheet, right click on the spreadsheet, select Worksheet Object/Edit. To exit, click outside of the spreadsheet.

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Expenditures:				
General Fund	\$1,753,106	\$2,869,226	\$2,569,809	\$2,665,938
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact-General Fund Balance:	<u>(\$1,753,106)</u>	<u>(\$2,869,226)</u>	<u>(\$2,569,809)</u>	<u>(\$2,665,938)</u>

DATA COLLECTION & EVALUATION:


Trustees offering an Early Literacy Targeted Intervention shall closely monitor the program and report annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction on the efficacy of the program no later than July 15.

This report must include anonymized information on student progress, including the student's performance on: the evaluation methodology for the program, any formative assessments administered, the evaluation methodology used at end of school year if administered, any statewide reading assessment data grade 4 through 6.

The OPI will provide a submission tool for this annual reporting requirement and will be available for participating districts. The OPI will report to the Education Interim Committee by Sept 1.

Early Literacy Program Data Collection Schedule

~Distributed via Authorized-Representative Email~

	INFINITE CAMPUS THROUGHOUT SCHOOL YEAR	HOME-BASED PROGRAM LICENSE REQUEST JULY 1, 2024	DATA COLLECTION #1 SEPTEMBER 2024	DATA COLLECTION #2 JUNE 2025
HOME-BASED PROGRAM ELIGIBLE STUDENT COUNT	✓	✓		
EVALUATION METHODOLOGY/ELIGIBILITY			✓	
JUMPSTART PROGRAM ENROLLMENT	✓		✓	
JUMPSTART PROGRAM EFFICACY			✓	
CLASSROOM-BASED PROGRAM ENROLLMENT				✓
CLASSROOM-BASED & HOME-BASED PROGRAM EFFICACY				✓
EOY SCREENING RESULTS FOR ELIGIBILITY	✓			✓