



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

July 13, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey 
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Fiscal Year 2026 Grant Supporting Implementation of the *Alabama Literacy Act*

The Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI) is offering a Fiscal Year 2026 Program Improvement Grant to support implementation of the *Alabama Literacy Act*. Local education agencies (LEAs), including charter schools, and educator preparation programs are eligible to apply. The grant is intended to support efforts that strengthen literacy instruction and improve outcomes for students in Alabama public schools.

Applications must be submitted no later than Monday, August 31, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. Two steps are required for a successful submission.

1. The Curriculum Director/ARI Contact should review the grant proposal with the LEA's Chief Financial Officer and Superintendent before submission.
2. The Curriculum Director/ARI Contact, or another individual designated by the Superintendent, should complete the [ARI Program Improvement Grant Application](#).

Please ensure that appropriate district staff review this opportunity and submit all required materials by the deadline.

If you have questions, please contact your Regional Literacy Leadership Specialist or contact Mrs. Vickie Chappelle, ARI Administrator, by telephone at 334-694-4635 or by email at ychappelle@alsde.edu.

EGM:BS:AM

cc: City and County Curriculum Directors
City and County Chief Financial Officers
Deans of the Colleges of Education
Mrs. Angela Martin
Dr. Melissa Shields
Mrs. Bonnie Short
Mr. Justin Todd
Mr. Brady Vaughn

FY26-2053