



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

November 22, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) Stipend for Mastery

The state of Alabama will provide a one-time stipend of \$1,000 to eligible candidates for the LETRS who have demonstrated a mastery level on the Elementary or Early Childhood LETRS coursework. Eligible candidates must be identified and submitted by Friday, December 3, 2021, using the link: <https://forms.office.com/r/ik9Nic9BHU>. The following criteria were used to determine eligible candidates:

- Properly certified by the state of Alabama.
- Employed full-time educators in an Alabama public K-12 school or public independent school.
- Teach foundational literacy skills—Local Reading Specialists (LRS) or Regional Literacy Specialists (RLS).
- Completed the Elementary (Units 1-8) or Early Childhood (Units 1-4) LETRS Course.
- Scored at **mastery level** on the Learning Platform coursework as evidenced by a score of 80% or greater on the posttest(s) for their course.
 - LETRS Elementary: Units 1-4 Posttest and Units 5-8 Posttest
 - or**
 - LETRS for Early Childhood Educators: Units 1-4 Posttest

Although the teacher will receive a \$1,000 stipend, the LEA will receive \$1,200 from the Alabama State Department of Education. The extra \$200 will cover employer benefit costs associated with the stipend. This additional \$1,000 stipend is not guaranteed from year-to-year and is being provided based on the state's *Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief II* (ESSER II) federal appropriation for this current FY 2022. These funds are reimbursable to the district. Districts must reference **LEA code 4303-ESSER II, LETRS when requesting these funds**. Upon completion of candidate verification, local education agency (LEA) allocations will

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be reimbursed to each applicable LEA that has eligible candidates. **Any remaining portion of the allocation after the stipend and benefit expenses are paid, should be used for high-quality instructional materials for that teacher's classroom.**

Thank you for your continued professional growth in the science of reading and your continued dedication to "Every Child. Every Chance. Every Day." If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Libby Frankel, ARI Education Specialist, by email at libby.frankel@alsde.edu or by telephone at 334-694-4639.

EGM/BS/KJ

cc: Mrs. Angela Martin
Dr. Elisabeth Davis
Mrs. Bonnie Short
Ms. Libby Frankel
LEA Chief School Financial Officers

FY22-2011