



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

February 28, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

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

RE: Guidance for 2024 Summer Programs: Planning, Implementation Monitoring, and Funding Including the Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI) Summer Reading Programs (K-3) and Office of Mathematics Improvement (OMI) Summer Math Programs (K-5)

Planning

In an effort to streamline summer programming for elementary grades, the ARI, OMI, and other Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) sections have worked together to provide [ALSDE Guidance for Summer Programs 2024](#). This guidance includes requirements for summer reading and math programs in Grades K-5, along with recommendations and resources derived from research on high-quality summer learning opportunities for students K-12.

The most successful learning opportunities:

- Are built with an all-day focus that supports families and allows time for innovative additions.
- Involve activities that make students want to attend.
- Plan for marketing and communication about summer programming.

Implementation Monitoring

The [Summer Program Planning Questions](#) will assist you in planning quality summer opportunities. The [Summer Learning Camp Locations 2024](#) form is **due before spring break 2024**. This form will assist the ALSDE regional staff in summer learning support. The ARI and OMI regional staff are available for planning, support, and assistance.

Available Funding

As outlined in the FY22-2042 memorandum dated April 8, 2022, American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) funds through the state reserve (Fund Source 4295) are currently accessible. The ALSDE has sub-granted allocations to local education agencies (LEAs) through the electronic Grant Application Process (eGAP) as referenced in [FY21-2097: American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief \(ARP ESSER\)](#) for evidence-based interventions aimed specifically at summer enrichment, comprehensive after-school programs, and addressing the loss of instructional time through K-3 Summer Reading Programs and other LEA initiatives.

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The information below explains the different sources for funding summer learning:

1. Learning Loss Allocation – (Fund Source 4295 – Special Use Code 0067)

The ARP ESSER state reserve funds require that five percent (5%) of the total allocation be used for addressing the loss of instructional time. The ARP ESSER state reserve funds are required to be used for addressing the loss of instruction, specifically for K-3 Summer Reading Programs **through summer 2024** before other LEA initiatives can be budgeted with this allocation. When looking at the ARP ESSER state reserve budget in eGAP, LEAs are encouraged to think of innovative practices that can be implemented using the budgeted money.

2. Summer Enrichment Allocation – (Fund Source 4295 – Special Use Code 0068)

The ARP ESSER state reserve funds require that one percent (1%) of the total allocation be used on evidence-based summer enrichment programs. These funds could be used to cover the costs of enrichment-based, innovative summer programs that include additional subjects, as well as additional grades beyond Grades K-3 prescribed in the *Alabama Literacy Act*.

3. Other Funding Allocation – ARP ESSER LEA 20% Reservation Allocation (Fund Source 4298 – Special Use Code 0067)

The ARP ESSER LEA funds require that at least 20% of the allocation be used for the loss of instructional time. One of the allowable uses of this reservation is summer learning and enrichment programs based on individual LEA factors. It is not required to be used specifically for K-3 Summer Reading Programs but is another funding option if needed.

If you have any questions regarding summer programming, please direct them to:

- ARI Regional Literacy Leadership Specialist or Ms. Karen Rutledge-Bell at krbell@alsde.edu for K-3 Summer Reading Programs.
- Dr. Karen Anderson at kanderson1@alsde.edu for K-5 Summer Math Programs.
- Dr. Molly Killingsworth at mkillingsworth@alsde.edu or Mr. Jason Isaacs at jason.isaacs@alsde.edu for Federal Programs or eGAP.

EGM:BS:AM

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| cc: | LEA Chief School Financial Officers | Mrs. Angela Martin |
| | LEA Federal Programs Coordinators | Dr. Melissa Shields |
| | LEA Curriculum Directors | Mrs. Shanthia Washington |
| | Alabama Reading Initiative Contacts | Mrs. Bonnie Short |
| | Alabama Literacy Task Force Members | Dr. Molly Killingsworth |
| | Dr. Brandon T. Payne | Mr. Jason Isaacs |