

Go **BEYOND** Grades

Missouri Read, Lead, Exceed

The “Missouri Read, Lead, Exceed” initiative is the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s (DESE) plan to dedicate over \$60 million in state and federal funds toward improving student literacy rates across the state.

By understanding the requirements, parents and caregivers will be better prepared to hold schools accountable and ensure their child develops strong reading skills and is set up for success.

What to Know About the New Literacy Law

For Students

SCHOOLS MUST:

- **Instruct** using evidence-based reading instruction materials based in the science of reading and provide teachers with curriculum training*
- **Test** all K-3 students at the beginning and end of the school year to identify students reading at 1 or more grade levels below - considered Substantial Reading Deficit (SRD) - or are at risk for or has an official diagnosis of dyslexia*
- **Plan** for any student reading at 1 or more grade levels below to receive a Reading Success Plan (RSP) to provide additional support for reading skill development until the student reaches grade-level reading competency

For Parents & Caregivers

SCHOOLS MUST:

- **Notify** parents of students with Reading Success Plans by letter or other notification to alert them of their child’s test results and share RSP details
- **Update** parents of students with Reading Success Plans at least three (3) additional times throughout the year on their student’s RSP progress
- **Share** strategies with parents and caregivers for them to support reading skill development at home, including parent-guided reading practice and summer reading opportunities

What You Can Do to Support Your Child

- ✦ Reach out to your child’s teacher and school leader today to ask about their testing and parent notification timeline
- ✦ Make an appointment to go through the details of your child’s Reading Success Plan with the teacher
- ✦ Read with your child at home and implement other reading strategies for parent-guided reading practice
- ✦ Talk to other parents about the requirements and together work with your child’s school on literacy initiatives, like the district Comprehensive Literacy Plan



learn more at www.gobeyondgrades.org/stl

*An “At Risk” level in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension or lexile score, indicates Substantial Reading Deficiency (SRD). All K-5 transfer students must be tested within 30 days of transferring to a new district. Students with cognitive disabilities, or non-english speakers may be exempt from Reading Success Plans.