

Subject Read Act
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Overview

This DE amendment makes substantive and technical changes to the Read Act, which was enacted in 2023. It modifies or adds definitions, requires approved screeners to be administered three times per school year, modifies professional development requirements, requires the Department of Education and the Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement (CAREI) to develop training for volunteers and paraprofessionals, expands the uses of literacy incentive aid, and requires CAREI and the department to conduct a final curriculum review. It also requires the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) to audit teacher preparation program literacy instruction. The DE amendment establishes a Read Act account in the special revenue fund and appropriates \$100 million to the fund with some of the money designated for particular uses in fiscal year 2025.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Title; the Read Act. Makes technical change to reflect renumbering of some statutes in the Read Act.
2	Certified trained facilitator. [Definitions] Defines “certified trained facilitator” as a person employed by a district or regional literacy network, who has completed particular training.
3	Literacy specialist. [Definitions] Strikes deadline for literacy specialist at the Department of Education or as a literacy lead by a district to complete approved training by August 30, 2025.
4	Oral language. [Definitions] Modifies definition of “oral language” to include sign language.

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5	Literacy goal. [Read Act goal and interventions] Adds meeting grade level proficiency to legislature’s literacy goal. Modifies training requirements for teachers and strikes training requirements for instructional staff.
6	Identification; report. [Read Act goal and interventions] Requires districts to screen students in kindergarten through third grade three times each school year.
7	Parent notification and involvement. [Read Act goal and interventions] Requires districts to administer approved screeners by February 15 each year in addition to other two times during the school year.
8	Staff development. [Read Act goal and interventions] Modifies requirements for teacher and instructional staff training. Requires the literacy plan to identify professional development.
9	Local literacy plan. [Read Act goal and interventions] Requires commissioner’s summary of local literacy plans to include the number of teachers and other staff required to complete training. Requires the commissioner to submit updated reports by December 1, 2026, and December 1, 2027.
10	Approved screeners. [Read Act implementation] Requires districts to administer approved screeners to students in kindergarten through third grade three times each school year.
11	Progress monitoring. [Read Act implementation] Requires districts to use approved screeners to monitor progress. Makes technical change to reflect renumbering of statutes.
12	Professional development. [Read Act implementation] Narrows professional development requirement to teachers who provide reading instruction or reading interventions. Lowers the number of hours of required instruction by 5.5 hours for the 2024-2025 school year only to allow teachers to receive training required under the Read Act, if the district and teachers’ collective bargaining representative enter into an agreement.
13	Department of Education. [Read Act implementation] Requires the department to partner with CAREI to approve literacy intervention models, and post a list of the approved models; provide coaching and support to certified trained facilitators; and collaborate with publishers of approved curriculum

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	and intervention models to encourage publishers to update curriculum and materials to reflect students' cultural diversity and students with disabilities.
14	Special revenue fund. [Read Act implementation] Establishes a Read Act program account in the special revenue fund for curriculum, training, and other programming necessary to implement the Read Act.
15	Resources. [Read Act implementation partnership] Extends the partnership between the Department of Education and CAREI by two years. Requires the department and CAREI to develop training for volunteers and paraprofessionals, develop a coaching and mentorship program for certified trained facilitators, and identify at least 15 evidence-based literacy intervention models. Allows CAREI and the department to partner to approve literacy curriculum and supporting materials again starting in 2033.
16	Reconsideration. [Read Act implementation partnership] Requires the department and CAREI to conduct a final curriculum review by March 3, 2025, to review curriculum that is available to districts at no cost.
17	Training for volunteers. [Read Act implementation partnership] Requires the department and CAREI to identify or develop training for volunteers and other persons not employed by a district that provide Tier 2 intervention to students in Minnesota school districts on a regular basis by June 10, 2025. Requires the training to be eight hours long.
18	Training for paraprofessionals. [Read Act implementation partnership] Requires the department and CAREI to identify or develop training for paraprofessionals that assist in providing Tier 2 interventions to students in Minnesota school districts on the key components of structured literacy instruction and intervention by June 10, 2025. Requires the training to be eight hours long.
19	Minnesota reading corps program. [Reading and math corps] Requires reading corps to use evidence-based reading instruction and interventions focused on structured literacy, and provide training that meets or exceeds the requirements for volunteer training.
20	Literacy incentive aid uses. [Literacy incentive aid] Expands uses of literacy incentive aid to include employing an intervention specialist, screeners, and stipends for teachers completing training required under the Read Act.

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21	<p>Read Act curriculum and intervention materials reimbursement. [Appropriations in 2023 session law]</p> <p>Requires the commissioner to issue payments to districts, charter schools, and cooperative payments whose applications have been approved, by April 1, 2025.</p>
22	<p>Read Act professional development. [Appropriations in 2023 session law]</p> <p>Amends uses of funds appropriated to the Department of Education in 2023. Allows funding to be used to provide training to fourth and fifth grade teachers. Requires unspent funds to be transferred to the Read Act account in the special revenue fund.</p>
23	<p>PELSB reading audit report.</p> <p>Requires PELSB to conduct an audit that evaluates whether an approved teacher preparation program for candidates in a specified licensure area meets subject matter standards for reading. Requires PELSB to report its findings to the legislature.</p>
24	<p>Read Act deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing working group.</p> <p>Requires the commissioner to establish a working group to make recommendations on literacy training, screeners, and curriculum for students who cannot fully access sound-based approaches. Requires the working group to make recommendations for adapting curriculum, screeners, and training, and report to the legislature.</p>
25	<p>Appropriations; supplemental Read Act funding.</p> <p>Appropriates \$100 million to the Read Act account in the special revenue fund, and sets aside the following amounts out of the \$100 million:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ \$23 million for payments to districts for substitute teachers and incentives to teachers to complete professional development;▪ \$10 million for the regional literacy networks to provide evidence-based training to teachers in districts, charter schools, and cooperatives, and faculty teaching literacy instruction at state-approved teacher preparation programs;▪ \$4.2 million for the department to contract with CAREI for Read Act implementation;▪ \$3 million to partially reimburse districts, charter schools, and cooperatives for curriculum and supporting materials, and intervention materials purchased after July 1, 2023; and▪ \$1 million to partner with CAREI to develop training for volunteer.
26	<p>Revisor instruction.</p> <p>Instructs the revisor of statutes to renumber two statutes in the Read Act.</p>



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