



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Superintendents  
District Instructional Leaders  
School Principals  
District Strategic Plan Contacts  
Read to Succeed Liaisons

**FROM:** Dr. Alisha Green  
Director, Office of Early Learning and Literacy

**DATE:** September 4, 2024

**RE:** 2024–25 District and School Reading Plans (due October 11)

The Read to Succeed Act of 2014 required the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE), with the approval of the State Board of Education (SBE), to develop, implement, evaluate, and continuously refine a comprehensive state plan for prekindergarten through grade five to improve reading achievement. The South Carolina State Reading Plan was developed to guide the support of the SCDE for districts and schools. The South Carolina State Reading Plan also provided guidance to district and school plans as they worked to support the reading and writing development of their students with research-based, outcomes-oriented strategies. The SBE approved the South Carolina State Reading Plan on June 10, 2015, and is currently being updated, as required by the revised Read to Succeed legislation, Act 114.

**Overview of Legislative Changes**

The passage of Act 114 updates The Read to Succeed Act by requiring schools and districts to prepare comprehensive reading proficiency plans aligned to the science of reading, structured literacy and foundational literacy skills. Therefore, the 2024-25 reading plan format has been revised to reflect this change.

- Act 114 requires all primary and elementary schools to submit a reading plan to the SCDE and removes the requirement for some middle schools and all high schools.
- Middle schools with 50% or more of students scoring at the lowest achievement level in ELA on the state summative assessment from 23-24' are required to submit a reading plan.
- All reading plans must document how reading and writing instruction and intervention align with the science of reading, structured literacy, and foundational literacy skills.

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- Schools must post their plan to school websites annually by **October 15, 2024**.

### **Reading Plan Reminders for Districts and Schools**

- Districts must submit a comprehensive PK-5th grade reading proficiency plan to the SCDE.
- Elementary schools and districts must provide a third-grade proficiency goal as one of their reading plan goals.
- There are three questions on the school reading plan to capture LETRS professional learning information.

District and school reading implementation plans (*also referred to as reflection tools*) ensure alignment of instruction and intervention to the science of reading and the administration of valid and reliable assessments. A well-structured reading plan should also reflect the state's implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) through the systematic implementation of evidence-based practices, targeted intervention to close the reading achievement gap, and provision of enrichment opportunities for advanced readers. Incorporating SMART goals and actionable steps shall be sufficiently detailed to provide practical guidance for classroom teachers to improve reading and writing instruction to meet all students' needs.

The current deadline for submission of district and school reading plans to the SCDE is **October 11, 2024**. All school and district plans should be submitted using the Formstack survey links below.

- [District Literacy Reflection Tool](#)
- [Primary and Elementary School Reflection Tool](#)
- [Middle School Reflection Tool](#)

Detailed directions on how to complete reading plans are attached.

For questions about the completion and submission of the reading plans, please contact Marie Gibbons, Team Lead for Read to Succeed, at 803-734-0529 or [mgibbons@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mgibbons@ed.sc.gov)