

Community Grants Early Literacy Success Initiative Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



What is the Early Literacy Success Initiative?

On July 31, 2023, House Bill 3198 established early literacy as a top priority in Oregon through the Early Literacy Success Initiative. It identified four key targeted collective goals to be met by school districts, communities, Tribes and birth through 5 programs:

1. Increase early literacy for children from birth to third grade;
 2. Reduce literacy academic disparities for student groups that have historically experienced academic disparities;
 3. Increase support to parents and guardians to enable them to be partners in the development of their children's literacy skills and knowledge; and
 4. Increase access to early literacy learning through support that is research-aligned, culturally responsive, student-centered and family-centered.
-

How much money is allocated to Community Grants?

On January 11, 2024, the Oregon Legislature's Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education recommended the release of the full budget limitation of \$10 million, targeting \$8 million to Communities and \$2 million to the nine federally recognized Tribes of Oregon. The Community Grants program is housed in ODE's Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (OEDI) and will focus on three specific community-based goals:

1. Expand culturally and linguistically responsive early literacy programs for children in early elementary grades by:
 - Encouraging family and caregiver engagement; and
 - Providing research-aligned professional training and coaching for direct service staff in early literacy.
 2. Develop and implement programs that engage parents and children in early elementary grades in early literacy and that are available equitably and statewide.
 3. Provide high-dosage tutoring programs and training to tutors to qualify the tutors for instruction in a manner consistent with research-aligned literacy strategies.
-

Who is eligible to apply for the Early Literacy Success Community Grants?

In accordance with [OAR 581-017-0803](#), to be eligible to receive a Grant, an applicant must:

(a) be a community-based organization, early learning hub, provider of early learning services, post-secondary institution of education, public library, or a consortium of these entities; and

(b) demonstrate infrastructure and systems necessary to provide early literacy high-dosage tutoring, family engagement to support early literacy success, and training for the provision of high-dosage tutoring.

When will it be available for application?

We will be updating the FAQ and timeline to provide new information as it becomes available. Here is our current program timeline:

Timeline	Activities
July 2023	HB 3198 passes
Phase 1	
August 2023 – January 2024	ODE builds capacity to lead the work
December 2023 - May 2024	ODE develops the Early Literacy Community Toolkit informed by community engagement
December 2023	ODE submits plan for community and Tribal grants to Oregon Legislature
Phase 2	
March - July 2024	Pending legislative approval, adoption of permanent rules, and development of toolkit and framework
Late Spring/Early Summer 2024	ODE will post Request for Application (RFA) to OregonBuys where grantees can apply.
September 2024	Grantees begin implementing Early Literacy Community grant programs. ODE will collect feedback from grantees and other community members to inform ongoing refinements to the Framework and Toolkit.

Who do I check with if I have any questions?

If you have any questions, please contact: ode.communityliteracy@ode.oregon.gov

This information will also be found on our ODE Early Literacy Success Community Grants website.