



## Summary: Public Comments on Birth Through Five Literacy

#	Date	Source	Name	Comment
1	10/27/25	<i>Email</i>	Shannon M. Blood  Reach Out and Read Northwest	See attached <a href="#">letter</a> .

Response to public comments [here](#)

October 27, 2025

Kathy Wai  
Rules Coordinator  
Department of Early Learning and Care  
700 Summer St NE #350  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Public input on chapter 414 Birth Through Five Early Literacy administration

Dear Kathy:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the Department of Early Learning and Care's (DELIC) proposed rulemaking clarifying how the Birth Through Five Early Literacy fund will be administered. [Reach Out and Read Northwest](#) partners directly with 1,300 pediatric clinicians in [160 program sites](#) across [Oregon](#) to support early literacy and healthy relationships through parent-child shared reading.

Reach Out and Read is a long-established part of Oregon's continuum of early childhood literacy services. The many programs engaged in helping build home libraries and encouraging a love of reading ensures families have entry points in places and ways that work best for their needs and interest. Each program plays a unique role in Oregon's system of early childhood literacy services and supports.

In reviewing the proposed rules, Reach Out and Read offers the following consideration with respect to 414-576-0020 (1) (c) which states eligible grantees for early childhood literacy services must be current grantees of the Department of Early Learning and Care:

This proposed rule places limits on accessibility and reach for early childhood literacy programs and service providers, and may impede the development of a coordinated, robust and sustainable system. If early childhood literacy supports and services are funded in a piecemeal manner, they remain on shaky ground. Oregon's early childhood literacy initiative relies on the strength of the whole system, working together. **Reach Out and Read recommends removing 414-576-0020 (1) (c) from the proposed rules.**

Oregon has taken many proactive steps to support early childhood literacy and kindergarten readiness. Reach Out and Read looks forward to continuing to work in partnership with the Department of Early Learning and Care, and Oregon's system of early childhood literacy service providers.

Sincerely,

*Shannon M. Blood*

Shannon M. Blood, MA  
Associate Director, Policy & Partnerships  
[Reach Out and Read Northwest](#)