

# ODE-Approved Provider List for Early Literacy Professional Development, Coaching, and High-Dosage Tutoring Frequently Asked Questions:

This document provides answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) for the ODE-Approved Provider Lists for Early Literacy.

This document will continue to be updated as indicated with a version number and noted on the initiative website. For additional questions on these or other topics related to literacy, please email: <a href="mailto:K12.literacy@ode.oregon.gov">K12.literacy@ode.oregon.gov</a>

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### **General Information**

1. Why is ODE creating an approved provider list for the Early Literacy Success School District Grants?

OAR <u>581-017-0811</u> required ODE to develop a list of approved providers of Professional Development, Coaching and High-Dosage Tutoring for the Early Literacy Success School District Grants (ELSSDG) by January 15, 2025. Beginning in the 25-27 Biennium, districts who choose to contract with an external provider to provide Professional Development, Coaching and/or High-Dosage Tutoring, must select from the ODE-Approved Lists. The approved provider lists will be updated at least every two years. These list supports districts in identifying providers who offer Professional Development, Coaching, and High-Dosage Tutoring that is research-aligned and culturally responsive and eases the process of choosing providers among the many offerings early literacy products and services.

2. Are there lists of approved providers for the Early Literacy Success School District Grant funds for the Jumpstart Biennium (23-25)?

There is not an approved provider list for the 23-25 biennium. The ODE-Approved Provider Lists will impact grantees planning for the 25-27 biennium, taking effect July 1, 2025.

3. Where can I find the ODE-Approved Provider Lists?

The ODE-Approved Provider Lists are posted on the <u>Early Literacy Success School District</u> <u>Grant</u> webpage within the "ODE-Approved Provider Lists" section.

## **Instructional Materials**

4. Can grantees pay providers to train staff on new curricula (e.g., supplemental materials, intervention/acceleration materials) using ELSSDG funds if they aren't on the PD/Coaching list?

Yes, grantees may use ELSSDG funds to train staff on implementation of curriculum, which falls under the curriculum and materials allowable use. This was not an RFI to review instructional materials, therefore, providers of specific instructional materials were not evaluated and are not included on the lists. Districts may pay publishers/contractors/vendors for training related to implementing their curricula (e.g., core, intervention, etc.) under the allowable use "adoption and implementation of curricula."

## **Evaluation Process**

5. What was the evaluation process to be approved as an Early Literacy Provider of PD/Coaching and/or High-Dosage Tutoring?

Providers were asked to respond to each required prompt in the Workbook(s), ensuring their submissions included specific and explicit evidence demonstrating how they met the criteria for Professional Development, Coaching, and/or High-Dosage Tutoring. The review process included multiple evaluations conducted by ODE staff to assess both the provider response and the presence of supporting evidence within the submission. The evaluation criteria outlined in the Professional Development & Coaching Workbook and the High-Dosage Tutoring Workbook was designed based on statutory requirements, regulatory guidelines, and additional research to ensure a thorough and consistent review process.

## **Providers Not on the List**

6. For the Jumpstart Biennium (2023-2025), we are using a provider who is not on the approved list(s). Can we continue using them? If not, do we need to change providers for the upcoming biennium?

You may continue to use a provider who is not on the list(s) through the Jumpstart Biennium (23-25) with Early Literacy Success School District Grants. The ODE-Approved Provider Lists will take effect July 1, 2025. After July 1, 2025, if a district would like to use a provider not on the ODE Approved List for High-Dosage Tutoring or Professional Development & Coaching, they must use funds outside of the Early Literacy Success School District Grant or ensure the provider falls under another allowable use (i.e., implementation of curriculum).

## **Provider FAQs**

### 7. What is the Early Literacy Success Initiative?

In 2023, through the leadership of Governor Kotek, the Oregon Legislature established early literacy as a top priority. The Early Literacy Success initiative established four programs: the Early Literacy Success School District Grants, the Early Literacy Success Community Grants, Early Literacy Success Tribal Grants, and the Birth through Five Literacy Plan (administered through the Department of Early Learning and Care). Please see this webpage for more information.

### 8. What type of grant is the Early Literacy Success School District Grant?

The Early Literacy Success School District Grant is a noncompetitive grant program available to all public school districts and eligible charters. In order to receive funding, grantees must submit an application and comply with all grant requirements, which includes having a plan to provide the following programming: Professional Development and Coaching, High-Dosage Tutoring, and Extended Learning. (Note: The ODE-Approved Provider Lists are specifically for districts to use who choose to contract externally for Professional Development and Coaching and/or High-Dosage Tutoring but are not required for Extended Learning.)

# **9.** What are the allowable uses for the Early Literacy Success School District Grant? Early Literacy Success School District grant funding may be used to:

- Purchase and implement research-aligned literacy curriculum and materials.
- Hire literacy coaches, literacy specialists, and literacy interventionists.
- Provide professional development or coaching for early literacy (either internally or contracted with an ODE-Approved Provider).
- Implement high-dosage tutoring for grades PK-3 (either internally or contracted with an ODE-Approved Provider).
- Implement extended learning for grades PK-3 (literacy programming before school, after school, or during school breaks, including summer).
- **10.** How many grantees receive the Early Literacy Success School District grant funding? For the 2023-2025 biennium, 99% of school districts and eligible charter schools received funding, which was a total of 247 grantees. We anticipate there will be a similar number of grantees for the 2025-2027 biennium.
- 11. When will the next RFI open for providers to be added to the ODE-Approved Lists?

  ODE anticipates opening another RFI within the 2026 calendar year so that additional providers may have an opportunity to submit materials to be evaluated and added to the approved list. Please fill out this interest form if you would like more information on

when the next RFI will be released.

# 12. I am a provider who submitted my application but was not approved. Can I resubmit my application?

ODE is required to update the list through an RFI at least every two years, to which providers may respond to be evaluated for inclusion on the approved lists. If a provider is not currently included on the ODE-Approved Provider list, they may resubmit when ODE publishes the next RFI.

# 13. If a provider is included on the ODE-Approved Provider lists, does that guarantee them a contract with schools/districts?

Inclusion on the ODE-Approved Provider lists does not guarantee or represent contracts with ODE or districts, or statewide price agreements. Districts will go through the process of selecting which provider(s) to contract with through their own internal procurement processes.

### 14. How should providers communicate with grantees?

The ODE-Approved Provider lists were published on ODE's website between January - February 2025, as well as distributed to grantees in email communications. Providers may initiate contact directly with grantees to explore potential contracting opportunities, and grantees may also reach out directly to providers on the approved lists.

#### 15. What is the renewal process to remain on the list?

Providers who are included on the ODE-Approved Provider Lists for PD and Coaching, and/or High-Dosage Tutoring will need to submit an updated information form, provided by ODE, to be completed every two years. Forms will be emailed directly to approved providers prior to the release of the next RFI.

# 16. Who do I reach out to if I have any questions about the ODE-Approved Provider lists, RFI process, or RFI submissions?

Questions regarding the RFI process should be sent to <a href="mailto:ode.procurement@ode.oregon.gov">ode.procurement@ode.oregon.gov</a>.

Other questions regarding the Early Literacy Success Initiative or Early Literacy Success School District Grant may be submitted to <a href="mailto:K12.literacy@ode.oregon.gov">K12.literacy@ode.oregon.gov</a>.