



# Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

## Indiana Early Literacy Achievement Grant Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) has developed this FAQ resource to respond to questions posed by the field regarding the Early Literacy Achievement Grant. Up to \$10,000,000 each fiscal year may be used for literacy achievement grants to school corporations and charter schools.

Number	Question	Answer
1	<b>Was an application required for this grant opportunity?</b>	No. The Early Literacy Achievement Grant is not a competitive grant. Local educational agencies (LEAs) that receive funds must submit information detailing how funds have been distributed. 2024 Early Literacy Achievement Grant allocation amounts for public school corporations and charter schools will be shared on <b>Friday, December 6</b> and funds will be distributed by IDOE on <b>Friday, December 13</b> .
2	<b>How are grant allocations determined?</b>	Early Literacy Achievement Grant allocations are formulaically determined considering factors such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The number of students who participated in IREAD-3 in 2024;</li><li>• The number of eligible students who achieved a passing score on IREAD-3 in 2024 (Spring and Summer Retest);</li><li>• The school's complexity index;</li><li>• The school's growth in reading proficiency rate;</li><li>• The number of eligible students receiving special education services;</li><li>• The average daily membership (ADM) count; and</li><li>• The number of eligible English learner (EL) students.</li></ul>
3	<b>What is the purpose of the Early Literacy Achievement Grant?</b>	To support our statewide goal of ensuring 95% of Indiana's third grade students pass IREAD-3 by 2027, IDOE's Early Literacy Achievement Grant will award funds to Indiana public school corporations, and charter schools to support early literacy efforts. Through House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1001-2023, \$10 million has been allocated in each year of the biennium to award cash stipends for teachers, instructional coaches, and other school staff responsible for the implementation and delivery of literacy and reading instruction through grade three.
	<b>How will grant recipients be notified?</b>	On December 6, IDOE will announce grant allocation amounts for school corporations and charter schools through <a href="#">Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update</a> . Distribution of funds will occur on December 13.
4	<b>How should corporations/schools handle excess/undistributed</b>	Excess/undistributed funds should be returned to IDOE via check by April 4, 2025, which should be mailed to:



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	<b>Early Literacy Achievement Grant funds?</b>	<p>Indiana Department of Education  C/O Rebecca Estes  Indiana Govt Center North, 9th Floor  100 N Senate Avenue  Indianapolis, IN 46204</p> <p>The memo line should indicate: <b>Early Literacy Achievement Grant 2024 Excess.</b></p>
<b>5</b>	<b>What roles are eligible to receive stipends using grant funds?</b>	<p>Early Literacy Achievement Grant funds shall be allocated among and used only to pay cash stipends to teachers, instructional coaches, and other school staff responsible for the implementation and delivery of literacy and reading instruction through grade three during the 2023-2024 school year and <b>who maintain employment</b> within the corporation/charter school on the date of distribution.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Who should I distribute funds to from the allocation?</b>	<p>Early Literacy Achievement Grant funds shall be allocated among and used only to pay cash stipends to teachers, instructional coaches, and other school staff responsible for the implementation and delivery of literacy and reading instruction through grade three during the 2023-2024 school year and <b>who maintain employment</b> within the corporation/charter school on the date of distribution.</p> <p>Local decisions can be made based on role type and level of influence on early literacy and reading within the context of the eligibility parameters provided. However, Stipends <b>shall not be issued</b> to administrators and/or central office staff.</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>When is the deadline for disbursement of funds?</b>	<p>Stipends should be distributed by March 28, 2025.</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Can funds be disbursed to teachers with a performance evaluation rating of “Ineffective” or “Needs Improvement?”</b>	<p>Corporations/Charter schools are not required to align distribution of funds to effectiveness ratings, but may opt to do so, if local policies and procedures support that decision.</p> <p>Each public school corporation and charter school must submit information detailing how funds have been distributed by April 4, 2025. This information must be submitted <a href="#">via Jotform</a>. This information will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Rationale for identification of staff roles eligible for stipend;</li> <li>● Rationale for proportional distribution of funds; and</li> <li>● Documentation to ensure complete expenditure of awarded funds.</li> </ul>



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9	<b>Should the amount be differentiated for different role types or effectiveness ratings?</b>	Corporations/Charter schools are not required to differentiate distribution of funds by role types or effectiveness ratings, but may opt to do so, if local policies and procedures support that decision.																				
10	<b>Can a teacher receive funding if they are no longer with the same school?</b>	<p>Early Literacy Achievement Grant funds shall be allocated among teachers, instructional coaches, and other school staff responsible for the implementation and delivery of literacy and reading instruction through grade three during the 2023-2024 school year and <b>who maintain employment</b> within the same corporation/charter school on the date of distribution.</p> <p>In the instance where educators eligible for Early Literacy Achievement Grant funds were not employed for the entire duration of the <b>2023-2024</b> school year but are still currently employed, corporations/charter schools may elect to proportionally allocate these funds based on their length of employment.</p>																				
11	<b>Can a teacher receive funding if they are new to a school for the 2023-2024 school year?</b>	Teachers who were not employed within the LEA during the 2023-2024 school year are not eligible to receive funds. In the instance where educators eligible for Early Literacy Achievement Grant funds were not employed for the entire duration of the 2023-2024 school year but are still currently employed, schools/corporations may elect to proportionally allocate these funds based on their length of employment.																				
12	<b>Is there an example document for how to respond to the Jotform?</b>	<p>Sample distribution document:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="639 1236 1435 1587"> <thead> <tr> <th>Role</th> <th>Number</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>K Teachers</td> <td>10 @ full year</td> <td>\$500</td> <td>\$5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>K Teachers</td> <td>1 @ partial Year</td> <td>\$250</td> <td>\$250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Instructional Coach</td> <td>10 @ full year</td> <td>\$500</td> <td>\$5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Totals</td> <td>21 Educators</td> <td></td> <td>\$10,250</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Total Allocation Received: \$10,250.00</p> <p>Total Distribution of Funds: \$10,250.00</p>	Role	Number	Amount	Total	K Teachers	10 @ full year	\$500	\$5,000	K Teachers	1 @ partial Year	\$250	\$250	Instructional Coach	10 @ full year	\$500	\$5,000	Totals	21 Educators		\$10,250
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13	<b>Can a school corporation or charter school utilize a portion</b>	Yes. Similar to the distribution of the Teacher Appreciation Grant, school corporations and charter schools may elect to use a portion of the allocation to cover these expenses when disbursing funds to eligible employees.																				



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	<b>of the allocation to cover FICA/TRF expenses?</b>	
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Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with additional questions regarding the Early Literacy Achievement Grant.