

What are State Regional Literacy Directors?

State Regional Literacy Directors (SRLDs) engage with cross-divisional experts (Reading, ESE, ELL, etc.) to provide professional development and support evidence-based literacy coaching models and evidence-based reading practices, identified pursuant to s. 1001.215(8), Florida Statutes (F.S.). SRLDs provide targeted services and supports to schools and LEAs with the largest reading achievement gaps, emphasizing services and supports for identified schools serving kindergarten through fifth grade students.

Schools that must receive professional learning and support include schools with 50 percent of its students who take the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment score below a Level 3 for any grade level, or for students in kindergarten through grade 3, progress monitoring data collected pursuant to s. 1008.25(8), F.S. shows that 50 percent or more of the students are not on track to pass the statewide, standardized grade 3 English Language Arts assessment. These schools are identified under the Reading Achievement Initiative for Scholastic Excellence (RAISE) Act.

SRLDs serve in a regional capacity focused on improving implementation of reading assessments, evidence-based practices/curriculum, instruction and intervention as delineated in the district's K-12 Comprehensive Evidence-based Reading Plan and the reading portion of school improvement plans for identified schools serving K-5 students. SRLDs evaluate a school's improvement plan for alignment with the school district's K-12 comprehensive reading plan under s. 1011.62(9)(d), F.S. and the school district's allocation of resources as required by s. 1008.25(3)(a), F.S.

SRLDs build capacity in reading by:

- Training on implementation science
- Providing initial and ongoing professional learning on Florida's new B.E.S.T. ELA standards
- Training and supporting LEAs and school-level literacy leadership teams on the science of reading and evidence-based literacy practices and programs pursuant to s. 1001.215(8), F.S.
- Supporting LEAs and schools with selection and consistent, coordinated use of high-quality instructional materials and supplemental materials
- Training and support for literacy coaches
- Training and support for educators to earn the reading endorsement
- Training in the use of screening and progress monitoring data to inform data-based decision-making to meet school, teacher and students' individualized needs
- Supporting reading instruction in other core subject area curricula, with an emphasis on civic literacy
- Providing support to LEAs and schools with a multi-tiered system of supports in order to provide students effective interventions and identify students who may require an evaluation for special educational services, including identifying characteristics of conditions that affect phonological processing, such as dyslexia
- Monitoring district-level, school-level and classroom-level data to help provide targeted support to LEAs, school-level literacy leadership teams, coaches and teachers

SRLDs also develop and deploy additional professional development, supported by Just Read, Florida!, to meet stakeholders' needs with urgency and fast response to improve student literacy achievement and close achievement gaps.