



Senator Erin Maye Quade

# The READ Act

Reading is the foundation of learning and a gateway to achievement in the classroom and in life. The READ Act ensures that Minnesota students learn to read with proven, effective strategies, and it supports schools and educators as they transition from outdated lesson plans to evidence-based curricula.



## READ Act 1.0 (2023)

The READ Act promotes evidence-based literacy instruction and to provide teacher training on structured literacy. It first passed the Legislature in 2023 and includes:

- **\$74.6 million** to fund schools' transition to evidence-based literacy instruction, with a focus on phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, and reading comprehension, including:
  - **\$35 million** for evidence-based literacy curriculum and instructional materials
  - **\$34.9 million** to fund teacher training on evidence-based E12 literacy instruction
  - **\$4.2 million** for grants through the U of M's Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement to provide grants to implement evidence-based reading instruction
  - **\$500,000** for two literacy specialists from the Minnesota Department of Education to help schools implement the READ Act

## READ Act 2.0 (2024)

The Legislature updated the READ Act in 2024 with an additional **\$37.3 million** in funding and updated statutes to allow schools to use the 2023 funding more flexibly.

2024 funding includes:

- **\$31.3 million** to pay educators for Read Act training
- **\$4 million** to fund statewide training through Regional Centers of Excellence at the Minnesota Department of Education
- **\$1 million** for culturally responsive learning materials to supplement new curricula
- **\$750,000** to fund literacy training for paraprofessionals and classroom volunteers
- **\$100,000** to create a Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard of Hearing working group to make recommendations on structured literacy instruction for students who cannot fully access sound-based approaches (like phonics)