



## Meet the DEED – AK Reads Team: Academic Support and Teaching and Learning

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## WHAT WE DO

- Facilitate and support implementation of the **Alaska Reads Act** statewide
- Support implementation of **District Reading Improvement Plans** / Multi-tiered System of Supports (DRIP/MTSS)
- Provide technical assistance with the implementation of **high-quality evidence-based** literacy materials and instructional pedagogy
- Develop and support online opportunities for educators and students through the **Virtual Learning Consortium**
- Ensure opportunities to earn **AK Reads Act Endorsements** through vetted and approved synchronous and asynchronous courses aligned with the science of reading
- Provide intensive literacy support through evidence-based instructional practices, data analysis, professional development, student-focused scheduling, and effective communication with parents and stakeholders for **Department Reading Program** schools/districts
- Support implementation of Amplify mCLASS DIBELS 8 as a **universal screener** and **progress monitoring** tool
- Facilitate literacy-focused **professional development opportunities** for educators across Alaska
- Plan and execute the annual **Alaska Science of Reading Symposium**
- Administer the **Comprehensive Literacy State Development** grant (CLSD) 2024
- Support all students to **read at grade level** by the end of third grade



## Meet the DEED – Career & Technical Education Team

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## WHAT WE DO

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) team oversees the Carl D. Perkins (Perkins V) grants to districts and postsecondary institutions. Program managers provide technical assistance on grant applications, program development and requirements, CTE course development, as well as for data collection and reporting. With the authorization of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the CTE team worked with a variety of stakeholders to create a State Plan that meets the unique needs of Alaska CTE programming. Emphasis is on:

- Industry recognized credentials and dual-credit
- Work-based learning and experience
- A head-start into post-secondary employment, training, or studies
- Partnership with the Department of Labor on support for career guides
- Development of plumbing and electrician career pathways
- Computer Science career pathway exploration opportunities
- Investment in Career and Technical Education Programs (CTEPs)
- Support for Career and Technical Student Organizations

For assistance in applying for Perkins CTE funds, completing a CTE Needs Assessment, and CTE 4-Year Plan, contact a member of the team!

For more information, please visit <https://education.alaska.gov/cte>

For more information about collaborative CTE Planning with the Department of Labor and Work Force Development and the University of Alaska System visit:

State of Alaska CTE Plan [http://labor.alaska.gov/awib/AK\\_CTE\\_Plan\\_AUG2010.pdf](http://labor.alaska.gov/awib/AK_CTE_Plan_AUG2010.pdf)

State of Alaska CTE Plan Addendum [https://labor.alaska.gov/awib/CTE\\_Addendum\\_10-2018.pdf](https://labor.alaska.gov/awib/CTE_Addendum_10-2018.pdf)



## Meet the DEED – Data Management Team

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## WHAT WE DO

DEED's Data Management Team is responsible for the collection, analysis, and production of important data for the department. Our team is a great resource for school districts, parents, students, and researchers, who are looking to better understand Alaska's schools and education system. We provide support by calculating accountability indexes for school designations, producing the report card to the public on the state, district and school levels, submitting approximately 150 EDFacts reports to meet federal requirements, submitting state required reporting, publishing reports to answer 'Frequently Asked Question,' responding to data requests, and managing data collections to support the reporting functions.

### Data Collections Managed

- Fall OASIS
- Certified Staff Accounting
- Classified Staff Accounting
- Report Card Data Collection
- Spring OASIS
- Summer OASIS
- Directory Information

To learn more about our data and our team, visit the [Data Center page](http://education.alaska.gov/data-center) (education.alaska.gov/data-center).



## Meet the DEED – Early Learning Team

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## WHAT WE DO

The Early Learning Team is a group of four individuals with multiple years of experience in early childhood education, early childhood special education, and K-3 administration. The team is dedicated to supporting school districts and Head Start programs in building a strong developmental foundation for every child every day. The team understands that Early Learning is essential to success in school and adulthood.

The Early Learning Team has [six goals](#)<sup>1</sup> for pre-elementary programming. The goals include:

1. Promote school readiness in all areas of development and build strong literacy.
2. Identify and provide support for Alaska's children who are most in need of support.
3. Maximize parental choice, continuity of care, and encourage community-based collaboration.
4. Support use of child-reliable and valid assessment systems and tools
5. Support transitions from pre-elementary to kindergarten.
6. Ensure early childhood professionals have excellent preparation, ongoing professional development, and compensations commensurate with their qualifications.

The Early Learning Team meets the abovementioned goals by providing grants funds to school districts and Head Starts. They oversee the use of the [Teaching Strategies GOLD](#)<sup>2</sup> assessment by all grantees. Each grant program meets the requirement of outlining how they find and serve the children most in need of pre-elementary programming as well as how they support a successful pre-elementary to kindergarten program transition. Since Alaska is a large and diverse state, each district has its own plan(s) that meets the needs of their unique communities. All Head Start and Pre-Elementary programs, regardless of funding source, must apply to the department for Pre-Elementary Approval to Operate annually.

<sup>1</sup> <https://education.alaska.gov/akreads/Alaska-PreElementary-Program-Goals-and-Activities.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://education.alaska.gov/Alaska-reading-Resources/Teaching-Strategies-Gold>



## Meet the DEED – Early Learning Team continued

The Early Learning Team works across state departments to ensure all early learning programs have the support in place to move towards high-quality status. We work on the executive committee of [Learn and Grow](#)<sup>3</sup>, Alaska's Quality Recognition and Improvement System (QRIS) for early childhood education. Two members are a part of the Preschool Development Grant leadership team which is in Year 2 of managing these federal grant monies aimed at supporting Birth through Five early care and education building on existing infrastructures and investments. DEED also provides funds for pre-elementary grantees to enroll in this program and receives the support provided as their program moves up levels of high-quality.

With the passing of the [Alaska Reads Act](#)<sup>4</sup>, school districts now have a track to claim their four- and five-year-old pre-elementary students in state school formula funding through the Average Daily Membership (ADM) counts. The Early Learning Team oversees a three-year grant, called the [Early Education Program Grant](#)<sup>5</sup>, whose purpose is to have a district early education program that is approved as high-quality at the end of the three-year grant. This approval is provided by the Early Learning Team after a rigorous review of data and evidence provided to the team that demonstrates their program meets all the [Alaska Early Education Program Standards](#)<sup>6</sup> adopted by the State Board of Education. Once a school district program is approved as high-quality, each four and five-year-old child enrolled in their approved program are then eligible to receive 0.5 ADM for the school funding formula.

The Early Learning Team also houses the federally funded Head Start Collaboration Office. The purpose of this office is to facilitate partnerships between Head Start agencies and other state entities that provide services to children from low-income families.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.threadalaska.org/learn-and-grow/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://education.alaska.gov/akreads>

<sup>5</sup> <https://education.alaska.gov/akreads/early-education-programs2>

<sup>6</sup> <https://education.alaska.gov/akreads/EEP-Standards-SBOA-APPROVED.pdf>



## Meet the DEED – ESEA Federal Programs Team

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## Meet the DEED – ESEA Federal Programs Team continued

### WHAT WE DO

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed by President Obama on December 10, 2015. This bipartisan measure reauthorizes the 50-year-old Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the nation's national education law and longstanding commitment to equal opportunity for all students. The mission of DEED's ESEA Federal Programs Team is to ensure that ESEA Federal Programs in Alaska provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps.

DEED's ESEA Federal Programs team is responsible for providing state-level program leadership for federal and state education programs under the ESEA, as amended by ESSA. The goal is to help build district and school capacity to implement higher quality programs and systems which are supported and funded under ESEA. Our team seeks to ensure that program applications impact student outcomes. The ESEA federal funding application, also known as the ESEA Consolidated Application, includes the following title programs: Title I, Part A; Title I, Part C; Title I, Part D; Title II, Part A; Title III-A, Part A; and Title IV, Part A.

- Title I-A - Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged
- Title I-C - Education of Migratory Children
- Title I-D - Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who Are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk
- Title II-A - Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title III-A - Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students
- Title IV-A - Student Support and Academic Enrichment

In addition to the ESEA Consolidated Application, the ESEA Federal Programs team is responsible for implementing Title V, Part B - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC); McKinney-Vento; and Title V - Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP); Rural and Low-Income School Program (RLIS); and Small, Rural School Achievement Program (SRSA). The purpose of the Alaska 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program is to provide competitive grants to organizations that are working in partnership within their community and schools to provide expanded learning and enrichment opportunities for children and their families outside of regular school hours. The program is designed to target funds to communities that have low achieving students and high rates of poverty but lack the resources to establish after-school centers. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act authorizes the federal Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program and is the primary piece of federal legislation related to the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness. Lastly, Title V allows States and districts the flexibility to target Federal funds to the programs and activities that most effectively address the unique needs of States and districts.

DEED's ESEA Federal Programs team is responsible for the oversight and monitoring of programs and activities carried out under ESEA. The goal is to ensure compliance with federal laws while supporting the effective implementation of local programs. The team provides ongoing support and technical assistance to districts throughout the year as well as hosts an annual April Technical Assistance workshop.

To learn more information about each program, visit <https://education.alaska.gov/esea>.



## Meet the DEED – School Health & Safety Team

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### Pat Sidmore

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### Maria Beckley

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## WHAT WE DO

The School Health and Safety Team manages a collection of state and federal programs and initiatives, supports statewide health and safety related data collections, and leads the department's efforts to advance Alaska's Education Challenge commitment of "Cultivating Safety and Well-Being". To support this commitment, the Health and Safety Team has aligned its services to the Challenge in the following ways: 1) creating and distributing new resources for districts to use to expand the inclusion of trauma-engaged practices in all schools, 2) deepening partnerships to grow more caring and inclusive school climates, 3) exploring innovative ways to provide all students with direct access to school counseling and nursing services. The team collaborates with other state partners, local schools, community agencies and tribal organizations.

### Health and Safety Team Programs:

- Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports Lead: Micki Dunn 907-465-9691 Sharon Fishel 907-465-6523
- Suicide Prevention Program Lead: Sharon Fishel 907-465-6523
- Trauma Engaged Schools Lead: Pat Sidmore 907-465-2939 Sharon Fishel 907-465-6523
- Alternative School Coalition Initiative Lead: Sharon Fishel 907-465-6523
- AK RISES Lead: Sharon Fishel 907-465-6523
- AK AWARE Lead: Sharon Fishel 907-465-6523 Pat Sidmore 907-465-2939
- ESSA Title IV Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants Lead: Pat Sidmore 907-465-2939
- Alaska Safe Children's Act Lead: Pat Sidmore 907-465-2939
- eLearning Program Lead: Maria Beckley 907-465-2304

### Supported Data Collections:

- Youth Risk Behavior Survey Lead: Pat Sidmore 907-465-2939
- School Health Profiles Lead: Pat Sidmore 907-465-2939
- Restraint and Seclusion Data Lead: Maria Beckley 907-465-2304
- Suspension and Expulsion Data Lead: Maria Beckley 907-465-2304

To learn more, visit <https://education.alaska.gov/safeSchools> .





## Meet the DEED – School Recognition and Support Team

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## WHAT WE DO

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## Meet the DEED – School Recognition and Support Team continued

### WHAT WE DO

The School Recognition and Support team aligns services to meet the positive trajectories of Alaska's Education Challenge. Within this team can be found the Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant, a 5-year multimillion dollar federal grant to support literacy efforts across the state; 1003(a) grants to support schools designated under the Every Student Succeeds Act ([ESSA](#)<sup>1</sup>) as Comprehensive Support and Improvement ([CSI](#)<sup>2</sup>), Targeted Support and Improvement ([TSI](#)<sup>3</sup>), or CSI Grad Rate to close the achievement gap; the [Empowerment Process](#)<sup>4</sup>, a data-driven, community and asset-based approach to School Improvement; teacher recognition through [Alaska State Teacher of the Year](#)<sup>5</sup> and the [Milken Educator Award](#)<sup>6</sup>; and working closely with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act ([ESEA](#)<sup>7</sup>) team while monitoring for School Improvement.

**Webpage:** <https://education.alaska.gov/SchoolRecognition>

<sup>1</sup> State of Alaska. Department of Education and Early Development. *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* <https://education.alaska.gov/akessa#:~:text=ESSA%20in%20Alaska,ESSA%20for%20schools%20in%20Alaska>.

<sup>2</sup> State of Alaska. Department of Education and Early Development. *CSI Schools – Lowest 5%* [https://education.alaska.gov/akaccountability/schoolsuccess/CSI\\_lowest\\_5.pdf](https://education.alaska.gov/akaccountability/schoolsuccess/CSI_lowest_5.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> State of Alaska. Department of Education and Early Development. *TSI Schools*. <https://education.alaska.gov/akaccountability/schoolsuccess/TSI-ATSI.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> State of Alaska. Department of Education and Early Development. *School Recognition and Support*. <https://education.alaska.gov/SchoolRecognition/SchoolImprovementProcess>

<sup>5</sup> State of Alaska. Department of Education and Early Development. *Teacher of the Year*. <https://education.alaska.gov/recognitionprograms/TOY>

<sup>6</sup> State of Alaska. Department of Education and Early Development. *Milken Educator Awards*. <https://education.alaska.gov/recognitionprograms/milken>

<sup>7</sup> State of Alaska. Department of Education and Early Development. *ESEA Federal Programs*. <https://education.alaska.gov/ESEA>



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## WHAT WE DO

DEED's Special Education (SPED) Program provides support to school districts for students eligible for special education services. State level activities focus on the oversight of Administrative Complaints, and Due Process cases for special education related issues, facilitation of professional development trainings, district technical assistance, and management of the Alternate Assessment along with annual state **intensive** funding reviews. On the federal level, SPED maintains grant processing and management, completes federally mandated compliance monitoring, and required federal reporting on the Annual Performance Report (APR), State Performance Plan (SPP), State Systemic Improvement Plan (S-SIP), Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS), and disproportionality. Reports to the federal government office are incorporated into the district determinations to inform districts of their status in special education. The most important thing the SPED team does is supporting parents, students, teachers, and other district staff. The Special Education Team is also the point of contact for Charter and Correspondence schools as well as the Military Affiliated School programs.

To learn more about our data, visit <https://education.alaska.gov/data-center>

More about our team, visit <https://education.alaska.gov/sped>



## Meet the DEED – Standards and Assessments Team

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## WHAT WE DO

The State Board of Education has adopted standards that define what Alaskan students should know and be able to do. Together the Standards and Assessments Team work to create standards-aligned assessments and support Alaska educators in research-based strategies towards increasing proficiency in the standards.

To support districts and teachers Content Specialists provide information and resources in standards implementation by:

- Conducting webinars, professional development, and resources in math, science, social studies, and ELA content.
- Assistance in the evaluation on curriculum and materials
- Support teachers in using content-specific literacy strategies based on the Science of Reading
- Support state-wide assessments and content alignment
- Create partnerships between DEED and school districts and other educational organizations and partners

Statewide assessments provide information to parents, educators, policy makers, the community, and businesses about how our schools and districts are performing. Effective assessment answers the essential question, "How will we know what our students know and can do?"

Assessments also play an important role in [Alaska's Education Challenge](#). All the assessments listed below will help Alaska monitor and evaluate the progress of two out of the five positive trajectories outlined in the Challenge: Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade and close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.



## Meet the DEED – Standards and Assessments Team continued

The Assessments team provides technical support, policy guidance, and crucial information to school districts for the statewide assessments administered across Alaska.

Alaska State Regulation	Name of Current Assessment
<i>A standards-based test to measure student attainment of the standards adopted by reference in <a href="#">4 AAC 04.140(a)</a>.</i>	Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR) for English language arts and math in grades 3-9; and the Alaska Science Assessment for science in grades 5, 8, and 10.
<i>An alternate assessment under <a href="#">4 AAC 06.775(b)</a></i>	Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) for students with significant cognitive disabilities for English language arts, math, and science. Students in grade 3-9 take ELA and math and students in grades 5, 8, and 10 take science.
<i>Biennial participation in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)</i>	NAEP is given to students in grades 4, 8, and 12 in mathematics, reading, and other subjects in selected schools across Alaska.
<i>The assessment described in <a href="#">4 AAC 34.055</a> to measure English language proficiency (ELP)</i>	Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs) for students identified as English learners. Students with significant cognitive disabilities who are also English Learners take the Alternate ACCESS. All ELs must take either ACCESS for ELLs or the Alternate ACCESS in grades K-12.
<i>A developmental profile for each student entering kindergarten or first grade. <a href="#">4 AAC 06.712</a></i>	The Alaska Developmental Profile (ADP) for students entering kindergarten and any 1 <sup>st</sup> grade student who did not attend kindergarten.
<i>An early literacy screener for students in grades K-3. <a href="#">4 AAC 06.400</a></i>	DEED has selected mCLASS from Amplify as the statewide literacy screener.

The Assessments team works closely with district and school staff to ensure successful assessment administration and meaningful assessment results. Examples of this work include:

- Training District Test Coordinators
- Writing and distributing test administration manuals and other resources
- Communicating deadlines, test windows, and requirements
- Ensuring test security
- Providing guidance on assessment policies and procedures
- Assisting district staff with assessment administration
- Advising districts on how to use assessment results

To learn more, visit the [DEED Assessments webpage](#).



## Meet the DEED – Teacher Certification Team

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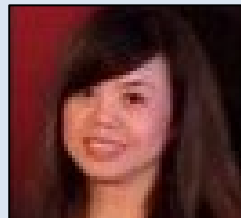
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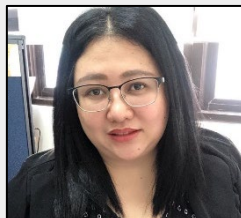
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## WHAT WE DO

The Teacher Education and Certification Team provides:

- Information to the public, to districts, and to educators to meet certification and continuing education requirements; resources for educators to qualify and apply for certification; implementation of the Teacher Retention and Recruitment Playbook strategies and Leadership in educator quality.

We can:

- Tentatively determine the eligibility of an applicant prior to submission of an application;
- Assist applicants and potential candidates in navigating certification requirements; and
- Help district staff and individual applicants access available online services (TEACH-AK and eLearning)

To learn more, visit [Teacher Certification Online](#) or [email us](mailto:tcwebmail@alaska.gov) (tcwebmail@alaska.gov).