

# Foundation Formula Funding at 0.5 ADM

In 2022, the Alaska Legislature passed the Alaska Reads Act. Included in this act is the provision that school districts with district-wide early education programs that meet Alaska's Early Education Program Standards are eligible to receive 0.5 ADM for enrolled four and five-year-old students [AS 14.17.500(d)]. Formula funding is a reliable funding source for school district early education programs.

## Funding Structure

- Annual legislative appropriation [Sec 14.17.500(f)].
- Applications available annually.
- Approval to include early education program students as 0.5 ADM is valid for a three-year period [4 AAC 60.210(i)]. Approved districts will re-apply every three years via a short-form reapplication process.
- Approved districts will submit an ADM assurances report annually near the time of the student count period [4 AAC 60.195(a)].

## Eligibility

Any Alaska school district is encouraged to apply if it:

- Has consulted with all Head Start agencies operating within the school district boundaries and determined that an insufficient number of children attend high-quality childcare programs [Sec 14.03.410(c)];
  - See [form 05-24-031](#) for consultation guidance
  - [Head Start Consultation Technical Assistance Webinar recording](#)
  - [Head Start Consultation Technical Assistance Webinar PowerPoint](#)
- Has successfully implemented the [Alaska Early Education Program Standards](#) [Sec 14.07.165(a)(5)(A)]; and
  - See [Early Learning: Alaska Reads Act](#) for additional information.
- Employs early education teacher(s) with the required and current teacher certification [Sec 14.07.165(a)(5)(B)].
  - See [Teacher Certification](#)
  - See [Alaska Reads Act Endorsements: Alaska Reads Act Early Education Lead](#)
  - [Early Education Program Staffing Guidance](#)

See [Eligibility for Early Education Program Approval and 0.5 ADM Funding](#) for more guidance.

## Determination of Recipients

- Approval will be determined according to compliance with each of the above-mentioned eligibility requirements as documented on the 0.5 ADM application.
- When funding is limited, the department must prioritize the funding of district-wide early education programs, giving priority to school districts with lower performance, based on the department's ranking of districts.

## Application Timeline

- Application released annually in November
- **Applications due May 15**
- Applicants notified of approval on or before September 1.
- Approved applicants may begin counting four and five-year-old early education program students in the fall average daily membership count of the same year.

***Notice: Timeline will change for FY28. Application for FY28, will be due the last Friday in January 2027.***

## Current 0.5 ADM Recipients

### Starting Fall 2023

Anchorage School District

### Starting Fall 2024

Skagway City School District

Valdez City School District

## Application Materials and Resources

- [Sample Application](#). Click to view a sample FY26 application.
- FY26 Application for Early Education Program Approval and 0.5 ADM. *No longer accepting applications.*
- [FY26 Application Technical Assistance Webinar recording](#)
- [FY26 Application Technical Assistance Webinar PowerPoint](#)

**Please contact Jayne McFarland at [jayne.mcfarland@alaska.gov](mailto:jayne.mcfarland@alaska.gov) or (907) 269-7974 for additional information.**