

What is Real-time Early Access to Literacy?

Real-time Early Access to Literacy (REAL) provides individualized support for students in pre-K through grade 3 to make progress in their literacy development, with a focus on support for virtual learning. REAL provides devices, connectivity, and tutoring services to eligible students in pre-K through grade 3.

How is the program funded?

The REAL Program is funded by a federal grant, [Education Stabilization Fund Rethinking Education Models \(ESF-REM\)](#). ESF-REM was released to provide support to State educational agencies with the highest coronavirus burden to address educational needs of students, families, and teachers. Louisiana was one of 11 states awarded funding in 2020. The grant provides approximately \$17 million total to Louisiana over the course of three years to improve early literacy outcomes across the state.

School systems receive funding to authorize families to establish microgrant accounts in the REAL Family Portal, where families can browse and select services. School systems can learn more about REAL funding by attending a [webinar](#) scheduled for November 9 at 1 p.m.

Who provides the tutoring services?

Tutoring Service Providers (TSPs) undergo a rigorous vetting process and background check by the Louisiana Department of Education, similar to the [PD vendor guide](#) review process. TSPs submit an application to outline their qualifications, communication plan, and more. Approved TSPs are committed to working with families and aligning their services to the [high quality curriculum](#) implemented in Louisiana schools.

To learn more about becoming a REAL Tutoring Service Provider access the [Request for Applications](#).

Which students are eligible for REAL?

Eligibility is prioritized for economically disadvantaged pre-K through grade 3 students enrolled in [CIR and UIR-A schools](#).

How do families enroll their child/ren in REAL services?

A family creates an account in the REAL Family Portal and submit a brief application for services. If approved, a family's account is activated with a \$500 credit to use towards tutoring services. The family is able to view, select, and enroll in services directly through the REAL Family Portal. The REAL Family Portal is expected to launch in Winter 2020.

How can I learn more about REAL?

For more information about the REAL program please contact EarlyLiteracy@la.gov.

