

Read to Succeed Utah

Quarterly Brief | December 2025



As 2025 comes to a close, progress continues across the SB127 Early Literacy Outcomes Improvement initiative. Ongoing collaboration, professional learning, and community engagement are strengthening Utah's statewide literacy system. Our work remains focused on supporting educators, families, and communities to ensure every K–3 student builds strong foundations in reading.

Key Highlights

Science of Reading Awards Night held October 27, celebrating 65 award recipients and 44 schools where 70% of third-grade students are reading on grade level.

Expanding Community Engagement: Four regional engagement kickoffs were held in November, launching a year-long focus on family literacy partnerships and Science of Reading awareness across the state.

Coaching and Implementation

- **31** early literacy coaches serving **32** schools.
- **1,500+** coaching sessions delivered to **75** LEA leaders.
- Cohort 4 registration is complete and begins **February 2026**.
- The Science of Reading Panel met in October for a full-day session focused on state code alignment and curriculum review processes.

Community Engagement

- **Four** regional kickoff sessions in November provided resources, tools, and strategies for engaging families in the Science of Reading.
- **Six** regional family literacy events will launch in February 2026—dates and locations to be announced soon.
- Additional family-focused programming will begin mid-January.

Higher Education Alignment

- **Eight** of nine Utah higher education institutions surpassed the UFORA 75% passing threshold for Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, and Special Education licensure programs.

- » Excellence in Science of Reading awards will be presented to these institutions and programs.

Professional Learning

- Over **550** participants registered for the From the Science to the Classroom webinar series, focusing on oral language, comprehension, vocabulary, syntax, and explicit instruction.
- Collaboration with Dr. Jake Downs (Utah State University) continues to support over **200** grade 3–6 teachers and coaches through six comprehension-focused sessions during the school year.

Recognition and Assessment

- Over **60** literacy curriculums are in final review to provide LEAs with strong instructional guidance.
- The Utah State Board of Education approved new ELA RISE cut scores in September.
- RISE Writing scores for grades 5 and 8 are now available, along with Writing Benchmark Assessments for grades 3–8.

For more information:

Julie Clark | Literacy and Early Learning Coordinator

Julie.clark@schools.utah.gov

The [Quarterly Brief](#) from prior editions are available for a comprehensive picture of what has been accomplished thus far.