

Reading Apprenticeship for Academic Literacy Learning (RA4ALL)



Reading Intervention Curriculum for Grades 8 and 9

Reading Apprenticeship for Academic Literacy Learning (RA4ALL) will combine curriculum and professional learning to accelerate reading achievement for 8th and 9th graders. It builds on the evidence-based Reading Apprenticeship® framework and the Systematic Instruction in Phonological Awareness, Phonics, and Sight Words (SIPPS).

WHY SHOULD YOU DISTRICT PARTICIPATE?

RA4ALL has the potential for significant impact on adolescents' literacy and academic outcomes as it combines two successful interventions (an updated version of RAAL and SIPPS) to meet the complex reading needs of secondary students and their teachers. A prior randomized trial of RAAL involving 10 districts and 34 schools worked with 9th grade students reading between 2-5 years behind grade level. Findings showed that the RAAL curriculum improved students' reading comprehension by 63% above expected year-to-year gains. Beyond immediate student impacts, this study will provide insights about engaging developing adolescent readers in rigorous, discipline-specific learning while simultaneously improving their foundational skills.

RA4ALL Impact Evaluation

An independent research organization, SRI Education, will be leading the evaluation. SRI will examine the effects of RA4ALL on teachers' perceptions of the curriculum; instructional practices; students' perceptions of the curriculum. Within participating districts, schools will be randomly assigned to "early-start" and "late-start" groups.

Early-start schools will participate in RA4ALL professional learning and teachers will use the curriculum in 2025-26 and 2026-27.

Late-start schools will engage in "business as usual" during the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years and will participate in RA4ALL professional learning and use the curriculum in 2027-28. All participating teachers, both early- and late-start, will participate in evaluation activities.

Eligibility

Schools must offer reading intervention classes to support developing readers in 8th or 9th grade. The students participating in the study can be reading no more than 5 grade levels below what is expected.

Compensation

Compensation is prorated to reflect completed activities:

- Early Start Teachers: Professional learning stipend (\$1500 Y1 and \$500 Y2)
- Early Start Instructional Coaches: Professional learning stipend (\$1500)
- Late Start Teachers: Professional learning stipend (\$750 Y3)