

RSA Funding Changes for FY 2013-14

Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, the SDE will distribute RSA funds differently than in previous years. RSA funds will be allocated after all districts including all sites have electronically submitted their Annual District Reading Plan and the Annual District Reading Plan is approved by SDE. The RSA funds will then be allocated directly to the districts. The SDE will no longer hold back a percentage to allocate later in the year for **Summer Academy Reading Programs**.

This means as districts budget at the local level, districts will need to consider how much funding is necessary to reserve for **Summer Academy Reading Programs**.

This allows school districts to:

- budget RSA funds at the local level
- use RSA funds to help struggling readers in grades kindergarten through third grade
- to spend RSA funds during the school year at the time it is most needed
- allow school districts to better tailor **Summer Academy Reading Programs** to the unique needs of RSA students

The RSA funds reserved by each district for Summer Academy Reading Programs may now be used for grades K-3. This will identify and provide additional instruction to children in K-2 so they will be better prepared to read on grade level as they enter the third grade.

The following is the breakdown of RSA Funding for 2013-2014:

\$6.5 Million has been allocated for RSA funds FY 2013-14. The funding will be distributed directly to districts, and will be allocated according to the number of K-3 students who do not benchmark as reading on grade level.

To receive funding, all districts MUST:

- **have the RSA Beginning-of-Year Report completed for FY 2013-14. This report is due on Tuesday, October 1, 2013.**
- **have the RSA Annual District Reading Plan completed and approved for FY 2013-14 by the Oklahoma State Department of Education. This report is due on Friday, August 30, 2013.**

All districts including all sites must have their Annual District Reading plan submitted and approved by SDE before any RSA funds are allocated. There will no longer be separate funding for the **Summer Academy Reading Program**. Districts will need to reserve their own **Summer Academy Reading Programs** funds from the appropriated RSA amount.

Districts are encouraged to spend 25% of their funding for K – 3rd grade literacy professional development.

Districts will decide how the funding is spent in conjunction with the RSA Funding Checklist. I have attached a copy of the checklist for you. For OCAS reporting, please continue to use project code 367. For Summer Academy Reading Program expenditures, you will use program expenditure dimension code number 441 – Summer School for Elementary.

Districts will submit Expenditure Report along with EOY RSA numbers.

Remember, Title 1 has specific parameters; as a result, Title 1 Funds may not be combined with RSA funds for Summer Academy Reading Programs.

<http://ok.gov/sde/sites/ok.gov.sde/files/FedProg-TitleIAToolkit.pdf>

For more information, please contact the Reading and Literacy Office at rsa@sde.ok.gov or (405) 522-3219 or

Michele Sprague

RSA Director

Oklahoma State Department of Education

Michele.Sprague@sde.ok.gov

405-522-3241