



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools
Charter School Directors
Regional Educational Service Center Directors
Boards of Education

FROM: Melissa K. Wlodarczyk Hickey, Director of the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, CSDE

DATE: April 10, 2023

SUBJECT: Process to File a Request for an Extension of Time to Implement Connecticut's Approved Reading Curriculum Models or Programs

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Section (Sec.) 10-14hh(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) mandates that each local and regional board of education implement for the 2023–2024 school year and each school year thereafter a reading curriculum model or program for grades Pre-Kindergarten to three (PreK–3), inclusive, that has been reviewed and recommended pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 10-14ii.

C.G.S. Sec. 10-14hh(c), however, allows local and regional boards of education to request an extension to commence implementation of an approved reading curriculum model or program due to insufficient resources or funding to implement any of the [Connecticut's Approved Reading Curriculum Models or Programs](#).

Those local or regional boards of education seeking an extension to implement any of the [Connecticut's Approved Reading Curriculum Models or Programs](#) until the 2024–2025 school year must send a one-page letter of request for a one-year extension to the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success at SDE.LiteracyCenter@ct.gov, by May 19, 2023. The one-page letter is to be on district letterhead, signed by the superintendent or charter school director, and include:

- a brief statement demonstrating that the local or regional board of education does not have sufficient resources of funding to implement [Connecticut's Approved Reading Curriculum Models or Programs](#); and
- an explanation demonstrating continued efforts to commence implementation of any of the [Connecticut's Approved Reading Curriculum Models or Programs](#).

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) shall notify the local or regional boards of education by June 16, 2023, of their status of the one-year extension request.

Those local and regional boards of education that submitted a 2022 Application Requesting a Waiver of Connecticut Approved K–3 Reading Curriculum Model or Program (Waiver) will have the opportunity to request an extension until the 2024–2025 school year if the curriculum

model or program submitted is not found to meet Connecticut expectations as an approved reading curriculum model or program.

Please note, there is pending legislation, Raised Bill Number 1094: “An Act Concerning the Implementation of Reading Models or Programs,” that if passed, would require all local and regional boards of education to fully implement a comprehensive reading curriculum model or program by July 1, 2025. Therefore, if this Bill passes, all local and regional boards of education will have additional time to implement a comprehensive reading curriculum model or program.

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Melissa K. Włodarczyk Hickey, Director of the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success at Melissa.Hickey@ct.gov.