

Dear School Administrators,

In an effort to provide families with additional opportunities to advance their child's literacy development, the Louisiana Department of Education has launched a new literacy tutoring program for eligible public school students in grades K-5. The Steve Carter Literacy Tutoring Program, part of the Louisiana Tutoring Initiative, provides \$1,000 digital tutoring vouchers to eligible students for literacy tutoring.

Through this initiative, the state has developed an online platform by which families may log in, enter their student's information, and, if eligible, receive a digital voucher for tutoring. Families may then select from a list of state-approved tutoring providers for their child to receive online or in person literacy tutoring. Tutoring providers are approved through the Louisiana Department of Education and are certified teachers in elementary or reading or have a degree in education, English, or another subject indicative of expertise in reading and literacy. Tutors will also be trained in the science of reading.

Eligibility Criteria

- Public school student
- K-3 students are eligible if they scored below proficient on their beginning of the year screener.
- Students in grades 4-5 are eligible if they scored below Mastery in ELA on the spring 2022 LEAP assessment.

The program launch toolkit, located in the Literacy Library under the <u>Instruction, Intervention, and Extension</u> pillar or the <u>Families</u> pillar, will provide you with all tools necessary to share information with parents, students, and faculty, including the following:

- Family letter and marketing flyer
- Marketing flyer for distribution in school offices and libraries
- Email and text message templates to be used in school newsletters or school communications to parents about the new program

The tutoring portal is available at <u>www.louisianatutoringinitiative.com</u>.

