



CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAY 2004 AGENDA

SUBJECT Reading First: Approval of Round Three Grant Awards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing

RECOMMENDATION

The California Department of Education (CDE) recommends that the State Board of Education (SBE) approve the list of local educational agencies (LEAs) for funding for Round Three of the Reading First Program.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The SBE has approved two previous rounds of Reading First grants. Seventy-three LEAs have received grants, and students at 651 schools are being served.

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

Reading First is a federally funded program designed to have every student proficient in reading by the end of third grade. California's plan has as its foundation the SBE adopted standards and SBE adopted instructional materials. We have concentrated our resources in districts with large numbers second and third grade students scoring "below basic" and "far below basic" on the California Standards Test.

Due to passage of AB 1485, this round of grant awards gives priority in funding to applications that include *Education Code* Section 310 Spanish language waiver classrooms. In order to qualify, LEAs must submit an application that receives a passing score in each of 12 areas. When funds set aside specifically for this priority are exhausted, all applications will be ranked and funded based on composite scores. Members of the Reading First Partnership or their designees will read the applications.

The actual scoring of applications and recommendation development will occur after the printing deadline for the May 2004 agenda. (The list of LEAs scored and recommended for funding will be submitted as a last-minute memorandum.)

FISCAL ANALYSIS (AS APPROPRIATE)

An estimated \$15 to \$20 million will be available for Round Three sub-grants. This total is approximate for several reasons, including a proposed budget change (still pending) and the potential addition of some waiver classrooms (that use Spanish-language materials).

ATTACHMENT

The list of LEAs recommended for funding will be submitted as a last-minute memorandum.