

Join us!

Become a VLA Instructional Program Reviewer!

Why is Virginia reviewing core, supplemental, and intervention instructional programming?

The Virginia Literacy Act (VLA), passed by the Virginia Legislature in 2022, focuses on improving literacy outcomes for all K-3 students in the Commonwealth. The VLA requires the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) to recommend instructional programs – including core, supplemental, and intervention materials – for approval by the Virginia Board of Education (VBOE).

In 2023, the Legislature passed an expansion of VLA that requires instructional materials through Grade 8 to be aligned to evidence-based literacy instruction (EBLI) and science-based reading research (SBRR).

Virginia Literacy Partnerships has partnered with the VDOE and is overseeing these reviews led by Virginia educators. Cycle 1 took place from fall 2022 through spring 2023 and focused on K-3 core instructional materials. Cycle 2 includes reviews of K-5 core instructional materials and K-8 supplemental and intervention materials.

Who can become a Reviewer?

Teachers, reading specialists, instructional coaches, administrators, division leaders, as well as retired educators are encouraged to apply. Program Review Teams will be composed of educators and experts in early literacy that reflect the diversity of Virginia's public education system and all eight Superintendent's regions. Reviewers will be trained and supported to conduct curricular reviews using rubrics that align with the VLA.

What can I expect the work to be like?

Working in Review Teams of three reviewers and one facilitator, teams will review instructional materials and evaluate them according to criteria set forth in rubrics. Review Teams can anticipate conducting 4-week reviews for supplemental/intervention programs on a rolling basis from September through January. The work and timeline will look slightly different depending on the type of instructional materials each team is assigned. In the application process, applicants can rank their preference for which type(s) of programming they would prefer to review.

What are the expectations for my role?

- Attend mandatory training (one asynchronous; one via Zoom - date below) on how to use rubrics to evaluate instructional programs according to criteria set forth in the VLA
- Complete work independently, including scoring programs on a wide variety of criteria and making note of evidence

- Meet virtually with Review Team led by a facilitator to norm and come to consensus
- Write evaluative notes of how programs do or do not meet expectations in specific categories
- Receive feedback from facilitator and revise work as necessary

How much time will I need to dedicate to this essential role?

Time commitment will vary by person and by team, due to work styles, the number of grade levels, and/or programs assigned to a review team. Reviewers can anticipate working between 6 to 8 hours a week outside of normal working hours.

What is the compensation?

Reviewers will be compensated depending on how many grade levels are reviewed, and the number and type of program(s) reviewed. Payment may range from \$100 to \$1700, to be paid after review completion.

How do I apply?

If you are interested in being part of a review team, please [complete an application here](#) and submit as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact: vlp-vla@virginia.edu.

What have previous Reviewers said about serving on a Review Team?

“It was great teamwork and I would love to work again!”

“My facilitator was very helpful and communicative.”

“I appreciate being on the committee; I learned a lot. Both of my facilitators did a great job getting all voices in the room, working toward consensus, and giving information in a timely and concise way. They were almost absurdly accessible, one even zoomed with me while she was on a road trip to a wedding.”

“This has been a great experience. I have learned so much!”

“This is a huge undertaking and I appreciate the amount of work that has gone into this project. My facilitator worked tirelessly during Phase II and I am thankful for her leadership during the process. I truly believe this is important work and the students of Virginia public schools will benefit greatly from all of the work everyone is doing.”

If selected to serve on a Review Team, please save the date for training!

All new Review Team members will be required to attend mandatory training on **Wednesday, September 6, 4:30-6:30 pm EST.**