

Science of Reading:

How Education Elements Supports State Initiatives

The science of reading is a body of research that includes insights from the disciplines of developmental psychology, educational psychology, cognitive science, and cognitive neuroscience. This research has identified the methods that best help children learn to read, from the beginning steps in spoken language to being able to successfully decode unfamiliar words.

**No matter what stage you are in,
we can help.**



Planning for Statewide Implementation

Support Services:

- Strategic plan for implementation to create aligned vision and metrics for program
- Development and oversight of systems and structures needed to begin implementation

Beginning Implementation

Support Services:

- Manage launch of pilot implementation
- Progress monitor implementation
- Iterate and adjust implementation plan + structures based on data collected

Scaling Implementation

Support Services:

- Manage launch of larger scale implementation
- Oversight of systems and structures

Personalizing Reading Instruction

As a national leader in personalized and blended learning, our Core Four approach to instruction supports student achievement and efforts to eliminate achievement gaps. We work with district level leaders to align instructional vision, high quality instructional materials, and school improvement goals to our work with classroom teachers. Our work supports the Science of Teaching Reading while ensuring classrooms maintain high student engagement and quality teacher experience.

Science of Reading

A Texas Case Study



In 2019, the Texas legislature mandated all teachers and principals of students grades K-3 to attend a Texas Reading Academies (TRA) course by 2023. The action came after the state's youngest learners faced flatlined and declining reading scores as measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Education Elements has supported the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in creating systems and capacity for flexible teacher pathways through TRA, supporting more than 86,000 learners by 2022 and an estimated 132,000 learners by the end of 2023.

Our support systems have included:

- the **evaluation and certification of Cohort Leaders**, who are responsible for leading groups of educators in their TRA 11-month course
- a **test-out option for the state's top 1% of highly qualified educators on STR content**, administering the Demonstrated Proficiency Option of the Texas Reading Academies

In Year 3 of this program, the TEA was looking to address concerns around flexibility, efficiency, and effectiveness of the program as the state faced teacher dissatisfaction regarding a multitude of professional issues.

TEA turned to **Education Elements to serve as the Single Entity Graders for the two manually graded artifacts in the course.** We are responsible for:

- recruitment, hiring, and training over 150 graders
- quality control systems to ensure learners have a fair and positive experience in the course, while meeting the state's standards for their learning
- systems for grade disputes, plagiarism allegations, and customer services across multiple roles in the system

We've seen tremendous results.

72K

HOURS SAVED

Because Education Elements takes care of grading, the STR teachers can better focus on providing high quality instruction.

100%

GRADED ON DEADLINE

In four week grading windows, Education Elements has graded as many as 16,000 artifacts on time.

132K

TEACHERS TRAINED

With TEA, Authorized Providers, and other partners, Texas will have trained 130,000 teachers in the Science of Teaching Reading from 2021 - 2023.