

List of Compliant Phonics Programs

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are districts required to use materials that were reviewed for compliance with the phonics curriculum rule?

At this time, there are not any requirements to use a specific phonics program. Texas Education Code (TEC), [§28.0062\(a\)\(1\)](#) requires all districts to provide for the use of a phonics curriculum that uses systematic direct instruction in kindergarten through grade three to ensure all students obtain necessary early literacy skills. Texas Administrative Code (TAC), [§74.2001](#) further outlines the requirements for phonics curriculum. The materials on the *Commissioner's List* have been thoroughly reviewed and determined to meet the requirements.

2. Can a district use a product that is found not to be compliant with the rule?

Districts are required to use a product that is compliant with the law and rule. If a product does not comply, a district may use the product if they update the product to address the reasons it does not comply with rule. The information in the report can support districts in determining how to do this for their local context. Alternatively, a district may choose to adopt a product that complies with the rule.

3. How were materials selected for review?

Materials were considered for review if they met any of the following criteria:

- Nominated by 10% or more of Texas districts
- Adopted by the State Board of Education (SBOE) as a Reading and Language Arts K–3 product designed to cover 100% of the TEKS
- Submitted for consideration by the publisher

4. Are the materials available for purchase in EMAT?

At this time, only SBOE-adopted materials are available for purchase. Any materials found to be compliant with the rule that are also SBOE-adopted are available for purchase in EMAT.

5. Will districts receive additional funding to support the purchase of phonics materials?

While no specific funds were set aside for phonics materials, districts may use funds in their Instructional Materials and Technology Allotment to purchase phonics materials.

6. Will additional phonics materials be reviewed?

Yes, TEA intends to conduct additional phonics review cycles in the future. We have not yet set a date for the next phonics review cycle. Districts may [nominate](#) materials for consideration and publishers may [join](#) the wait list. You may access a list of products currently on the waiting list on the TRR website.

7. May a district use a phonics program that has a strong evidence base that does not fully comply with the requirements outlined in 19 TAC, §74.2001(b)(1)?

Yes, 19 TAC, §74.2001(b)(4) allows districts to use a phonics program that does not meet all the requirements of 19 TAC, §74.2001(b)(1) if the program has a strong evidence base. TEA is developing a system to evaluate a program's evidence base and will release additional details soon.