

LITERACY
&
HUMANITIES

Mission



K-5 Plus



**Helping close the gaps and
increase graduation rates**

Driving student success

for all New Mexico children through expanded school days, reading programs for all ages and enhanced school readiness with access to high-quality pre-kindergarten programs.

Learn more about the following PED Bureau programs, online, at <https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/literacy-humanities/>

- K-5 Plus
- SRCL – Reading for all ages

The K-5 Plus initiative adds 25 instructional days to the beginning of the school year for all Kindergarten through 5th grade students in New Mexico. Students participate in intervention and enrichment programs in the areas of Language Arts and STEM.

In 2019, school districts and charter schools applied for over 24,000 students to participate in K-5 Plus - a record high since the program's inception in 2007. Since the summer of 2018 the K-3 Plus program has been expanded to also serve 4th and 5th grade students. A total of 207 schools from 41 districts and 3 charter schools participated in the K-5 Plus program.

K-5 Plus has been a proven cornerstone of investments in early intervention funding for districts and schools throughout the state. Key findings show that students enrolled in K-5 Plus have higher test scores in reading, writing and math over students with similar demographics who did not participate in the program.





Eligibility

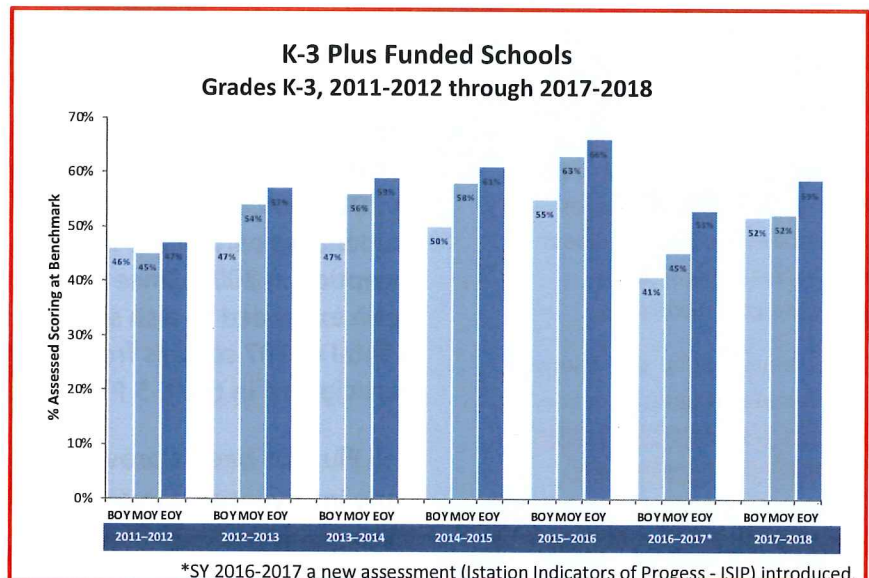
Priority to apply for K-5 Plus funding is afforded to districts and charter schools per the following criteria:

- An elementary school in which 80% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced lunch at the time the school applies for the program; or
- An elementary school that is considered a low-performing school; or schools that participated the previous year and improved their school grade and wish to continue the program.

A Utah State University (USU) report conducted in 2012 cited that K-3 Plus over a six-year period demonstrated that increased time in kindergarten and the early grades does narrow the achievement gap between disadvantaged students and other students, increases cognitive skills, and leads to higher test scores for all participants.

Participating schools are required to assess students using a NM Public Education Department (PED) approved literacy assessment, the Istation Indicators of Progress (ISIP). The PED uses the results in the evaluation of the program. Programming requirements include daily literacy instruction of at least 90 minutes in kindergarten and 120 minutes in grades one through three, as well as daily math instruction of at least 90 minutes in kindergarten through grade five, using an evidenced-based core curriculum and the state's three-tiered *Response to Intervention (RtI)* framework. Participating schools are encouraged to keep the students grouped in the same class with the same teacher during the regular school year.

Literacy results for K-3 Plus funded schools from the school years 2011-2012 through 2017-2018 are provided below.



Over a seven-year period, the PED literacy assessment data indicates that there is an increase in student assessment scores in kindergarten through grade three, from the beginning of the year (BOY) to the end of year (EOY). This means that there are more students scoring in the benchmark range (on grade level) by the end of the year.