DECE -Funding for Special Projects

**About the Alabama Campaign for Grade-Level Reading**

Alabama Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is part of Governor Ivey’s Strong Start Strong Finish initiative that works through local Children’s Policy Councils to improve third grade reading proficiency using learning out-of-the-classroom methods. The program is built around five pillars Birth to 8 systems, Family Engagement, Health, and Wellness, Learning Outside of the Classroom, and supports for struggling readers, children with special needs, and English Language Learners.

**Eligibility to Apply**

The Department of Early Childhood Education accepts grant applications by invitation only from Children’s Policy Councils to develop/operate the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading initiative in 15 Alabama counties.

**Funding**

The Department of Early Childhood Education will award a one-time $20,000 grant to fund Campaign for Grade-Level Reading projects that strengthen, innovate, and boost third grade reading proficiency in the following areas:

* School Readiness
* Language and Literacy (Birth to 4)
* Summer Learning
* Supports for struggling readers
* Supports for students with special needs and English Language learners
* After School Programs
* Adult Education
* Family Literacy
* Book purchases for children under 4th grade
* Mental Health wellness
* school attendance
* Immunizations and well checkups
* Child nutrition

**Starting the Online Application Process**

To apply online, applicants will need to set up an account in the Foundant Grant Lifecycle Manager system. If you have already applied through Foundant in a previous year, your information will still be in the system.