



STATE OF ALABAMA  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
 State Superintendent of Education

Alabama  
 State Board  
 of Education

June 17, 2020

**M E M O R A N D U M**

Governor Kay Ivey  
 President

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

Jackie Zeigler  
 District I  
 President Pro Tem

**FROM:** Eric G. Mackey *EGM*  
 State Superintendent of Education

Tracie West  
 District II

**RE:** Improving College and Career Readiness Initiative

Stephanie Bell  
 District III

I am pleased to inform you of the continuing partnership between the Alabama Community College System (ACCS), the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), and the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) through the **Improving College and Career Readiness Initiative**. The purpose of the initiative is to decrease the retention and dropout rates that occur in Grades 8-11, increase the number of students graduating college and career ready, reduce the number of students entering postsecondary education requiring remedial courses, and promote collaboration among teachers to implement more rigorous curricula.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.  
 District IV

**Initiative Focus Area #1:** Building Literacy and Numeracy in High-Quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs provides CTE educators an opportunity to transform existing CTE course curricula and redesign instructional delivery models so that academic core and technical skills are infused throughout CTE courses and programs of study.

Tommie T. Stewart, Ph.D.  
 District V

**Initiative Focus Area #2:** Elements of College Readiness Courses prepares selected students in high schools to enter an ACCS institution with the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful in completing coursework, specifically aligned with ACCS's expectations in an effort to avoid the need for developmental coursework at the community college level.

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.  
 District VI

**Initiative Focus Area #3:** Elements of High School Readiness provides classroom teachers with high-quality, evidence-based instructional materials that are aligned to Alabama Courses of Study standards. Each can be used as a stand-alone course or used to supplement and support instruction in literacy and mathematics. In addition, these instructional materials provide a framework for the development of laboratory courses and ensure that all students in Grades 8-11 can achieve mastery of literacy and mathematics standards. Since laboratory courses do not introduce new instructional standards, students may only receive elective credit when appropriate.

Jeff Newman  
 District VII  
 Vice President

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.  
 District VIII

Schools interested in participating in Building Literacy and Numeracy in High-Quality CTE Programs, Elements of College Readiness, and/or Elements of High School Readiness will complete an [online application](#) in order to be considered in the selection process. In addition, teachers selected will be required to complete one summer training session that will be delivered virtually during the weeks of July 20-24 and August 10-14, 2020, as well as participate in on-going virtual professional learning opportunities throughout the school year. This professional learning opportunity is provided at no cost to the participants or local education agency (LEA); however, the LEA must be responsible for its teachers' lodging, meals, and travel for any face-to-face meetings, if necessary. Schools that previously participated in the initiative should also complete the application. If selected, participating

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
 Secretary and  
 Executive Officer

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schools will be required to complete a memorandum of agreement (MOA) that outlines responsibilities and expectations for all participants. An online application must be completed in order for schools/school systems to receive an MOA. As a reminder, newly assigned teachers must participate in training in order to be approved course instructors. [Click here to access the online application.](#) **Applications are due by Monday, July 6, 2020.**

For any questions regarding this process, please contact Ms. Jennifer Burt, Education Administrator, Career and Technical Education/Workforce Development, by email at [jburt@alsde.edu](mailto:jburt@alsde.edu) or by telephone at (334) 694-4876 or Mrs. Cristin Dillard, Education Administrator, Instructional Services Section, by email at [cdillard@alsde.edu](mailto:cdillard@alsde.edu) or by telephone at (334) 694-4768.

EGM/CMD/LM

cc: Dr. Daniel Boyd  
Dr. Elisabeth Davis  
Mr. Sean J. Stevens  
Ms. Jennifer Burt  
Mrs. Cristin Dillard

**FY20-2089**