00:12:16 Speaker 3

Good morning everyone.

00:12:18 Speaker 3

Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning.

00:12:22 Speaker 3

My name is Lindsay Brown and I'm the executive director of Just Read, Florida! and the Just Read, Florida! office is excited to offer our first webinar of this school year and our first webinar is focusing on the New Worlds Reading.

00:12:36 Speaker 3

And so we have two special guests with us.

00:12:38 Speaker 3

Today we have Doctor Shante Duggins for the New World Reading Initiative and she's from the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning and we also have Jennifer Canning to share with you about new World breeding scholarship accounts from step up for students.

00:12:54 Speaker 3

So I'm going to go ahead and.

00:12:57 Speaker 3

Hand it over to Doctor Shante Duggins, and she's going to start sharing wonderful information with you about the New World reading initiatives.

00:13:06 Speaker 2

Awesome, thank you so much and good morning everyone.

00:13:10 Speaker 2

So excited to be here with you all today.

00:13:12 Speaker 2

If we have not met previously.

00:13:14 Speaker 2

My name is Shante Diggins.

00:13:16 Speaker 2

I'm at the University of Florida Lastinger Center for learning.

00:13:20 Speaker 2

We have lots of exciting things happening at the Lastinger center.

00:13:24 Speaker 2

We've been around for 20 years.

00:13:25 Speaker 2

For those of you who may be.

00:13:26 Speaker 2

Unfamiliar with who we are and what we do, we provide support for both educators and parents and families.

00:13:35 Speaker 2

Now with the New World Reading Initiative, some of you may be familiar with some of our work such as.

00:13:43 Speaker 2

The literacy matrix.

00:13:45 Speaker 2

We're actually now accepting.

00:13:50 Speaker 2

Uh, pre enrollment information for the literacy matrix so I can share some information in the chat about that.

00:13:56 Speaker 2

We also do work in the space of early learning, mathematics, leadership and coaching and data and technology.

00:14:10 Speaker 2

The new goals reading initiative. We are the administrator for the new rules reading initiative. It's a family literacy engagement program that was recently established by statute under the guidance of former Speaker Chris Sprowls, and it is Florida's first statewide book distribution program of its kind. Our vision is.

00:14:30 Speaker 2

To provide resources to children and families and to create at home libraries for K5 students who are not yet reading on grade level. And we'll talk a bit about the eligibility criteria.

00:14:42 Speaker 2

We also aim to build caregivers confidence and capacities to support their own kids at home by providing meaningful literacy resources, tips and strategies for them.

00:14:55 Speaker 2

We recognize the value in partnership and so we partner with everyone and anyone both at in.

00:15:02 Speaker 2

School school districts and community organizations to support children and families.

00:15:07 Speaker 2

And we're also able to receive corporate tax payers can make contributions to new roles and sustain the program beyond the initial investment that the state has made.

00:15:17 Speaker 2

So we're super grateful for that.

00:15:19 Speaker 2

And then we've recently added teacher professional development, so to develop teacher experts in the science of reading through micro credentials.

00:15:27 Speaker 2

And teacher professional development that creates a home in school connection and literacy.

00:15:33 Speaker 2

So we've been pretty busy since we've started last year, but this is what we've been up to.

00:15:40 Speaker 2

So a little bit about our eligibility criteria.

00:15:44 Speaker 2

The the the New World Reading Initiative is designed for K5 students who attend public or charter schools in our state who are not yet reading on grade level. So these are students who have been identified based on the the new fast as not yet.

00:16:04 Speaker 2

Reading on grade level or students who receive either Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction in reading.

00:16:11 Speaker 2

And I'll, I'll.

00:16:11 Speaker 2

Add here that we're working with the Florida Department of Education to receive data to determine student eligibility.

00:16:24 Speaker 2

So in year we we hired a number of engagement team specialists across the state and we're excited to share some highlights from our year one.

00:16:34 Speaker 2

You can see some photos here.

00:16:36 Speaker 2

We've been busy out and about in communities working with schools and school districts we have.

00:16:42 Speaker 2

People located across the state and region, so we have somewhat a couple people in the Panhandle, NE central SW and SE Florida.

00:16:50 Speaker 2

Again, the purpose is to really engage with communities engaged with schools and school districts.

00:16:56 Speaker 2

We've sponsored literacy nights with schools.

00:17:00 Speaker 2

We've worked with community organizations to table at different events to get the information out, because remember that the new rules reading initiative, it's an opt in program.

00:17:11 Speaker 2

So in order for families to take advantage of the resources that we provide, they have to go to our website.

00:17:17 Speaker 2

At newworldreading.com to apply to participate and so our goal has been to get the information out there to as many families as possible in order for them to take advantage of the resources that we that we provide.

00:17:36 Speaker 2

We've received a ton of feedback from families just sharing how positive the new rules reading initiative has been for for their family, but this one is really special.

00:17:48 Speaker 2

It's from a student and it reads.

00:17:51 Speaker 2

I like that my parents don't always have to buy me books.

00:17:54 Speaker 2

I can get them in the mail.

00:17:56 Speaker 2

It's also kind of fun.

00:17:57 Speaker 2

It makes me feel like reading more because they're mine.

00:18:01 Speaker 2

I like to read all kinds of books when I get a book in the mail with my name on it on them.

00:18:06 Speaker 2

Box I feel like I'm special and again this one just makes me smile.

00:18:11 Speaker 2

It's from a student and we know that providing books and resources to families it's it's really life changing and that's what we're hearing from a number of families who are participating.

00:18:25 Speaker 2

All right, so to share some numbers to date.

00:18:29 Speaker 2

And this is as of we just started delivering books in October for this school year.

00:18:34 Speaker 2

Here, so based on data that we have from the 2122 school year, we estimate that over 556,000 students are eligible across the state. So again these are students who are not yet reading.

00:18:47 Speaker 2

On grade level.

00:18:49 Speaker 2

So far for this school year we have 125,000 students approximately who are enrolled and these are eligible.

00:18:57 Speaker 2

Since we still have a number of students who are pending based on additional data that we receive from the state, that will help us to determine whether or not those students are in fact eligible and we've shipped over 227,000 books so far, and that those numbers continue to increase every day. And again, our goal.

00:19:17 Speaker 2

Is to reach as many students as possible.

00:19:22 Speaker 2

All right, so I'll share a little bit about the resources.

00:19:27 Speaker 2

So in addition to providing books to students and again we work with the Florida Department of Education to VET and approve all of our titles before we send them out.

00:19:38 Speaker 2

We also send literacy resources to families, and that's a.

00:19:43 Speaker 2

An important part of our initiative because we want to support.

00:19:46 Speaker 2

Port families and children you know, really sharing that experience of a book together, and so we are creating again our book lists, in consultation with the gestri Florida office and those the list for year one is actually posted on their website and I can put that in the chat in.

00:20:04 Speaker 2

A bit as well.

00:20:06 Speaker 2

We're creating interactive reading guides for each.

00:20:09 Speaker 2

Book and these resources are also housed on our website, and we're also posting on our website a series of videos so families could see what the strategies look like in action.

00:20:22 Speaker 2

So when we talk about, you know selecting you know vocabulary words and what does that look like based on a book that.

00:20:29 Speaker 2

That they're receiving at home.

00:20:31 Speaker 2

So again, super excited to have those resources available completely free of charge to families and educators, really, anyone on our website and we'll continue to add to our website monthly.

00:20:46 Speaker 2

Let's see so for K through two students, the interactive reading guides are printed with the books and actually mailed to the homes of children for and all all of our resources again are on our website, and so we have bookmarks that we're creating for three through five that are mailed with the.

00:21:07 Speaker 2

Books that are sent to the homes of children.

00:21:09 Speaker 2

And here's an example of what an interactive reading guide looks like for for students, so again, it's it's intended to support the family to support their caregivers in in having that shared reading experience at home.

00:21:27 Speaker 2

Our team is working to develop a scope and sequence for our word work that's aligned with the Florida and best DLA standards for this for this school year.

00:21:39 Speaker 2

All right, so we'll talk a little bit about our outreach and engagement. So last year, we mailed twice. Actually Flyers to every school across the state, over 700,000 Flyers, and we're starting that again for this school year. Flyers started going out, I believe.

00:22:00 Speaker 2

Last week, again, across the entire state, so we've updated our Flyers.

00:22:05 Speaker 2

We're shipping them to schools across the.

00:22:07 Speaker 2

State we've heard from a number of schools that they didn't know what to do with the Flyers, and so we've included again a like a directional sheet.

00:22:17 Speaker 2

And so we're just asking, please please identify students who meet our eligibility criteria.

00:22:24 Speaker 2

Students who are not yet reading on grade level and please send those Flyers.

00:22:27 Speaker 2

Home to those families again, it is an opt in program so they have to go to our website to enroll.

00:22:34 Speaker 2

We've included a QR code so it's easy the the application is very easy.

00:22:40 Speaker 2

It could be done on a cell phone and so again the Flyers are are coming to schools across the state.

00:22:47 Speaker 2

So please share the Flyers with students who are eligible in order for them to enroll.

00:22:53 Speaker 2

And this is what the front side of the New Flyer looks like.

00:22:59 Speaker 2

Alright, so I'll also put in the chat in.

00:23:02 Speaker 2

Just a moment.

00:23:04 Speaker 2

Our links to our toolkit.

00:23:07 Speaker 2

So we created toolkits for districts and for schools.

00:23:13 Speaker 2

And so the the thinking is we want to make it really easy for you all to share the info.

00:23:18 Speaker 2

Nation and so we have ready to may we just copy everything is copy paste.

00:23:25 Speaker 2

Everything has been trans created in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, and so the idea again is to to get the information out.

00:23:33 Speaker 2

If you can scan the QR code that's on the screen right now.

00:23:38 Speaker 2

It'll take you directly to the school toolkit and we have sample messaging from principals to teachers or teachers to parents.

00:23:46 Speaker 2

We have the Flyers we have.

00:23:49 Speaker 2

A recorded phone screen.

00:23:51 Speaker 2

A number of social media resources.

00:23:54 Speaker 2

Again, just copy paste ready to use resources.

00:23:58 Speaker 2

So I'm I'm hopeful that you can scan this QR code and and you'll have the tool.

00:24:03 Speaker 2

The school toolkit at your fingertips.

00:24:09 Speaker 2

This is just a screenshot of some of the sample messaging that's included in the toolkit.

00:24:15 Speaker 2

Again, we're trying to make it really easy to share the information.

00:24:20 Speaker 2

This is a another example of sample messaging here that's available in our toolkit that can be shared.

00:24:27 Speaker 2

With parents.

00:24:29 Speaker 2

We have samples of social media posts.

00:24:32 Speaker 2

Again you can copy paste.

00:24:34 Speaker 2

We would love for you to tag us in any posts that you send out regarding new rules.

00:24:39 Speaker 2

Reading initiative.

00:24:41 Speaker 2

And here are some other resources and we have QR codes.

00:24:44 Speaker 2

Our logos.

00:24:45 Speaker 2

We have a ton of photos that you can use as well.

00:24:50 Speaker 2

So coming up for in this school year, I mentioned our engagement team.

00:24:55 Speaker 2

So in addition to sending books and resources to families, we would love to partner.

00:25:02 Speaker 2

With schools or.

00:25:03 Speaker 2

School districts or community organizations to engage right?

00:25:08 Speaker 2

And so we can coast host.

00:25:10 Speaker 2

Or Co host literacy nights.

00:25:13 Speaker 2

If you have any academic nights coming up if you wanted us to table at an event that you have at your school, or something that's happening in your organize in your community, we would be happy to do that.

00:25:26 Speaker 2

We've attended PTA or PTO meetings.

00:25:30 Speaker 2

Any opportunity to get in front of children.

00:25:33 Speaker 2

And families and educators.

00:25:34 Speaker 2

Again, we would love, love, love to take advantage of that.

00:25:38 Speaker 2

And so I'll share our e-mail address at the end and you can feel free to e-mail us if you would like for us to.

00:25:43 Speaker 2

Come out to.

00:25:44 Speaker 2

Your school or to your district to support.

00:25:46 Speaker 2

Your children and families.

00:25:52 Speaker 2

Uhm, so we have.

00:25:54 Speaker 2

We've been asked for students.

00:25:57 Speaker 2

Or or list.

00:25:58 Speaker 2

Of students who are actually eligible and enrolled in the New World Reading initiative, and so at every district, there is a district point of contact.

00:26:09 Speaker 2

And we've shared, UM.

00:26:12 Speaker 2

Data with the district points of contact regarding eligible students who are enrolled in the new rules reading initiative.

00:26:20 Speaker 2

And so our.

00:26:21 Speaker 2

My question to you is now that you all have access to those data, how can we reach more eligible students and so please reach out to your district point of contact.

00:26:32 Speaker 2

To identify the the students who are eligible and enrolled and then reach out to those who you know are eligible but not yet enrolled and so thank you again for getting the information out there to as many families as possible.

00:26:53 Speaker 2

Here's another quote, this one from a parent.

00:26:59 Speaker 2

It reads my daughter is a struggling reader, so to be a part of this program is awesome.

00:27:04 Speaker 2

The book program has encouraged my child reading, which has improved her whole life for her now to feel comfortable enough just to pick up a book that has been sent to her has changed her.

00:27:15 Speaker 2

Now she says, hey mom, I'm going to sit and read.

00:27:18 Speaker 2

That didn't happen before.

00:27:19 Speaker 2

Or so again, we are really changing the trajectories for our students, who are typically reluctant readers and providing not only them but also their families with resources to support them at home.

00:27:33 Speaker 2

So we are really grateful for to have this opportunity to share and thank.

00:27:37 Speaker 2

You all again.

00:27:39 Speaker 2

We ask that you help us to get additional eligible students enrolled.

00:27:45 Speaker 2

Be an ambassador for the program.

00:27:47 Speaker 2

Share with other educators.

00:27:49 Speaker 2

Share with families.

00:27:50 Speaker 2

Share with communities.

00:27:52 Speaker 2

We've attended a number of conferences where people still have not heard about the new rules reading initiative, so please share very widely and follow us on social media.

00:28:01 Speaker 2

We'd love for you to to tag us.

00:28:04 Speaker 2

To follow us, if you're sharing anything about families that have provided you with feedback, we'd love to hear that as.

00:28:10 Speaker 2

Well and again, thank you.

00:28:13 Speaker 2

Here's our information.

00:28:14 Speaker 2

I'll put some things in the chat, but I wanted to leave a sufficient amount of time for any questions or comments.

00:28:22 Speaker 2

From the group.

00:28:25 Speaker 2

And I'm going to be putting a few things.

00:28:27 Speaker 2

In the chat.

00:28:32 Speaker 2

Alright, so where can I find the parent toolkit so?

00:28:36 Speaker 2

We don't have.

00:28:37 Speaker 2

A parent toolkit, but we do have a a toolkit for for districts and for schools, so I'll.

00:28:45 Speaker 2

Put that in the chat right now.

00:28:48 Speaker 2

And I think.

00:28:51 Speaker 2

I think it'll go to everyone.

00:29:02 Speaker 2

If the F.

00:29:03 Speaker 2

LDOE is sharing data with you as who as to who is eligible. Is there way to.

00:29:07 Speaker 2

Share that with.

00:29:08 Speaker 2

Schools they want to know who is eligible and not yet enrolled and and so the data that we receive from the Dewey is data that districts already provide to them.

00:29:18 Speaker 2

So you all have access to that information based on.

00:29:23 Speaker 2

Students who scored below Benchmark run fast as well as students who are receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction.

00:29:32 Speaker 2

So use the data that you have access to to identify students who are eligible.

00:29:36 Speaker 2

But not yet enrolled.

00:29:41 Speaker 2

Uh, another question, can we share your e-mail with schools so they can contact you for parents?

00:29:46 Speaker 2

Yeah, of course we would love.

00:29:49 Speaker 2

We would love that, so I'm leaving it up on the screen here for you to to grab that information.

00:29:55 Speaker 2

Uhm, Heather, I'm having issues downloading the data from the SFP I emailed but haven't heard back.

00:30:02 Speaker 2

Uhm, OK, yes, thank you for that message, Heather.

00:30:07 Speaker 2

We do have a a how to guide that should have accompanied the the initial e-mail that you received so.

00:30:16 Speaker 2

Do e-mail this e-mail address again and just say hey, can you send that to me again or we have someone who could actually walk you through?

00:30:26 Speaker 2

Uhm, the information as well so please e-mail us and sorry if you have not received a response.

00:30:36 Speaker 2

I'm putting information in the chat regarding the.

00:30:41 Speaker 2

The literacy matrix as well.

00:30:45 Speaker 2

If I can copy and paste it over, what other questions are coming up?

00:30:51 Speaker 2

Do families have to renew their enrollment each year?

00:30:55 Speaker 2

No, once an eligible family is enrolled, they actually remain enrolled unless they decide to opt out until the the student gets to.

00:31:06 Speaker 2

You know graduates from 5th.

00:31:08 Speaker 2

Grade and that that is regardless of you know their improvement in their reading score, so of course we want students to to be more proficient readers.

00:31:17 Speaker 2

But regardless of you know their improvement, they actually remain enrolled.

00:31:21 Speaker 2

All we ask is that they update their their enrollment information.

00:31:26 Speaker 2

So for example, we.

00:31:26 Speaker 2

Know that families move.

00:31:28 Speaker 2

You know they.

00:31:30 Speaker 2

They can also update their their interests.

00:31:32 Speaker 2

So on our enrollment application, families can select up to.

00:31:37 Speaker 2

3 topics of that are of interest to to their students and then based on their selection we send we match the topics to particular titles so they could always update that information monthly as well.

00:31:54 Speaker 2

Uhm, for grades three through 5 below level is levels one and two on fast, uh, so we actually thank you for that question.

00:32:03 Speaker 2

We actually have not yet received data for the progress monitoring one, and so we are awaiting.

00:32:12 Speaker 2

The receiver of that information in order to determine eligibility for this school year.

00:32:19 Speaker 2

So we are still waiting on on those data to come through.

00:32:24 Speaker 3

You would be able.

00:32:25 Speaker 3

To identify students from last year that scored a level one or two on FSA and also at the you know, school and district level.

00:32:36 Speaker 3

You already know which students scored a level one or two on PM one, and so you would be able to identify students that way.

00:32:46 Speaker 3

The UF Lastinger Center just isn't able to.

00:32:50 Speaker 3

They can like pre roll pre enroll.

00:32:52 Speaker 3

They just aren't technically enrolled in the program yet because the department is still trying to clean up data from PM one in order to share that with the Lastinger center.

00:33:04 Speaker 2

Thank you, Lindsey.

00:33:05 Speaker 2

OK.

00:33:07 Speaker 3

Thank you so much Doctor Duggan for sharing with us this morning.

00:33:09 Speaker 2

There are a few more questions.

00:33:12 Speaker 2

Do we have?

00:33:13 Speaker 2

A couple more minutes.

00:33:15 Speaker 2

There additional questions are coming through UM.

00:33:15 Speaker 3

Yes, yes.

00:33:22 Speaker 2

Let's see OK so I someone I can see your chat, Colleen.

00:33:30 Speaker 2

Someone is under a tornado watch and wants the recording OK.

00:33:35 Speaker 3

The recording will be posted on our website.

00:33:40 Speaker 2

OK Brandy, we could send you the PDF, so if you e-mail us.

00:33:43 Speaker 2

Uhm, requesting the toolkit we can send that to you in.

00:33:47 Speaker 2

A PDF format.

00:33:54 Speaker 2

My yes Jennifer is going to talk about the scholarship portion of New Worlds.

00:33:59 Speaker 2

That's for from step up.

00:34:07 Speaker 2

Yes, we'll send updated data regarding students who.

00:34:10 Speaker 2

Are eligible and.

00:34:11 Speaker 2

Enrolled we're hoping to do that monthly, and so you should have access to those data in the SFTP folder, so thank you for that question and.

00:34:23 Speaker 2

We are adding the ID to the data as well, so that should make it easier for you all.

00:34:29 Speaker 2

So thank you for that question.

00:34:33 Speaker 2

We had a parent say their address wasn't identified or recognized.

00:34:36 Speaker 2

How can that be fixed?

00:34:38 Speaker 2

The parents, in order to be eligible, they have to have a valid Florida.

00:34:44 Speaker 2

Address and and if there's an issue where there's a family that.

00:34:50 Speaker 2

Does not have a you know a mailing address if they're if they're homeless, for example, then you can e-mail us and or or work with the family, right?

00:34:58 Speaker 2

To think about if they can use a neighbors address, you know that's happened before a church.

00:35:04 Speaker 2

You know, a friend.

00:35:05 Speaker 2

Something of that nature.

00:35:06 Speaker 2

So if if there's an issue around that, you can.

00:35:09 Speaker 2

E-mail us directly and we can help.

00:35:14 Speaker 2

Nikki, your question is, can we see who has enrolled?

00:35:17 Speaker 2

Yes, you can.

00:35:19 Speaker 2

Every district has a district point of contact and they have access to to those data.

00:35:25 Speaker 2

We do ask that you share data within your district in a secure way, so don't don't e-mail it.

00:35:33 Speaker 2

Which is why we send it through the secure or secure platform, and so we can't send personally identifiable information via e-mail.

00:35:43 Speaker 2

And so your district point of contact has that has those data and just send it securely in your district.

00:35:52 Speaker 2

OK.

00:35:56 Speaker 3

I see, uh, question about eligibility.

00:35:56

Right?

00:35:58 Speaker 3

Yeah, and I'm going to put in the chat the eligibility for the New World Reading Initiative that was shared with district reading contacts.

00:36:08 Speaker 3

Within the last couple months and so it's it's pretty detailed based on data for K through 5.

00:36:11 Speaker 2

Thank you.

00:36:17 Speaker 2

Thank you and let me add.

00:36:18 Speaker 2

Thank you Lindsay in year one because we did not so last year when we first started we didn't have.

00:36:24 Speaker 2

Some data to verify students. We recognized that there were maybe about approximately 60,000 students who had enrolled and received books and resources who were not actually eligible, and so for those students they have been grandfathered in, and so they will continue to.

00:36:44 Speaker 2

Receive books and resources, but moving forward we are going to be verifying student eligibility before they actually receive books and resources.

00:37:04 Speaker 2

OK, anonymous attendee with the address issue.

00:37:06 Speaker 2

Yeah just e-mail us and we can look into that.

00:37:12 Speaker 2

Uhm, Katie, the e-mail.

00:37:13 Speaker 2

The e-mail came from.

00:37:15 Speaker 2

Erica Fritz Oaks regarding the.

00:37:19 Speaker 2

The access to the SFTP as well as the step to step step by step guide.

00:37:27 Speaker 2

Alright, thank you.

00:37:30 Speaker 2

Yes I will share information Linda about the literacy matrix.

00:37:34 Speaker 2

I'm gonna put it in the chat, probably after I get to the end of the questions.

00:37:40 Speaker 2

Ah, how do you know who your district point of contact is?

00:37:43 Speaker 2

We have a list for that and I'm going to put that in the chat as well.

00:37:47 Speaker 2

Let's see.

00:37:51 Speaker 2

Alright, so uhm, I posted the book list that's on the Louise website for year one and a link to the district point of contact for this year and then as soon as I can get to the information regarding the literacy matrix, I will put that in the chat as well.

00:38:11 Speaker 2

All right, I think we've made it to the end and I'm at time, Lindsey.

00:38:15 Speaker 2

So thank you all.

00:38:17 Speaker 2

Feel free to e-mail if you have additional questions.

00:38:22 Speaker 3

Again, thank you so much, Doctor Duggan.

00:38:26 Speaker 3

It's just so exciting to hear about the New World Reading Initiative and the opportunity that eligible students can receive free books in their home every month.

00:38:37 Speaker 3

So now we are ready to hear about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts.

00:38:42 Speaker 3

And it looks like Jennifer is ready to begin.

00:38:45 Speaker 1

I sure am.

00:38:46 Speaker 1

Can everybody hear me OK?

00:38:48 Speaker 1

Yes perfect.

00:38:50 Speaker 1

So my name is Jen Canning.

00:38:52 Speaker 1

I will step up for students and I'm here to talk to you about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts today and these are scholarships that help struggling readers afford the support they need to succeed.

00:39:03 Speaker 1

So step up for students who are not familiar with this.

00:39:05 Speaker 1

We actually administer 4 statewide scholarship programs across the state, the first being the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program, and that helps middle lower to middle income families.

00:39:18 Speaker 1

We also have the FS program which serves 2 populations, again a lower to middle.

00:39:24 Speaker 1

A family group, but also helps students who have unique abilities.

00:39:29 Speaker 1

And then we have our hope scholarship for students who may be bullied or victims of violence.

00:39:34 Speaker 1

And then I'm the director of the New World Reading Scholarship accounts, which helps K through five public school students who struggle with reading.

00:39:42 Speaker 1

Now the reading scholarship.

00:39:44 Speaker 1

Was created in 2018 and then during last year's legislative session it was merged with the new.

00:39:51 Speaker 1

World reading initiatives.

00:39:53 Speaker 1

So the new rules reading initiative has two wings, the first being the free book program that Shante talked to us about and the other side being scholarship which step up for students administers.

00:40:06 Speaker 1

So who qualifies for the scholarship?

00:40:08 Speaker 1

So this is going to sound awfully familiar.

00:40:11 Speaker 1

So in previous years, the scholarship was only for grades three through 5.

00:40:18 Speaker 1

And then last year when it was merged with the New World Reading Initiative, the Legislature expanded eligibility to include K through two as well, and so Florida public and charter school students, who either in last year scored below a Level 3.

00:40:37 Speaker 1

On the ELA would qualify students this year in grades three through five who were scoring a level one or A2 on the.

00:40:46 Speaker 1

Best or students in K through two who are identified with a substantial reading deficiency would all qualify.

00:40:54 Speaker 1

One difference between our eligibility and the book distribution eligibility is that funding priority by law has to be given to English language learners.

00:41:05 Speaker 1

So if a student is enrolled.

00:41:06 Speaker 1

In a program or receiving services specifically designed for LL, then that student would receive funding priority.

00:41:17 Speaker 1

Another difference is students do have to re qualify for the scholarship every year just to make sure.

00:41:23 Speaker 1

You know, if a student is no longer struggling with reading then they would not receive those extra funds.

00:41:29 Speaker 1

In the following year.

00:41:33 Speaker 1

OK, let's talk about the scholarship.

00:41:35 Speaker 1

So the new World Reading scholarship accounts are education savings account and this is kind of a new concept.

00:41:44 Speaker 1

It's a lot like a health savings account, and so we have a video that helps explain what an ESA is.

00:41:56 Speaker 5

What is an education savings account?

00:41:58 Speaker 5

An education savings account or ESA?

00:42:01 Speaker 5

Is a state.

00:42:02 Speaker 5

Scholarship program that allows families to personalize the education of their children.

00:42:07 Speaker 5

For the new.

00:42:08 Speaker 5

World Reading scholarship accounts.

00:42:10 Speaker 5

ESA funds can cover the cost of instructional materials.

00:42:14 Speaker 5

Great technology items.

00:42:16 Speaker 5

Summer literacy programs and more. How do ESA's work? The state sends the funds to a scholarship funding organization like step up for students.

00:42:28 Speaker 5

The scholarship funding organization puts the funds into the students account.

00:42:32 Speaker 5

Families then use the funds to help cover the cost of educational services.

00:42:36 Speaker 5

Products step up for students has created a platform that helps families manage their students scholarship funds.

00:42:44 Speaker 5

This platform makes it easy to shop for educational services and products from a variety of education service providers.

00:42:52 Speaker 5

Families can use scholarship funds to pay providers directly or get reimbursed for out of pocket purchases.

00:42:59 Speaker 5

Unused funds can roll over to pay for future expenses.

00:43:04 Speaker 5

Today, thousands of families across the country are using ESA's to personalize their child's education. Learn more about the New World Reading scholarship accounts and how ESA funds can help your student at stepupforstudents.org/reading.

00:43:26 Speaker 1

OK, so that went pretty fast, but I'm still going to explain every part of that. So the first being how the funds can be used so we know it's a $500.00 scholarship and those funds can be put towards part time tutoring, which is a very popular option. Summer and after school literacy programs, instructional materials.

00:43:47 Speaker 1

Including books, desktop, laptop computers and tablets or curriculum related to reading or literacy.

00:43:56 Speaker 1

So how did these students apply for the scholarship? So first they would visit stepupforstudents.org back slash reading I'm going to click on that real quick just to show you what that looks like.

00:44:07 Speaker 1

So here is our web page for the reading scholarship and families would simply click on this.

00:44:13 Speaker 1

Apply now to be taken to the application platform.

00:44:18 Speaker 1

OK, so once they click that apply, now they'll create a guardian profile and then add students to their account.

00:44:25 Speaker 1

This is super quick and easy.

00:44:26 Speaker 1

I'm actually going to walk you all through that in just a little bit and it's just like setting up an account on any website.

00:44:32 Speaker 1

I would specifically equate it to setting up an account on like a banking website.

00:44:38 Speaker 1

Just like an online banking website, so ESA's are essentially a bank account, so there's a lot of security around that, and we'll get into that a little bit late.

00:44:47 Speaker 1

And then the third step is that they'll complete the application.

00:44:50 Speaker 1

Most of the information is going to be pulled in from when they create their guardian profile.

00:44:55 Speaker 1

And add students.

00:44:56 Speaker 1

I'm going to walk you through the application process and you're going to.

00:44:58 Speaker 1

See how quick and easy that is.

00:45:02 Speaker 1

OK, so an important note. Schools and providers should not be completing guardian profiles and applications on parents behalf. So like I mentioned, ESA's are like bank accounts and only the parents and guardians should have access to that ESA.

00:45:16 Speaker 1

The other really important thing is that step up for students mostly communicates via e-mail with parents and guardians, and so when they create their account, it's really important that they use an e-mail address that they're checking off in.

00:45:31 Speaker 1

Sometimes we'll hear from parents and they're confused.

00:45:34 Speaker 1

They're not hearing from us.

00:45:35 Speaker 1

And then we'll check to see what e-mail address.

00:45:36 Speaker 1

We have on file and it'll be like junk maillikegmail.com right? And so they they didn't want to get spam from us and so I'll walk you through a little later how parents can can tell us what types of communications they want from us.

00:45:53 Speaker 1

OK, and you saw in the video that we have created a platform to help manage DSA funds.

00:45:59 Speaker 1

So our platform is called Emma and that's our education market assistant and so we are going to see lots of different features of Emma throughout my presentation today and the first stop is going to be creating.

00:46:13 Speaker 1

An account, so we're going to go through a demo together for the account creation.

00:46:17 Speaker 1

Like I said, it's a lot like creating an online account for a.

00:46:24 Speaker 1

I think, and so for this part I'm going to show screenshots and then we're moving to a live demo.

00:46:31 Speaker 1

There's a lot of having to e-mail or text codes, and so I didn't want to waste your time.

00:46:36 Speaker 1

I'm showing you that today, but I think the screenshots will.

00:46:38 Speaker 1

Do just.

00:46:39 Speaker 1

Fine, so when the families navigate to our website and click on apply now it takes them to Emma.

00:46:45 Speaker 1

And then they would navigate.

00:46:47 Speaker 1

To the sign up that's circled on the screen.

00:46:53 Speaker 1

From there a lot like creating an online bank account.

00:46:57 Speaker 1

They would be sent a code to their e-mail address and it's just a verification code function.

00:47:04 Speaker 1

It's just like every other website that uses a verification code, right?

00:47:09 Speaker 1

So once they type that in, we'll let them know that their e-mail address has been.

00:47:12 Speaker 1

Verified and they can continue to the next.

00:47:14 Speaker 1

Screen and this is where it will start to create their username and password for the website.

00:47:22 Speaker 1

From there there set up their security questions again, just like security questions.

00:47:27 Speaker 1

When you're setting up an online bank account, exact same types of questions.

00:47:33 Speaker 1

Just like every other website, they certify that they agree to our terms and conditions.

00:47:39 Speaker 1

And then they'll move on to creating their guardian profile, so we'll assign them a Guardian ID.

00:47:45 Speaker 1

They'll let us know their marital status and their primary language once they select Spanish.

00:47:50 Speaker 1

Here, everything from there on out will be in Spanish.

00:47:54 Speaker 1

Including the application, the marketplace, all of that.

00:47:58 Speaker 1

So they'll type in their mailing address.

00:48:00 Speaker 1

We do do a verification check to make sure that it's legitimate address, and then if it's the same as if their physical address is the same as their mailing address, they'll just check this box and it'll fill out this information.

00:48:13 Speaker 1

Here and then we also asked them for the excuse me for their contact information.

00:48:21 Speaker 1

So here is where they're able to manage consents, and to say what types of messages they would like to get from.

00:48:29 Speaker 1

Step up for students.

00:48:32 Speaker 1

They're also able to manage their contact preferences, so you see that e-mail is required, but we do also communicate via text and prerecorded phone messages, and sometimes personal phone calls when the situation warrants it.

00:48:49 Speaker 1

OK, from there they just hit save and they have set up their guardian profile.

00:48:53 Speaker 1

Now I have already logged into a test account to make today go a little fast.

00:48:58 Speaker 1

Sure, so this is what the Ms Scholarship portal looks like.

00:49:02 Speaker 1

And one thing I want to point out is in this example that I have pulled up for you.

00:49:08 Speaker 1

This family has submitted an application but they don't have funds yet, and So what they have access to over here is very limited and I'll show you some screenshots later.

00:49:19 Speaker 1

Of what this turns into once funds have been applied to.

00:49:23 Speaker 1

The Sims account.

00:49:25 Speaker 1

So once the Guardian account has been created, the family then has to add students.

00:49:29 Speaker 1

I have a student added already, but I'm going to add another student so you can see what.

00:49:33 Speaker 1

That looks.

00:49:33 Speaker 1

Like so I'm just going to call this.

00:49:37 Speaker 1

And a test.

00:49:38 Speaker 1

So first and last name or required.

00:49:41 Speaker 1

But then we do have lots of optional things as well, including the ID in years past the ID number was required and that really stopped a lot of parents from completing the application because they just couldn't find their ID number.

00:49:56 Speaker 1

And so this.

00:49:56 Speaker 1

Year we work with the.

00:49:57 Speaker 1

Department of Education.

00:49:58 Speaker 1

To make sure that this is no longer required, it makes the process a lot easier.

00:50:04 Speaker 1

Now we do have some rules around the date of birth we want to.

00:50:08 Speaker 1

Make sure that.

00:50:08 Speaker 1

The student it makes sense that their age is falling within grades K through 5.

00:50:16 Speaker 1

From here they select their gender and ethnicity if they're non Hispanic or Latino, race pops up and it's required.

00:50:25 Speaker 1

They would simply save that student, and they're done.

00:50:28 Speaker 1

A family can add as many students as they need to.

00:50:33 Speaker 1

And now I'm going to take you through the application.

00:50:36 Speaker 1

Right now the only application available for this family through the Emma platform is the New World Reading Scholarship accounts application.

00:50:44 Speaker 1

They would simply hit apply.

00:50:47 Speaker 1

OK and select the student so the other student that I had entered had already applied for the scholarship so they're no longer populating in the dropdown, but the student we just created is and you can see how that student information has completely pulled in and the only thing that the parent needs to add at this part.

00:51:07 Speaker 1

At this point is the school and the students grade level.

00:51:12 Speaker 1

The parent will then confirm that the student is enrolled in a Florida public school in K through 5th grade for the current school year and has a substantial reading deficiency.

00:51:23 Speaker 1

The parent is welcome to upload supporting documents.

00:51:26 Speaker 1

A common question that we get is, does uploading a document help my students chances of getting a scholarship?

00:51:34 Speaker 1

And the answer is no.

00:51:36 Speaker 1

So we work with the Department of Education to determine eligibility and all applications.

00:51:42 Speaker 1

Percent, regardless of if they have supporting documents, or.

00:51:45 Speaker 1

Not so parents are.

00:51:47 Speaker 1

Welcome to add documents here, but they do not have to.

00:51:51 Speaker 1

From here, the parent will hit continue and you can see, just like with the students, the Guardians at information is pulled in from when they created their Guardian account.

00:52:01 Speaker 1

And I didn't point this out before, but on both screens, if any information is incorrect, they can simply navigate to that page, fix it, and then navigate back to the application.

00:52:11 Speaker 1

The only thing the parent has to do on this screen, it just let us know their phone type.

00:52:16 Speaker 1

That's because if they've selected that they would like to receive texts from us, we need to know if.

00:52:21 Speaker 1

They have a cell phone on file.

00:52:24 Speaker 1

They would hit continue and at that point the applications done.

00:52:27 Speaker 1

We just ask them to review their information and then they do have to check a box that says that they certify that all the information presented is true and accurate.

00:52:40 Speaker 1

We also let them know that we work with the University of Florida Lastinger Center.

00:52:45 Speaker 1

And we shared our data with them and that by completing this application and submitting it, their data is going to be shared with the last Senior Center for learning and what that data sharing allows us to do is make sure you know there's a lot of overlap between food qualifies for the scholarship and who qualifies for the book distribution program.

00:53:04 Speaker 1

And we want to make sure that.

00:53:06 Speaker 1

We're capturing as many students as possible.

00:53:10 Speaker 1

From here, the Guardian simply needs to sign their name.

00:53:17 Speaker 1

And then they would submit their application.

00:53:21 Speaker 1

And that's it.

00:53:21 Speaker 1

So our application has really been streamlined.

00:53:24 Speaker 1

It's a lot easier than it's been in years past, and we're seeing a really great success rate of parents getting through the application this year.

00:53:34 Speaker 1

You can see here the parent can log in at any time and see what their application status is.

00:53:39 Speaker 1

The status of these two students.

00:53:41 Speaker 1

Is submitted.

00:53:53 Speaker 1

OK, So what are the next steps once that application is submitted you've heard me say a couple of times that step up for students works with the Florida Department of Education to determine eligibility that process could take up to 45.

00:54:06 Speaker 1

Says we're able to beat that in most cases.

00:54:09 Speaker 1

Sometimes there's something extraneous going on, and it takes us a little while longer to identify that.

00:54:14 Speaker 1

You've heard me say a couple times.

00:54:16 Speaker 1

The e-mail is really important, so how will the families know if they've been awarded a scholarship?

00:54:20 Speaker 1

We're going to e-mail them to the e-mail address on file, but I showed you where they can log in and see the status of their.

00:54:27 Speaker 1

Application at any point in time.

00:54:30 Speaker 1

If an awarded if awarded a scholarship, families will receive another e-mail once the students account has been funded and that e-mail will include instructions on how to begin utilizing those funds.

00:54:42 Speaker 1

So let's talk about that.

00:54:44 Speaker 1

Let's talk about how to use.

00:54:45 Speaker 1

Those scholarship funds.

00:54:46 Speaker 1

There are three.

00:54:47 Speaker 1

Different ways that families can utilize their scholarship funds.

00:54:51 Speaker 1

The first is with direct pay providers, so we work with providers across the state, including tutors.

00:54:59 Speaker 1

After school and summer literacy programs and a lot of those providers.

00:55:03 Speaker 1

Have signed up to be direct pay, so that means that families do not have to pay out of pocket and wait to be reimbursed.

00:55:10 Speaker 1

They're paid directly through.

00:55:11 Speaker 1

The Emma account.

00:55:13 Speaker 1

We have also.

00:55:14 Speaker 1

Created my scholar shop which is a lot like an Amazon that's just full of pre approved instructional materials for families where they can again shop directly with their funds through the Emma platform.

00:55:26 Speaker 1

They do not need to pay out of pocket and then the 3rd way is reimbursements where families can pay for products and services.

00:55:33 Speaker 1

Out of pocket and then submit a receipt through Emma for reimbursement.

00:55:38 Speaker 1

So I want to draw your attention over here to the left side of the screen.

00:55:43 Speaker 1

I mentioned earlier that in the example that I was showing you in the demo that family has not been funded yet.

00:55:50 Speaker 1

This is an example of what a family would see once they're funded.

00:55:53 Speaker 1

They now have a tab for reimbursements, and they also have the marketplace tab.

00:55:58 Speaker 1

So through the marketplace tab, they're able to shop.

00:56:00 Speaker 1

For providers.

00:56:01 Speaker 1

This is where they will find the direct providers that they do not have to pay out.

00:56:05 Speaker 1

Of pocket for.

00:56:06 Speaker 1

And that's where they'll be able to navigate to my scholar shop, and then I just wanted to share a quick screenshot of my scholarship.

00:56:14 Speaker 1

And so they'll be able to either navigate to tiles for the items that they're looking for, or they can search for items directly.

00:56:22 Speaker 1

And so again, if they're shopping through our marketplace, they do not need to pay out of pocket.

00:56:27 Speaker 1

The funds go directly from their scholarship account, either to the vendor or to the provider.

00:56:35 Speaker 1

But what happens if a?

00:56:35 Speaker 1

Parent goes to the marketplace and they're not seeing the provider they want.

00:56:39 Speaker 1

They're not seeing the product they want.

00:56:40 Speaker 1

That's not a problem.

00:56:42 Speaker 1

They can always pay for qualifying services and products out of pocket.

00:56:46 Speaker 1

And submit a receipt also through Emma through the reimbursements tab so that they can be reimbursed.

00:56:53 Speaker 1

OK, so how can you help?

00:56:55 Speaker 1

So step up for students does not receive any funding for marketing that new World Reading Scholarship accounts program.

00:57:03 Speaker 1

We do receive some funds to administer the program, but as you can see, an ESA is really a complicated thing to administer and so that's where all of our administrative funding goes, and so.

00:57:15 Speaker 1

To date, since the scholarship was created in 2018, we have never met the program cap and this year our CAP is larger than ever. We can serve 58,000 students this year.

00:57:27 Speaker 1

We opened earlier this month and we're off to a great start. We've already had over 3500 students apply for the scholarship.

00:57:35 Speaker 1

But we really.

00:57:36 Speaker 1

Need help spreading the word, and so we're really relying on districts and community partners and our partners.

00:57:42 Speaker 1

At the last Senior Center to help spread the word about the scholarship program.

00:57:46 Speaker 1

So if you know students who could benefit.

00:57:48 Speaker 1

You can tell their parents to visit stepupforstudents.org, back slash, readingsubs.org, back slash reading also works if you know of a service provider or a vendor that helps struggling readers. They can also go to our website to learn how to participate.

00:58:03 Speaker 1

And we also have Flyers that we provide, and so if you would like a flower, you can e-mail my colleague Melissa.

00:58:11 Speaker 1

Her e-mail address is m.jeremy0@soft.org. That's MJARAMILLO at soft.org, so we really need help.

00:58:24 Speaker 1

Spreading the word.

00:58:25 Speaker 1

We do e-mail the district contacts that the DoD has, and so if you're wondering if you're on that list, that's on the Florida DoD website and that's our contact list that we use to communicate about the new World Reading scholarship accounts.

00:58:44 Speaker 1

OK, let's spend a few minutes.

00:58:45 Speaker 1

Uhm, doing a few questions and answers.

00:58:49 Speaker 1

So a student.

00:58:51 Speaker 1

Yes, so Michelle student can and probably does qualify for both the scholarship and the free book program.

00:58:59 Speaker 1

And so our goal?

00:59:02 Speaker 1

Oh, I need to scroll up.

00:59:03 Speaker 1

I skipped a few.

00:59:04 Speaker 1

Our goal is.

00:59:06 Speaker 1

For students to participate in both because if a student receiving the funds and going to tutoring, it's absolutely going to help them if they go home and have a library that's been curated for them to read from.

00:59:18 Speaker 1

Let me scroll up to.

00:59:19 Speaker 3

The top here.

00:59:20 Speaker 3

There are.

00:59:21 Speaker 3

I just want to clarify real quick.

00:59:23 Speaker 3

There are some slight differences between the eligibility in both programs and the detailed eligibility has been provided to the main district.

00:59:32 Speaker 3

Reading contact in each district.

00:59:35 Speaker 3

But if you want to send an e-mail to me or.

00:59:38 Speaker 3

To the just read at ldoe.org account, we can definitely send that to you as well. It's too long to copy and paste into the chat and it'll get kind of mixed up, so we'd be happy to e-mail that to you so that you can see how the eligibility for the programs are alike and also slightly.

00:59:57 Speaker 1

Yeah, and and just to clarify that eligibility is laid out in statute, and so it gets.

01:00:04 Speaker 1

You know, it's very technical and wonky, and that's why it's a little lengthy and that's why there's just some slight differences between the two programs.

01:00:12 Speaker 1

OK, so this question is from 918, so I believe that was from earlier today. I think I started at 9:24 so so a student must be ELL student along with receiving a level one or two on the fast to qualify. So that is not correct. LL students get priority when it comes to funding.

01:00:32 Speaker 1

But a student does not have to be LL.

01:00:36 Speaker 1

In order to qualify for the scholarship, because we've never hit our program cap before, we've actually never had to.

01:00:47 Speaker 1

There have never been times where a student wasn't LL and therefore wasn't funded, so definitely have all your students apply, whether they're LL or not.

01:00:59 Speaker 1

How does a school or teacher become a provider for the Reading scholarship program?

01:01:02 Speaker 1

That's a great question, so we do have some public schools around the state who are providers.

01:01:09 Speaker 1

So these are schools who kind of thought to themselves. $500.00 per student. We've got a lot of struggling readers we could use that $500.00 to create an after school program.

01:01:19 Speaker 1

So if you navigate to that step up for students website, there's a four providers tab there and it goes through the process of becoming a provider.

01:01:29 Speaker 1

Now coming very soon in the new year.

01:01:33 Speaker 1

All of that is going to change.

01:01:34 Speaker 1

We're also bringing our providers onto the MO platform, and so it's going to be easier than ever to participate as a provider for the reading scholarship program.

01:01:44 Speaker 1

Teachers can also participate on their own as part time tutors and we've got a lot of teachers across the state who are doing that.

01:01:52 Speaker 1

So again, they can just navigate to our website and they'll be able to find information on how to participate.

01:01:59 Speaker 1

There are some laws and rules around who can participate as a provider.

01:02:08 Speaker 1

Things like you know a teacher is going to be able to participate because they have a valid teaching certificate, but you could also have a bachelors or masters degree.

01:02:18 Speaker 1

In reading or literacy, English language arts and qualify.

01:02:22 Speaker 1

So there are some technicalities there.

01:02:25 Speaker 1

But our provider relations team is set up for students will help their providers.

01:02:29 Speaker 1

Through that process.

01:02:32 Speaker 1

OK, what type of instructional materials all are available through my scholarshop?

01:02:37 Speaker 1

Are they aligned to best and who has vetted them?

01:02:41 Speaker 1

So I'm going to navigate back to that page so we can look at that together, so instruction materials that's also laid out.

01:02:50 Speaker 1

What counts as instruction materials.

01:02:52 Speaker 1

Also laid out in statute and rule, it includes laptops, tablets, owners, online software, programs, books, curriculum, things of that nature.

01:03:02 Speaker 1

Uhm, and so that is actually vetted by step up for students compliance team to make sure it matches the letter.

01:03:08 Speaker 1

Of the law.

01:03:09 Speaker 1

Uh, that governs the reading, scholarship program, and so is it aligned to best, no, but what we do always communicate with our scholarship families, especially our new world.

01:03:23 Speaker 1

Reading scholarship families is they should be sitting down and speaking with their students teacher.

01:03:29 Speaker 1

Or speaking with their districts reading and literacy.

01:03:32 Speaker 1

Coach and saying, hey, I have this $500.00. What's the best use of that for my student and so families do receive that instructions for step up for students to make sure that they're using their funds in the way that makes the most sense for their students.

01:03:49 Speaker 1

OK.

01:03:52 Speaker 1

Where do we go to learn more about getting a reading endorsement for teachers for free?

01:03:56 Speaker 1

Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question I do.

01:03:59 Speaker 3

Yes, it is in the chat, doctor Dugan posted it there starting with pre enrollment for the UF Lastinger Center for Learning.

01:04:06 Speaker 3

2223 Flamingo Literacy matrix is open now and she you know had to break it up into a couple pieces.

01:04:14 Speaker 3

But there's a link there that says please share this fire with your educators to pre enroll.

01:04:18 Speaker 3

So pre enrollment.

01:04:19 Speaker 3

For the literacy matrix, which is free for Florida educators, it is currently open for pre enrollment and the next course or semester begins on January 30th.

01:04:31 Speaker 4

Right?

01:04:32 Speaker 1

Now the next question was about Flyers, so if you would like a flyer to share with your students, the easiest way of doing it is making sure that you're added to the district contact list that the Florida Department of Education uses, because that's who step up communicates with regularly about the program.

01:04:51 Speaker 1

We share more than just the flyer.

01:04:52 Speaker 1

We do have Flyers in English and Spanish, but we also share instruction.

01:04:57 Speaker 1

With those district contacts as well.

01:05:00 Speaker 1

But you can also e-mail my colleague Melissa Jeremy oh and just let her know that you would like a new road reading scholarship accounts flyer.

01:05:08 Speaker 1

Let her know if you want it in English and in Spanish, and she'll send that to you, so I'll leave this screen up so you can copy down her e-mail address.

01:05:18 Speaker 1

Move that over there.

01:05:20 Speaker 1

Ah OK, I see a lot of thank yous and then will districts have access to the sample video and supporting documents or Flyers to educate school leaders and parents?

01:05:30 Speaker 1

So the answer is yes.

01:05:31 Speaker 1

One step up for students, emails, districts and we do so at several points throughout the year.

01:05:36 Speaker 1

They've already received a few emails from us, but then they're going to receive.

01:05:42 Speaker 1

Communications around when progress monitoring is occurring and those results are coming in and so we do share that video.

01:05:50 Speaker 1

We do share supporting documents and we do share those Flyers there as well.

01:05:55 Speaker 1

OK, what is the recipient cap? Yep, so we have. There's been enough funding allocated at the state level this year to serve 58,000 students, and so we've been open a little less than a month. You know few weeks, and we've already gotten 3500 applicants so far, so, uh.

01:06:16 Speaker 1

Lot of room to grow and we can serve an awful lot of students this year.

01:06:23 Speaker 1

OK, here's another question about reading endorsement or higher education faculty eligible for the reading endorsement as well.

01:06:34 Speaker 1

Chantelle Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question?

01:06:39 Speaker 2

Do they have a floor of valid Florida teaching certificate?

01:06:44 Speaker 2

That's but e-mail For more information.

01:06:47 Speaker 2

I my colleague Pam Alfaro could respond directly.

01:06:53 Speaker 1

OK, so it looks like we've reached the end of the questions.

01:06:56 Speaker 1

01:07:03 Speaker 1

If you come up with any other questions.

01:07:05 Speaker 1

My phone number is listed on the right hand side of the screen as well as.

01:07:10 Speaker 1

My e-mail on.

01:07:11 Speaker 1

The left hand side of the screen.

01:07:13 Speaker 1

Is the phone number for our separate for student service center and our website?

01:07:18 Speaker 1

You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

01:07:24 Speaker 3

Thank you so much Jen.

01:07:26 Speaker 1

Thank you.

01:07:28 Speaker 3

And thank you both, I'm.

01:07:29 Speaker 3

Excited that we were able to.

01:07:31 Speaker 3

Of Shante and Jen here with us this morning to share information about the New World Reading Initiative and the New World Reading Scholarship accounts.

01:07:40 Speaker 3

They are both just amazing opportunities for eligible students.

01:07:43 Speaker 3

If you think of any questions after the webinar, please feel free to reach out to either Jen with her e-mail that she provided.

01:07:52 Speaker 3

Or the e-mail that Shantae provided.

01:07:54 Speaker 3

You can also reach out directly to just read at fldoe.

01:07:58 Speaker 3

Work and a couple days when we have the recording ready and posted we will get that on our website on the just read Florida Web page under educator resources and then we have a tab for webinars and all of the webinars that we host this year.

01:08:14 Speaker 3

We'll be posting recordings there for viewing, so thank you again.

01:08:19 Speaker 3

For joining us this morning and we hope you all have a wonderful Wednesday.

and it over to Doctor Shante Duggins, and she's going to start sharing wonderful information with you about the New World reading initiatives.

Speaker 2

Awesome, thank you so much and good morning everyone. So excited to be here with you all today. If we have not met previously. My name is Shante Diggins. I'm at the University of Florida Lastinger Center for learning. We have lots of exciting things happening at the Lastinger center. We've been around for 20 years. For those of you who may be. Unfamiliar with who we are and what we do, we provide support for both educators and parents and families. Now with the New World Reading Initiative, some of you may be familiar with some of our work such as. The literacy matrix. We're actually now accepting. Uh, pre enrollment information for the literacy matrix so I can share some information in the chat about that. We also do work in the space of early learning, mathematics, leadership and coaching and data and technology. The new goals reading initiative. We are the administrator for the new rules reading initiative. It's a family literacy engagement program that was recently established by statute under the guidance of former Speaker Chris Sprowls, and it is Florida's first statewide book distribution program of its kind. Our vision is. To provide resources to children and families and to create at home libraries for K5 students who are not yet reading on grade level. And we'll talk a bit about the eligibility criteria. We also aim to build caregivers confidence and capacities to support their own kids at home by providing meaningful literacy resources, tips and strategies for them. We recognize the value in partnership and so we partner with everyone and anyone both at in. School school districts and community organizations to support children and families. And we're also able to receive corporate tax payers can make contributions to new roles and sustain the program beyond the initial investment that the state has made. So we're super grateful for that. And then we've recently added teacher professional development, so to develop teacher experts in the science of reading through micro credentials. And teacher professional development that creates a home in school connection and literacy. So we've been pretty busy since we've started last year, but this is what we've been up to. So a little bit about our eligibility criteria. The the the New World Reading Initiative is designed for K5 students who attend public or charter schools in our state who are not yet reading on grade level. So these are students who have been identified based on the the new fast as not yet. Reading on grade level or students who receive either Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction in reading. And I'll, I'll. Add here that we're working with the Florida Department of Education to receive data to determine student eligibility. So in year we we hired a number of engagement team specialists across the state and we're excited to share some highlights from our year one. You can see some photos here. We've been busy out and about in communities working with schools and school districts we have. People located across the state and region, so we have somewhat a couple people in the Panhandle, NE central SW and SE Florida. Again, the purpose is to really engage with communities engaged with schools and school districts. We've sponsored literacy nights with schools. We've worked with community organizations to table at different events to get the information out, because remember that the new rules reading initiative, it's an opt in program. So in order for families to take advantage of the resources that we provide, they have to go to our website. At newworldreading.com to apply to participate and so our goal has been to get the information out there to as many families as possible in order for them to take advantage of the resources that we that we provide. We've received a ton of feedback from families just sharing how positive the new rules reading initiative has been for for their family, but this one is really special. It's from a student and it reads. I like that my parents don't always have to buy me books. I can get them in the mail. It's also kind of fun. It makes me feel like reading more because they're mine. I like to read all kinds of books when I get a book in the mail with my name on it on them. Box I feel like I'm special and again this one just makes me smile. It's from a student and we know that providing books and resources to families it's it's really life changing and that's what we're hearing from a number of families who are participating. All right, so to share some numbers to date. And this is as of we just started delivering books in October for this school year. Here, so based on data that we have from the 2122 school year, we estimate that over 556,000 students are eligible across the state. So again these are students who are not yet reading. On grade level. So far for this school year we have 125,000 students approximately who are enrolled and these are eligible. Since we still have a number of students who are pending based on additional data that we receive from the state, that will help us to determine whether or not those students are in fact eligible and we've shipped over 227,000 books so far, and that those numbers continue to increase every day. And again, our goal. Is to reach as many students as possible. All right, so I'll share a little bit about the resources. So in addition to providing books to students and again we work with the Florida Department of Education to VET and approve all of our titles before we send them out. We also send literacy resources to families, and that's a. An important part of our initiative because we want to support. Port families and children you know, really sharing that experience of a book together, and so we are creating again our book lists, in consultation with the gestri Florida office and those the list for year one is actually posted on their website and I can put that in the chat in. A bit as well. We're creating interactive reading guides for each. Book and these resources are also housed on our website, and we're also posting on our website a series of videos so families could see what the strategies look like in action. So when we talk about, you know selecting you know vocabulary words and what does that look like based on a book that. That they're receiving at home. So again, super excited to have those resources available completely free of charge to families and educators, really, anyone on our website and we'll continue to add to our website monthly. Let's see so for K through two students, the interactive reading guides are printed with the books and actually mailed to the homes of children for and all all of our resources again are on our website, and so we have bookmarks that we're creating for three through five that are mailed with the. Books that are sent to the homes of children. And here's an example of what an interactive reading guide looks like for for students, so again, it's it's intended to support the family to support their caregivers in in having that shared reading experience at home. Our team is working to develop a scope and sequence for our word work that's aligned with the Florida and best DLA standards for this for this school year. All right, so we'll talk a little bit about our outreach and engagement. So last year, we mailed twice. Actually Flyers to every school across the state, over 700,000 Flyers, and we're starting that again for this school year. Flyers started going out, I believe. Last week, again, across the entire state, so we've updated our Flyers. We're shipping them to schools across the. State we've heard from a number of schools that they didn't know what to do with the Flyers, and so we've included again a like a directional sheet. And so we're just asking, please please identify students who meet our eligibility criteria. Students who are not yet reading on grade level and please send those Flyers. Home to those families again, it is an opt in program so they have to go to our website to enroll. We've included a QR code so it's easy the the application is very easy. It could be done on a cell phone and so again the Flyers are are coming to schools across the state. So please share the Flyers with students who are eligible in order for them to enroll. And this is what the front side of the New Flyer looks like. Alright, so I'll also put in the chat in. Just a moment. Our links to our toolkit. So we created toolkits for districts and for schools. And so the the thinking is we want to make it really easy for you all to share the info. Nation and so we have ready to may we just copy everything is copy paste. Everything has been trans created in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, and so the idea again is to to get the information out. If you can scan the QR code that's on the screen right now. It'll take you directly to the school toolkit and we have sample messaging from principals to teachers or teachers to parents. We have the Flyers we have. A recorded phone screen. A number of social media resources. Again, just copy paste ready to use resources. So I'm I'm hopeful that you can scan this QR code and and you'll have the tool. The school toolkit at your fingertips. This is just a screenshot of some of the sample messaging that's included in the toolkit. Again, we're trying to make it really easy to share the information. This is a another example of sample messaging here that's available in our toolkit that can be shared. With parents. We have samples of social media posts. Again you can copy paste. We would love for you to tag us in any posts that you send out regarding new rules. Reading initiative. And here are some other resources and we have QR codes. Our logos. We have a ton of photos that you can use as well. So coming up for in this school year, I mentioned our engagement team. So in addition to sending books and resources to families, we would love to partner. With schools or. School districts or community organizations to engage right? And so we can coast host. Or Co host literacy nights. If you have any academic nights coming up if you wanted us to table at an event that you have at your school, or something that's happening in your organize in your community, we would be happy to do that. We've attended PTA or PTO meetings. Any opportunity to get in front of children. And families and educators. Again, we would love, love, love to take advantage of that. And so I'll share our e-mail address at the end and you can feel free to e-mail us if you would like for us to. Come out to. Your school or to your district to support. Your children and families. Uhm, so we have. We've been asked for students. Or or list. Of students who are actually eligible and enrolled in the New World Reading initiative, and so at every district, there is a district point of contact. And we've shared, UM. Data with the district points of contact regarding eligible students who are enrolled in the new rules reading initiative. And so our. My question to you is now that you all have access to those data, how can we reach more eligible students and so please reach out to your district point of contact. To identify the the students who are eligible and enrolled and then reach out to those who you know are eligible but not yet enrolled and so thank you again for getting the information out there to as many families as possible. Here's another quote, this one from a parent. It reads my daughter is a struggling reader, so to be a part of this program is awesome. The book program has encouraged my child reading, which has improved her whole life for her now to feel comfortable enough just to pick up a book that has been sent to her has changed her. Now she says, hey mom, I'm going to sit and read. That didn't happen before. Or so again, we are really changing the trajectories for our students, who are typically reluctant readers and providing not only them but also their families with resources to support them at home. So we are really grateful for to have this opportunity to share and thank. You all again. We ask that you help us to get additional eligible students enrolled. Be an ambassador for the program. Share with other educators. Share with families. Share with communities. We've attended a number of conferences where people still have not heard about the new rules reading initiative, so please share very widely and follow us on social media. We'd love for you to to tag us. To follow us, if you're sharing anything about families that have provided you with feedback, we'd love to hear that as. Well and again, thank you. Here's our information. I'll put some things in the chat, but I wanted to leave a sufficient amount of time for any questions or comments. From the group. And I'm going to be putting a few things. In the chat. Alright, so where can I find the parent toolkit so? We don't have. A parent toolkit, but we do have a a toolkit for for districts and for schools, so I'll. Put that in the chat right now. And I think. I think it'll go to everyone. If the F. LDOE is sharing data with you as who as to who is eligible. Is there way to. Share that with. Schools they want to know who is eligible and not yet enrolled and and so the data that we receive from the Dewey is data that districts already provide to them. So you all have access to that information based on. Students who scored below Benchmark run fast as well as students who are receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction. So use the data that you have access to to identify students who are eligible. But not yet enrolled. Uh, another question, can we share your e-mail with schools so they can contact you for parents? Yeah, of course we would love. We would love that, so I'm leaving it up on the screen here for you to to grab that information. Uhm, Heather, I'm having issues downloading the data from the SFP I emailed but haven't heard back. Uhm, OK, yes, thank you for that message, Heather. We do have a a how to guide that should have accompanied the the initial e-mail that you received so. Do e-mail this e-mail address again and just say hey, can you send that to me again or we have someone who could actually walk you through? Uhm, the information as well so please e-mail us and sorry if you have not received a response. I'm putting information in the chat regarding the. The literacy matrix as well. If I can copy and paste it over, what other questions are coming up? Do families have to renew their enrollment each year? No, once an eligible family is enrolled, they actually remain enrolled unless they decide to opt out until the the student gets to. You know graduates from 5th. Grade and that that is regardless of you know their improvement in their reading score, so of course we want students to to be more proficient readers. But regardless of you know their improvement, they actually remain enrolled. All we ask is that they update their their enrollment information. So for example, we. Know that families move. You know they. They can also update their their interests. So on our enrollment application, families can select up to. 3 topics of that are of interest to to their students and then based on their selection we send we match the topics to particular titles so they could always update that information monthly as well. Uhm, for grades three through 5 below level is levels one and two on fast, uh, so we actually thank you for that question. We actually have not yet received data for the progress monitoring one, and so we are awaiting. The receiver of that information in order to determine eligibility for this school year. So we are still waiting on on those data to come through.

Speaker 3

You would be able. To identify students from last year that scored a level one or two on FSA and also at the you know, school and district level. You already know which students scored a level one or two on PM one, and so you would be able to identify students that way. The UF Lastinger Center just isn't able to. They can like pre roll pre enroll. They just aren't technically enrolled in the program yet because the department is still trying to clean up data from PM one in order to share that with the Lastinger center.

Speaker 2

Thank you, Lindsey. OK.

Speaker 3

Thank you so much Doctor Duggan for sharing with us this morning.

Speaker 2

There are a few more questions. Do we have? A couple more minutes. There additional questions are coming through UM.

Speaker 3

Yes, yes.

Speaker 2

Let's see OK so I someone I can see your chat, Colleen. Someone is under a tornado watch and wants the recording OK.

Speaker 3

The recording will be posted on our website.

Speaker 2

OK Brandy, we could send you the PDF, so if you e-mail us. Uhm, requesting the toolkit we can send that to you in. A PDF format. My yes Jennifer is going to talk about the scholarship portion of New Worlds. That's for from step up. Yes, we'll send updated data regarding students who. Are eligible and. Enrolled we're hoping to do that monthly, and so you should have access to those data in the SFTP folder, so thank you for that question and. We are adding the ID to the data as well, so that should make it easier for you all. So thank you for that question. We had a parent say their address wasn't identified or recognized. How can that be fixed? The parents, in order to be eligible, they have to have a valid Florida. Address and and if there's an issue where there's a family that. Does not have a you know a mailing address if they're if they're homeless, for example, then you can e-mail us and or or work with the family, right? To think about if they can use a neighbors address, you know that's happened before a church. You know, a friend. Something of that nature. So if if there's an issue around that, you can. E-mail us directly and we can help. Nikki, your question is, can we see who has enrolled? Yes, you can. Every district has a district point of contact and they have access to to those data. We do ask that you share data within your district in a secure way, so don't don't e-mail it. Which is why we send it through the secure or secure platform, and so we can't send personally identifiable information via e-mail. And so your district point of contact has that has those data and just send it securely in your district. OK.

Speaker 3

I see, uh, question about eligibility.

Speaker

Right?

Speaker 3

Yeah, and I'm going to put in the chat the eligibility for the New World Reading Initiative that was shared with district reading contacts. Within the last couple months and so it's it's pretty detailed based on data for K through 5.

Speaker 2

Thank you. Thank you and let me add. Thank you Lindsay in year one because we did not so last year when we first started we didn't have. Some data to verify students. We recognized that there were maybe about approximately 60,000 students who had enrolled and received books and resources who were not actually eligible, and so for those students they have been grandfathered in, and so they will continue to. Receive books and resources, but moving forward we are going to be verifying student eligibility before they actually receive books and resources. OK, anonymous attendee with the address issue. Yeah just e-mail us and we can look into that. Uhm, Katie, the e-mail. The e-mail came from. Erica Fritz Oaks regarding the. The access to the SFTP as well as the step to step step by step guide. Alright, thank you. Yes I will share information Linda about the literacy matrix. I'm gonna put it in the chat, probably after I get to the end of the questions. Ah, how do you know who your district point of contact is? We have a list for that and I'm going to put that in the chat as well. Let's see. Alright, so uhm, I posted the book list that's on the Louise website for year one and a link to the district point of contact for this year and then as soon as I can get to the information regarding the literacy matrix, I will put that in the chat as well. All right, I think we've made it to the end and I'm at time, Lindsey. So thank you all. Feel free to e-mail if you have additional questions.

Speaker 3

Again, thank you so much, Doctor Duggan. It's just so exciting to hear about the New World Reading Initiative and the opportunity that eligible students can receive free books in their home every month. So now we are ready to hear about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts. And it looks like Jennifer is ready to begin.

Speaker 1

I sure am. Can everybody hear me OK? Yes perfect. So my name is Jen Canning. I will step up for students and I'm here to talk to you about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts today and these are scholarships that help struggling readers afford the support they need to succeed. So step up for students who are not familiar with this. We actually administer 4 statewide scholarship programs across the state, the first being the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program, and that helps middle lower to middle income families. We also have the FS program which serves 2 populations, again a lower to middle. A family group, but also helps students who have unique abilities. And then we have our hope scholarship for students who may be bullied or victims of violence. And then I'm the director of the New World Reading Scholarship accounts, which helps K through five public school students who struggle with reading. Now the reading scholarship. Was created in 2018 and then during last year's legislative session it was merged with the new. World reading initiatives. So the new rules reading initiative has two wings, the first being the free book program that Shante talked to us about and the other side being scholarship which step up for students administers. So who qualifies for the scholarship? So this is going to sound awfully familiar. So in previous years, the scholarship was only for grades three through 5. And then last year when it was merged with the New World Reading Initiative, the Legislature expanded eligibility to include K through two as well, and so Florida public and charter school students, who either in last year scored below a Level 3. On the ELA would qualify students this year in grades three through five who were scoring a level one or A2 on the. Best or students in K through two who are identified with a substantial reading deficiency would all qualify. One difference between our eligibility and the book distribution eligibility is that funding priority by law has to be given to English language learners. So if a student is enrolled. In a program or receiving services specifically designed for LL, then that student would receive funding priority. Another difference is students do have to re qualify for the scholarship every year just to make sure. You know, if a student is no longer struggling with reading then they would not receive those extra funds. In the following year. OK, let's talk about the scholarship. So the new World Reading scholarship accounts are education savings account and this is kind of a new concept. It's a lot like a health savings account, and so we have a video that helps explain what an ESA is.

Speaker 5

What is an education savings account? An education savings account or ESA? Is a state. Scholarship program that allows families to personalize the education of their children. For the new. World Reading scholarship accounts. ESA funds can cover the cost of instructional materials. Great technology items. Summer literacy programs and more. How do ESA's work? The state sends the funds to a scholarship funding organization like step up for students. The scholarship funding organization puts the funds into the students account. Families then use the funds to help cover the cost of educational services. Products step up for students has created a platform that helps families manage their students scholarship funds. This platform makes it easy to shop for educational services and products from a variety of education service providers. Families can use scholarship funds to pay providers directly or get reimbursed for out of pocket purchases. Unused funds can roll over to pay for future expenses. Today, thousands of families across the country are using ESA's to personalize their child's education. Learn more about the New World Reading scholarship accounts and how ESA funds can help your student at stepupforstudents.org/reading.

Speaker 1

OK, so that went pretty fast, but I'm still going to explain every part of that. So the first being how the funds can be used so we know it's a $500.00 scholarship and those funds can be put towards part time tutoring, which is a very popular option. Summer and after school literacy programs, instructional materials. Including books, desktop, laptop computers and tablets or curriculum related to reading or literacy. So how did these students apply for the scholarship? So first they would visit stepupforstudents.org back slash reading I'm going to click on that real quick just to show you what that looks like. So here is our web page for the reading scholarship and families would simply click on this. Apply now to be taken to the application platform. OK, so once they click that apply, now they'll create a guardian profile and then add students to their account. This is super quick and easy. I'm actually going to walk you all through that in just a little bit and it's just like setting up an account on any website. I would specifically equate it to setting up an account on like a banking website. Just like an online banking website, so ESA's are essentially a bank account, so there's a lot of security around that, and we'll get into that a little bit late. And then the third step is that they'll complete the application. Most of the information is going to be pulled in from when they create their guardian profile. And add students. I'm going to walk you through the application process and you're going to. See how quick and easy that is. OK, so an important note. Schools and providers should not be completing guardian profiles and applications on parents behalf. So like I mentioned, ESA's are like bank accounts and only the parents and guardians should have access to that ESA. The other really important thing is that step up for students mostly communicates via e-mail with parents and guardians, and so when they create their account, it's really important that they use an e-mail address that they're checking off in. Sometimes we'll hear from parents and they're confused. They're not hearing from us. And then we'll check to see what e-mail address. We have on file and it'll be like junk maillikegmail.com right? And so they they didn't want to get spam from us and so I'll walk you through a little later how parents can can tell us what types of communications they want from us. OK, and you saw in the video that we have created a platform to help manage DSA funds. So our platform is called Emma and that's our education market assistant and so we are going to see lots of different features of Emma throughout my presentation today and the first stop is going to be creating. An account, so we're going to go through a demo together for the account creation. Like I said, it's a lot like creating an online account for a. I think, and so for this part I'm going to show screenshots and then we're moving to a live demo. There's a lot of having to e-mail or text codes, and so I didn't want to waste your time. I'm showing you that today, but I think the screenshots will. Do just. Fine, so when the families navigate to our website and click on apply now it takes them to Emma. And then they would navigate. To the sign up that's circled on the screen. From there a lot like creating an online bank account. They would be sent a code to their e-mail address and it's just a verification code function. It's just like every other website that uses a verification code, right? So once they type that in, we'll let them know that their e-mail address has been. Verified and they can continue to the next. Screen and this is where it will start to create their username and password for the website. From there there set up their security questions again, just like security questions. When you're setting up an online bank account, exact same types of questions. Just like every other website, they certify that they agree to our terms and conditions. And then they'll move on to creating their guardian profile, so we'll assign them a Guardian ID. They'll let us know their marital status and their primary language once they select Spanish. Here, everything from there on out will be in Spanish. Including the application, the marketplace, all of that. So they'll type in their mailing address. We do do a verification check to make sure that it's legitimate address, and then if it's the same as if their physical address is the same as their mailing address, they'll just check this box and it'll fill out this information. Here and then we also asked them for the excuse me for their contact information. So here is where they're able to manage consents, and to say what types of messages they would like to get from. Step up for students. They're also able to manage their contact preferences, so you see that e-mail is required, but we do also communicate via text and prerecorded phone messages, and sometimes personal phone calls when the situation warrants it. OK, from there they just hit save and they have set up their guardian profile. Now I have already logged into a test account to make today go a little fast. Sure, so this is what the Ms Scholarship portal looks like. And one thing I want to point out is in this example that I have pulled up for you. This family has submitted an application but they don't have funds yet, and So what they have access to over here is very limited and I'll show you some screenshots later. Of what this turns into once funds have been applied to. The Sims account. So once the Guardian account has been created, the family then has to add students. I have a student added already, but I'm going to add another student so you can see what. That looks. Like so I'm just going to call this. And a test. So first and last name or required. But then we do have lots of optional things as well, including the ID in years past the ID number was required and that really stopped a lot of parents from completing the application because they just couldn't find their ID number. And so this. Year we work with the. Department of Education. To make sure that this is no longer required, it makes the process a lot easier. Now we do have some rules around the date of birth we want to. Make sure that. The student it makes sense that their age is falling within grades K through 5. From here they select their gender and ethnicity if they're non Hispanic or Latino, race pops up and it's required. They would simply save that student, and they're done. A family can add as many students as they need to. And now I'm going to take you through the application. Right now the only application available for this family through the Emma platform is the New World Reading Scholarship accounts application. They would simply hit apply. OK and select the student so the other student that I had entered had already applied for the scholarship so they're no longer populating in the dropdown, but the student we just created is and you can see how that student information has completely pulled in and the only thing that the parent needs to add at this part. At this point is the school and the students grade level. The parent will then confirm that the student is enrolled in a Florida public school in K through 5th grade for the current school year and has a substantial reading deficiency. The parent is welcome to upload supporting documents. A common question that we get is, does uploading a document help my students chances of getting a scholarship? And the answer is no. So we work with the Department of Education to determine eligibility and all applications. Percent, regardless of if they have supporting documents, or. Not so parents are. Welcome to add documents here, but they do not have to. From here, the parent will hit continue and you can see, just like with the students, the Guardians at information is pulled in from when they created their Guardian account. And I didn't point this out before, but on both screens, if any information is incorrect, they can simply navigate to that page, fix it, and then navigate back to the application. The only thing the parent has to do on this screen, it just let us know their phone type. That's because if they've selected that they would like to receive texts from us, we need to know if. They have a cell phone on file. They would hit continue and at that point the applications done. We just ask them to review their information and then they do have to check a box that says that they certify that all the information presented is true and accurate. We also let them know that we work with the University of Florida Lastinger Center. And we shared our data with them and that by completing this application and submitting it, their data is going to be shared with the last Senior Center for learning and what that data sharing allows us to do is make sure you know there's a lot of overlap between food qualifies for the scholarship and who qualifies for the book distribution program. And we want to make sure that. We're capturing as many students as possible. From here, the Guardian simply needs to sign their name. And then they would submit their application. And that's it. So our application has really been streamlined. It's a lot easier than it's been in years past, and we're seeing a really great success rate of parents getting through the application this year. You can see here the parent can log in at any time and see what their application status is. The status of these two students. Is submitted. OK, So what are the next steps once that application is submitted you've heard me say a couple of times that step up for students works with the Florida Department of Education to determine eligibility that process could take up to 45. Says we're able to beat that in most cases. Sometimes there's something extraneous going on, and it takes us a little while longer to identify that. You've heard me say a couple times. The e-mail is really important, so how will the families know if they've been awarded a scholarship? We're going to e-mail them to the e-mail address on file, but I showed you where they can log in and see the status of their. Application at any point in time. If an awarded if awarded a scholarship, families will receive another e-mail once the students account has been funded and that e-mail will include instructions on how to begin utilizing those funds. So let's talk about that. Let's talk about how to use. Those scholarship funds. There are three. Different ways that families can utilize their scholarship funds. The first is with direct pay providers, so we work with providers across the state, including tutors. After school and summer literacy programs and a lot of those providers. Have signed up to be direct pay, so that means that families do not have to pay out of pocket and wait to be reimbursed. They're paid directly through. The Emma account. We have also. Created my scholar shop which is a lot like an Amazon that's just full of pre approved instructional materials for families where they can again shop directly with their funds through the Emma platform. They do not need to pay out of pocket and then the 3rd way is reimbursements where families can pay for products and services. Out of pocket and then submit a receipt through Emma for reimbursement. So I want to draw your attention over here to the left side of the screen. I mentioned earlier that in the example that I was showing you in the demo that family has not been funded yet. This is an example of what a family would see once they're funded. They now have a tab for reimbursements, and they also have the marketplace tab. So through the marketplace tab, they're able to shop. For providers. This is where they will find the direct providers that they do not have to pay out. Of pocket for. And that's where they'll be able to navigate to my scholar shop, and then I just wanted to share a quick screenshot of my scholarship. And so they'll be able to either navigate to tiles for the items that they're looking for, or they can search for items directly. And so again, if they're shopping through our marketplace, they do not need to pay out of pocket. The funds go directly from their scholarship account, either to the vendor or to the provider. But what happens if a? Parent goes to the marketplace and they're not seeing the provider they want. They're not seeing the product they want. That's not a problem. They can always pay for qualifying services and products out of pocket. And submit a receipt also through Emma through the reimbursements tab so that they can be reimbursed. OK, so how can you help? So step up for students does not receive any funding for marketing that new World Reading Scholarship accounts program. We do receive some funds to administer the program, but as you can see, an ESA is really a complicated thing to administer and so that's where all of our administrative funding goes, and so. To date, since the scholarship was created in 2018, we have never met the program cap and this year our CAP is larger than ever. We can serve 58,000 students this year. We opened earlier this month and we're off to a great start. We've already had over 3500 students apply for the scholarship. But we really. Need help spreading the word, and so we're really relying on districts and community partners and our partners. At the last Senior Center to help spread the word about the scholarship program. So if you know students who could benefit. You can tell their parents to visit stepupforstudents.org, back slash, readingsubs.org, back slash reading also works if you know of a service provider or a vendor that helps struggling readers. They can also go to our website to learn how to participate. And we also have Flyers that we provide, and so if you would like a flower, you can e-mail my colleague Melissa. Her e-mail address is m.jeremy0@soft.org. That's MJARAMILLO at soft.org, so we really need help. Spreading the word. We do e-mail the district contacts that the DoD has, and so if you're wondering if you're on that list, that's on the Florida DoD website and that's our contact list that we use to communicate about the new World Reading scholarship accounts. OK, let's spend a few minutes. Uhm, doing a few questions and answers. So a student. Yes, so Michelle student can and probably does qualify for both the scholarship and the free book program. And so our goal? Oh, I need to scroll up. I skipped a few. Our goal is. For students to participate in both because if a student receiving the funds and going to tutoring, it's absolutely going to help them if they go home and have a library that's been curated for them to read from. Let me scroll up to.

Speaker 3

The top here. There are. I just want to clarify real quick. There are some slight differences between the eligibility in both programs and the detailed eligibility has been provided to the main district. Reading contact in each district. But if you want to send an e-mail to me or. To the just read at ldoe.org account, we can definitely send that to you as well. It's too long to copy and paste into the chat and it'll get kind of mixed up, so we'd be happy to e-mail that to you so that you can see how the eligibility for the programs are alike and also slightly.

Speaker 1

Yeah, and and just to clarify that eligibility is laid out in statute, and so it gets. You know, it's very technical and wonky, and that's why it's a little lengthy and that's why there's just some slight differences between the two programs. OK, so this question is from 918, so I believe that was from earlier today. I think I started at 9:24 so so a student must be ELL student along with receiving a level one or two on the fast to qualify. So that is not correct. LL students get priority when it comes to funding. But a student does not have to be LL. In order to qualify for the scholarship, because we've never hit our program cap before, we've actually never had to. There have never been times where a student wasn't LL and therefore wasn't funded, so definitely have all your students apply, whether they're LL or not. How does a school or teacher become a provider for the Reading scholarship program? That's a great question, so we do have some public schools around the state who are providers. So these are schools who kind of thought to themselves. $500.00 per student. We've got a lot of struggling readers we could use that $500.00 to create an after school program. So if you navigate to that step up for students website, there's a four providers tab there and it goes through the process of becoming a provider. Now coming very soon in the new year. All of that is going to change. We're also bringing our providers onto the MO platform, and so it's going to be easier than ever to participate as a provider for the reading scholarship program. Teachers can also participate on their own as part time tutors and we've got a lot of teachers across the state who are doing that. So again, they can just navigate to our website and they'll be able to find information on how to participate. There are some laws and rules around who can participate as a provider. Things like you know a teacher is going to be able to participate because they have a valid teaching certificate, but you could also have a bachelors or masters degree. In reading or literacy, English language arts and qualify. So there are some technicalities there. But our provider relations team is set up for students will help their providers. Through that process. OK, what type of instructional materials all are available through my scholarshop? Are they aligned to best and who has vetted them? So I'm going to navigate back to that page so we can look at that together, so instruction materials that's also laid out. What counts as instruction materials. Also laid out in statute and rule, it includes laptops, tablets, owners, online software, programs, books, curriculum, things of that nature. Uhm, and so that is actually vetted by step up for students compliance team to make sure it matches the letter. Of the law. Uh, that governs the reading, scholarship program, and so is it aligned to best, no, but what we do always communicate with our scholarship families, especially our new world. Reading scholarship families is they should be sitting down and speaking with their students teacher. Or speaking with their districts reading and literacy. Coach and saying, hey, I have this $500.00. What's the best use of that for my student and so families do receive that instructions for step up for students to make sure that they're using their funds in the way that makes the most sense for their students. OK. Where do we go to learn more about getting a reading endorsement for teachers for free? Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question I do.

Speaker 3

Yes, it is in the chat, doctor Dugan posted it there starting with pre enrollment for the UF Lastinger Center for Learning. 2223 Flamingo Literacy matrix is open now and she you know had to break it up into a couple pieces. But there's a link there that says please share this fire with your educators to pre enroll. So pre enrollment. For the literacy matrix, which is free for Florida educators, it is currently open for pre enrollment and the next course or semester begins on January 30th.

Speaker 4

Right?

Speaker 1

Now the next question was about Flyers, so if you would like a flyer to share with your students, the easiest way of doing it is making sure that you're added to the district contact list that the Florida Department of Education uses, because that's who step up communicates with regularly about the program. We share more than just the flyer. We do have Flyers in English and Spanish, but we also share instruction. With those district contacts as well. But you can also e-mail my colleague Melissa Jeremy oh and just let her know that you would like a new road reading scholarship accounts flyer. Let her know if you want it in English and in Spanish, and she'll send that to you, so I'll leave this screen up so you can copy down her e-mail address. Move that over there. Ah OK, I see a lot of thank yous and then will districts have access to the sample video and supporting documents or Flyers to educate school leaders and parents? So the answer is yes. One step up for students, emails, districts and we do so at several points throughout the year. They've already received a few emails from us, but then they're going to receive. Communications around when progress monitoring is occurring and those results are coming in and so we do share that video. We do share supporting documents and we do share those Flyers there as well. OK, what is the recipient cap? Yep, so we have. There's been enough funding allocated at the state level this year to serve 58,000 students, and so we've been open a little less than a month. You know few weeks, and we've already gotten 3500 applicants so far, so, uh. Lot of room to grow and we can serve an awful lot of students this year. OK, here's another question about reading endorsement or higher education faculty eligible for the reading endorsement as well. Chantelle Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question?

Speaker 2

Do they have a floor of valid Florida teaching certificate? That's but e-mail For more information. I my colleague Pam Alfaro could respond directly.

Speaker 1

OK, so it looks like we've reached the end of the questions. I do want to navigate to the last page in my presentation because I want to share my contact information with you. If you come up with any other questions. My phone number is listed on the right hand side of the screen as well as. My e-mail on. The left hand side of the screen. Is the phone number for our separate for student service center and our website? You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Speaker 3

Thank you so much Jen.

Speaker 1

Thank you.

Speaker 3

And thank you both, I'm. Excited that we were able to. Of Shante and Jen here with us this morning to share information about the New World Reading Initiative and the New World Reading Scholarship accounts. They are both just amazing opportunities for eligible students. If you think of any questions after the webinar, please feel free to reach out to either Jen with her e-mail that she provided. Or the e-mail that Shantae provided. You can also reach out directly to just read at fldoe. Work and a couple days when we have the recording ready and posted we will get that on our website on the just read Florida Web page under educator resources and then we have a tab for webinars and all of the webinars that we host this year. We'll be posting recordings there for viewing, so thank you again. For joining us this morning and we hope you all have a wonderful Wednesday.

Good morning everyone. Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning. My name is Lindsay Brown and I'm the executive director of just read Florida and Majestrix Florida office is excited to offer our first webinar of this school year and our first webinar is focusing on the new world reading. And so we have two special guests with us. Today we have Doctor Shante, duggins for the New World Reading Initiative and she's from the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning and we also have Jennifer Canning to share with you about new World breeding scholarship accounts from step up for students. So I'm going to go ahead and. Hand it over to Doctor Shante Duggins, and she's going to start sharing wonderful information with you about the New World reading initiatives.

Awesome, thank you so much and good morning everyone. So excited to be here with you all today. If we have not met previously. My name is Shante Diggins. I'm at the University of Florida Lastinger Center for learning. We have lots of exciting things happening at the Lastinger center. We've been around for 20 years. For those of you who may be. Unfamiliar with who we are and what we do, we provide support for both educators and parents and families. Now with the New World Reading Initiative, some of you may be familiar with some of our work such as. The literacy matrix. We're actually now accepting. Uh, pre enrollment information for the literacy matrix so I can share some information in the chat about that. We also do work in the space of early learning, mathematics, leadership and coaching and data and technology. The new goals reading initiative. We are the administrator for the new rules reading initiative. It's a family literacy engagement program that was recently established by statute under the guidance of former Speaker Chris Sprowls, and it is Florida's first statewide book distribution program of its kind. Our vision is. To provide resources to children and families and to create at home libraries for K5 students who are not yet reading on grade level. And we'll talk a bit about the eligibility criteria. We also aim to build caregivers confidence and capacities to support their own kids at home by providing meaningful literacy resources, tips and strategies for them. We recognize the value in partnership and so we partner with everyone and anyone both at in. School school districts and community organizations to support children and families. And we're also able to receive corporate tax payers can make contributions to new roles and sustain the program beyond the initial investment that the state has made. So we're super grateful for that. And then we've recently added teacher professional development, so to develop teacher experts in the science of reading through micro credentials. And teacher professional development that creates a home in school connection and literacy. So we've been pretty busy since we've started last year, but this is what we've been up to. So a little bit about our eligibility criteria. The the the New World Reading Initiative is designed for K5 students who attend public or charter schools in our state who are not yet reading on grade level. So these are students who have been identified based on the the new fast as not yet. Reading on grade level or students who receive either Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction in reading. And I'll, I'll. Add here that we're working with the Florida Department of Education to receive data to determine student eligibility. So in year we we hired a number of engagement team specialists across the state and we're excited to share some highlights from our year one. You can see some photos here. We've been busy out and about in communities working with schools and school districts we have. People located across the state and region, so we have somewhat a couple people in the Panhandle, NE central SW and SE Florida. Again, the purpose is to really engage with communities engaged with schools and school districts. We've sponsored literacy nights with schools. We've worked with community organizations to table at different events to get the information out, because remember that the new rules reading initiative, it's an opt in program. So in order for families to take advantage of the resources that we provide, they have to go to our website. At newworldreading.com to apply to participate and so our goal has been to get the information out there to as many families as possible in order for them to take advantage of the resources that we that we provide. We've received a ton of feedback from families just sharing how positive the new rules reading initiative has been for for their family, but this one is really special. It's from a student and it reads. I like that my parents don't always have to buy me books. I can get them in the mail. It's also kind of fun. It makes me feel like reading more because they're mine. I like to read all kinds of books when I get a book in the mail with my name on it on them. Box I feel like I'm special and again this one just makes me smile. It's from a student and we know that providing books and resources to families it's it's really life changing and that's what we're hearing from a number of families who are participating. All right, so to share some numbers to date. And this is as of we just started delivering books in October for this school year. Here, so based on data that we have from the 2122 school year, we estimate that over 556,000 students are eligible across the state. So again these are students who are not yet reading. On grade level. So far for this school year we have 125,000 students approximately who are enrolled and these are eligible. Since we still have a number of students who are pending based on additional data that we receive from the state, that will help us to determine whether or not those students are in fact eligible and we've shipped over 227,000 books so far, and that those numbers continue to increase every day. And again, our goal. Is to reach as many students as possible. All right, so I'll share a little bit about the resources. So in addition to providing books to students and again we work with the Florida Department of Education to VET and approve all of our titles before we send them out. We also send literacy resources to families, and that's a. An important part of our initiative because we want to support. Port families and children you know, really sharing that experience of a book together, and so we are creating again our book lists, in consultation with the gestri Florida office and those the list for year one is actually posted on their website and I can put that in the chat in. A bit as well. We're creating interactive reading guides for each. Book and these resources are also housed on our website, and we're also posting on our website a series of videos so families could see what the strategies look like in action. So when we talk about, you know selecting you know vocabulary words and what does that look like based on a book that. That they're receiving at home. So again, super excited to have those resources available completely free of charge to families and educators, really, anyone on our website and we'll continue to add to our website monthly. Let's see so for K through two students, the interactive reading guides are printed with the books and actually mailed to the homes of children for and all all of our resources again are on our website, and so we have bookmarks that we're creating for three through five that are mailed with the. Books that are sent to the homes of children. And here's an example of what an interactive reading guide looks like for for students, so again, it's it's intended to support the family to support their caregivers in in having that shared reading experience at home. Our team is working to develop a scope and sequence for our word work that's aligned with the Florida and best DLA standards for this for this school year. All right, so we'll talk a little bit about our outreach and engagement. So last year, we mailed twice. Actually Flyers to every school across the state, over 700,000 Flyers, and we're starting that again for this school year. Flyers started going out, I believe. Last week, again, across the entire state, so we've updated our Flyers. We're shipping them to schools across the. State we've heard from a number of schools that they didn't know what to do with the Flyers, and so we've included again a like a directional sheet. And so we're just asking, please please identify students who meet our eligibility criteria. Students who are not yet reading on grade level and please send those Flyers. Home to those families again, it is an opt in program so they have to go to our website to enroll. We've included a QR code so it's easy the the application is very easy. It could be done on a cell phone and so again the Flyers are are coming to schools across the state. So please share the Flyers with students who are eligible in order for them to enroll. And this is what the front side of the New Flyer looks like. Alright, so I'll also put in the chat in. Just a moment. Our links to our toolkit. So we created toolkits for districts and for schools. And so the the thinking is we want to make it really easy for you all to share the info. Nation and so we have ready to may we just copy everything is copy paste. Everything has been trans created in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, and so the idea again is to to get the information out. If you can scan the QR code that's on the screen right now. It'll take you directly to the school toolkit and we have sample messaging from principals to teachers or teachers to parents. We have the Flyers we have. A recorded phone screen. A number of social media resources. Again, just copy paste ready to use resources. So I'm I'm hopeful that you can scan this QR code and and you'll have the tool. The school toolkit at your fingertips. This is just a screenshot of some of the sample messaging that's included in the toolkit. Again, we're trying to make it really easy to share the information. This is a another example of sample messaging here that's available in our toolkit that can be shared. With parents. We have samples of social media posts. Again you can copy paste. We would love for you to tag us in any posts that you send out regarding new rules. Reading initiative. And here are some other resources and we have QR codes. Our logos. We have a ton of photos that you can use as well. So coming up for in this school year, I mentioned our engagement team. So in addition to sending books and resources to families, we would love to partner. With schools or. School districts or community organizations to engage right? And so we can coast host. Or Co host literacy nights. If you have any academic nights coming up if you wanted us to table at an event that you have at your school, or something that's happening in your organize in your community, we would be happy to do that. We've attended PTA or PTO meetings. Any opportunity to get in front of children. And families and educators. Again, we would love, love, love to take advantage of that. And so I'll share our e-mail address at the end and you can feel free to e-mail us if you would like for us to. Come out to. Your school or to your district to support. Your children and families. Uhm, so we have. We've been asked for students. Or or list. Of students who are actually eligible and enrolled in the New World Reading initiative, and so at every district, there is a district point of contact. And we've shared, UM. Data with the district points of contact regarding eligible students who are enrolled in the new rules reading initiative. And so our. My question to you is now that you all have access to those data, how can we reach more eligible students and so please reach out to your district point of contact. To identify the the students who are eligible and enrolled and then reach out to those who you know are eligible but not yet enrolled and so thank you again for getting the information out there to as many families as possible. Here's another quote, this one from a parent. It reads my daughter is a struggling reader, so to be a part of this program is awesome. The book program has encouraged my child reading, which has improved her whole life for her now to feel comfortable enough just to pick up a book that has been sent to her has changed her. Now she says, hey mom, I'm going to sit and read. That didn't happen before. Or so again, we are really changing the trajectories for our students, who are typically reluctant readers and providing not only them but also their families with resources to support them at home. So we are really grateful for to have this opportunity to share and thank. You all again. We ask that you help us to get additional eligible students enrolled. Be an ambassador for the program. Share with other educators. Share with families. Share with communities. We've attended a number of conferences where people still have not heard about the new rules reading initiative, so please share very widely and follow us on social media. We'd love for you to to tag us. To follow us, if you're sharing anything about families that have provided you with feedback, we'd love to hear that as. Well and again, thank you. Here's our information. I'll put some things in the chat, but I wanted to leave a sufficient amount of time for any questions or comments. From the group. And I'm going to be putting a few things. In the chat. Alright, so where can I find the parent toolkit so? We don't have. A parent toolkit, but we do have a a toolkit for for districts and for schools, so I'll. Put that in the chat right now. And I think. I think it'll go to everyone. If the F. LDOE is sharing data with you as who as to who is eligible. Is there way to. Share that with. Schools they want to know who is eligible and not yet enrolled and and so the data that we receive from the Dewey is data that districts already provide to them. So you all have access to that information based on. Students who scored below Benchmark run fast as well as students who are receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction. So use the data that you have access to to identify students who are eligible. But not yet enrolled. Uh, another question, can we share your e-mail with schools so they can contact you for parents? Yeah, of course we would love. We would love that, so I'm leaving it up on the screen here for you to to grab that information. Uhm, Heather, I'm having issues downloading the data from the SFP I emailed but haven't heard back. Uhm, OK, yes, thank you for that message, Heather. We do have a a how to guide that should have accompanied the the initial e-mail that you received so. Do e-mail this e-mail address again and just say hey, can you send that to me again or we have someone who could actually walk you through? Uhm, the information as well so please e-mail us and sorry if you have not received a response. I'm putting information in the chat regarding the. The literacy matrix as well. If I can copy and paste it over, what other questions are coming up? Do families have to renew their enrollment each year? No, once an eligible family is enrolled, they actually remain enrolled unless they decide to opt out until the the student gets to. You know graduates from 5th. Grade and that that is regardless of you know their improvement in their reading score, so of course we want students to to be more proficient readers. But regardless of you know their improvement, they actually remain enrolled. All we ask is that they update their their enrollment information. So for example, we. Know that families move. You know they. They can also update their their interests. So on our enrollment application, families can select up to. 3 topics of that are of interest to to their students and then based on their selection we send we match the topics to particular titles so they could always update that information monthly as well. Uhm, for grades three through 5 below level is levels one and two on fast, uh, so we actually thank you for that question. We actually have not yet received data for the progress monitoring one, and so we are awaiting. The receiver of that information in order to determine eligibility for this school year. So we are still waiting on on those data to come through.

You would be able. To identify students from last year that scored a level one or two on FSA and also at the you know, school and district level. You already know which students scored a level one or two on PM one, and so you would be able to identify students that way. The UF Lastinger Center just isn't able to. They can like pre roll pre enroll. They just aren't technically enrolled in the program yet because the department is still trying to clean up data from PM one in order to share that with the Lastinger center.

Thank you, Lindsey. OK.

Thank you so much Doctor Duggan for sharing with us this morning.

There are a few more questions. Do we have? A couple more minutes. There additional questions are coming through UM.

Yes, yes.

Let's see OK so I someone I can see your chat, Colleen. Someone is under a tornado watch and wants the recording OK.

The recording will be posted on our website.

OK Brandy, we could send you the PDF, so if you e-mail us. Uhm, requesting the toolkit we can send that to you in. A PDF format. My yes Jennifer is going to talk about the scholarship portion of New Worlds. That's for from step up. Yes, we'll send updated data regarding students who. Are eligible and. Enrolled we're hoping to do that monthly, and so you should have access to those data in the SFTP folder, so thank you for that question and. We are adding the ID to the data as well, so that should make it easier for you all. So thank you for that question. We had a parent say their address wasn't identified or recognized. How can that be fixed? The parents, in order to be eligible, they have to have a valid Florida. Address and and if there's an issue where there's a family that. Does not have a you know a mailing address if they're if they're homeless, for example, then you can e-mail us and or or work with the family, right? To think about if they can use a neighbors address, you know that's happened before a church. You know, a friend. Something of that nature. So if if there's an issue around that, you can. E-mail us directly and we can help. Nikki, your question is, can we see who has enrolled? Yes, you can. Every district has a district point of contact and they have access to to those data. We do ask that you share data within your district in a secure way, so don't don't e-mail it. Which is why we send it through the secure or secure platform, and so we can't send personally identifiable information via e-mail. And so your district point of contact has that has those data and just send it securely in your district. OK.

I see, uh, question about eligibility.

Right?

Yeah, and I'm going to put in the chat the eligibility for the New World Reading Initiative that was shared with district reading contacts. Within the last couple months and so it's it's pretty detailed based on data for K through 5.

Thank you. Thank you and let me add. Thank you Lindsay in year one because we did not so last year when we first started we didn't have. Some data to verify students. We recognized that there were maybe about approximately 60,000 students who had enrolled and received books and resources who were not actually eligible, and so for those students they have been grandfathered in, and so they will continue to. Receive books and resources, but moving forward we are going to be verifying student eligibility before they actually receive books and resources. OK, anonymous attendee with the address issue. Yeah just e-mail us and we can look into that. Uhm, Katie, the e-mail. The e-mail came from. Erica Fritz Oaks regarding the. The access to the SFTP as well as the step to step step by step guide. Alright, thank you. Yes I will share information Linda about the literacy matrix. I'm gonna put it in the chat, probably after I get to the end of the questions. Ah, how do you know who your district point of contact is? We have a list for that and I'm going to put that in the chat as well. Let's see. Alright, so uhm, I posted the book list that's on the Louise website for year one and a link to the district point of contact for this year and then as soon as I can get to the information regarding the literacy matrix, I will put that in the chat as well. All right, I think we've made it to the end and I'm at time, Lindsey. So thank you all. Feel free to e-mail if you have additional questions.

Again, thank you so much, Doctor Duggan. It's just so exciting to hear about the New World Reading Initiative and the opportunity that eligible students can receive free books in their home every month. So now we are ready to hear about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts. And it looks like Jennifer is ready to begin.

I sure am. Can everybody hear me OK? Yes perfect. So my name is Jen Canning. I will step up for students and I'm here to talk to you about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts today and these are scholarships that help struggling readers afford the support they need to succeed. So step up for students who are not familiar with this. We actually administer 4 statewide scholarship programs across the state, the first being the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program, and that helps middle lower to middle income families. We also have the FS program which serves 2 populations, again a lower to middle. A family group, but also helps students who have unique abilities. And then we have our hope scholarship for students who may be bullied or victims of violence. And then I'm the director of the New World Reading Scholarship accounts, which helps K through five public school students who struggle with reading. Now the reading scholarship. Was created in 2018 and then during last year's legislative session it was merged with the new. World reading initiatives. So the new rules reading initiative has two wings, the first being the free book program that Shante talked to us about and the other side being scholarship which step up for students administers. So who qualifies for the scholarship? So this is going to sound awfully familiar. So in previous years, the scholarship was only for grades three through 5. And then last year when it was merged with the New World Reading Initiative, the Legislature expanded eligibility to include K through two as well, and so Florida public and charter school students, who either in last year scored below a Level 3. On the ELA would qualify students this year in grades three through five who were scoring a level one or A2 on the. Best or students in K through two who are identified with a substantial reading deficiency would all qualify. One difference between our eligibility and the book distribution eligibility is that funding priority by law has to be given to English language learners. So if a student is enrolled. In a program or receiving services specifically designed for LL, then that student would receive funding priority. Another difference is students do have to re qualify for the scholarship every year just to make sure. You know, if a student is no longer struggling with reading then they would not receive those extra funds. In the following year. OK, let's talk about the scholarship. So the new World Reading scholarship accounts are education savings account and this is kind of a new concept. It's a lot like a health savings account, and so we have a video that helps explain what an ESA is.

What is an education savings account? An education savings account or ESA? Is a state. Scholarship program that allows families to personalize the education of their children. For the new. World Reading scholarship accounts. ESA funds can cover the cost of instructional materials. Great technology items. Summer literacy programs and more. How do ESA's work? The state sends the funds to a scholarship funding organization like step up for students. The scholarship funding organization puts the funds into the students account. Families then use the funds to help cover the cost of educational services. Products step up for students has created a platform that helps families manage their students scholarship funds. This platform makes it easy to shop for educational services and products from a variety of education service providers. Families can use scholarship funds to pay providers directly or get reimbursed for out of pocket purchases. Unused funds can roll over to pay for future expenses. Today, thousands of families across the country are using ESA's to personalize their child's education. Learn more about the New World Reading scholarship accounts and how ESA funds can help your student at stepupforstudents.org/reading.

OK, so that went pretty fast, but I'm still going to explain every part of that. So the first being how the funds can be used so we know it's a $500.00 scholarship and those funds can be put towards part time tutoring, which is a very popular option. Summer and after school literacy programs, instructional materials. Including books, desktop, laptop computers and tablets or curriculum related to reading or literacy. So how did these students apply for the scholarship? So first they would visit stepupforstudents.org back slash reading I'm going to click on that real quick just to show you what that looks like. So here is our web page for the reading scholarship and families would simply click on this. Apply now to be taken to the application platform. OK, so once they click that apply, now they'll create a guardian profile and then add students to their account. This is super quick and easy. I'm actually going to walk you all through that in just a little bit and it's just like setting up an account on any website. I would specifically equate it to setting up an account on like a banking website. Just like an online banking website, so ESA's are essentially a bank account, so there's a lot of security around that, and we'll get into that a little bit late. And then the third step is that they'll complete the application. Most of the information is going to be pulled in from when they create their guardian profile. And add students. I'm going to walk you through the application process and you're going to. See how quick and easy that is. OK, so an important note. Schools and providers should not be completing guardian profiles and applications on parents behalf. So like I mentioned, ESA's are like bank accounts and only the parents and guardians should have access to that ESA. The other really important thing is that step up for students mostly communicates via e-mail with parents and guardians, and so when they create their account, it's really important that they use an e-mail address that they're checking off in. Sometimes we'll hear from parents and they're confused. They're not hearing from us. And then we'll check to see what e-mail address. We have on file and it'll be like junk maillikegmail.com right? And so they they didn't want to get spam from us and so I'll walk you through a little later how parents can can tell us what types of communications they want from us. OK, and you saw in the video that we have created a platform to help manage DSA funds. So our platform is called Emma and that's our education market assistant and so we are going to see lots of different features of Emma throughout my presentation today and the first stop is going to be creating. An account, so we're going to go through a demo together for the account creation. Like I said, it's a lot like creating an online account for a. I think, and so for this part I'm going to show screenshots and then we're moving to a live demo. There's a lot of having to e-mail or text codes, and so I didn't want to waste your time. I'm showing you that today, but I think the screenshots will. Do just. Fine, so when the families navigate to our website and click on apply now it takes them to Emma. And then they would navigate. To the sign up that's circled on the screen. From there a lot like creating an online bank account. They would be sent a code to their e-mail address and it's just a verification code function. It's just like every other website that uses a verification code, right? So once they type that in, we'll let them know that their e-mail address has been. Verified and they can continue to the next. Screen and this is where it will start to create their username and password for the website. From there there set up their security questions again, just like security questions. When you're setting up an online bank account, exact same types of questions. Just like every other website, they certify that they agree to our terms and conditions. And then they'll move on to creating their guardian profile, so we'll assign them a Guardian ID. They'll let us know their marital status and their primary language once they select Spanish. Here, everything from there on out will be in Spanish. Including the application, the marketplace, all of that. So they'll type in their mailing address. We do do a verification check to make sure that it's legitimate address, and then if it's the same as if their physical address is the same as their mailing address, they'll just check this box and it'll fill out this information. Here and then we also asked them for the excuse me for their contact information. So here is where they're able to manage consents, and to say what types of messages they would like to get from. Step up for students. They're also able to manage their contact preferences, so you see that e-mail is required, but we do also communicate via text and prerecorded phone messages, and sometimes personal phone calls when the situation warrants it. OK, from there they just hit save and they have set up their guardian profile. Now I have already logged into a test account to make today go a little fast. Sure, so this is what the Ms Scholarship portal looks like. And one thing I want to point out is in this example that I have pulled up for you. This family has submitted an application but they don't have funds yet, and So what they have access to over here is very limited and I'll show you some screenshots later. Of what this turns into once funds have been applied to. The Sims account. So once the Guardian account has been created, the family then has to add students. I have a student added already, but I'm going to add another student so you can see what. That looks. Like so I'm just going to call this. And a test. So first and last name or required. But then we do have lots of optional things as well, including the ID in years past the ID number was required and that really stopped a lot of parents from completing the application because they just couldn't find their ID number. And so this. Year we work with the. Department of Education. To make sure that this is no longer required, it makes the process a lot easier. Now we do have some rules around the date of birth we want to. Make sure that. The student it makes sense that their age is falling within grades K through 5. From here they select their gender and ethnicity if they're non Hispanic or Latino, race pops up and it's required. They would simply save that student, and they're done. A family can add as many students as they need to. And now I'm going to take you through the application. Right now the only application available for this family through the Emma platform is the New World Reading Scholarship accounts application. They would simply hit apply. OK and select the student so the other student that I had entered had already applied for the scholarship so they're no longer populating in the dropdown, but the student we just created is and you can see how that student information has completely pulled in and the only thing that the parent needs to add at this part. At this point is the school and the students grade level. The parent will then confirm that the student is enrolled in a Florida public school in K through 5th grade for the current school year and has a substantial reading deficiency. The parent is welcome to upload supporting documents. A common question that we get is, does uploading a document help my students chances of getting a scholarship? And the answer is no. So we work with the Department of Education to determine eligibility and all applications. Percent, regardless of if they have supporting documents, or. Not so parents are. Welcome to add documents here, but they do not have to. From here, the parent will hit continue and you can see, just like with the students, the Guardians at information is pulled in from when they created their Guardian account. And I didn't point this out before, but on both screens, if any information is incorrect, they can simply navigate to that page, fix it, and then navigate back to the application. The only thing the parent has to do on this screen, it just let us know their phone type. That's because if they've selected that they would like to receive texts from us, we need to know if. They have a cell phone on file. They would hit continue and at that point the applications done. We just ask them to review their information and then they do have to check a box that says that they certify that all the information presented is true and accurate. We also let them know that we work with the University of Florida Lastinger Center. And we shared our data with them and that by completing this application and submitting it, their data is going to be shared with the last Senior Center for learning and what that data sharing allows us to do is make sure you know there's a lot of overlap between food qualifies for the scholarship and who qualifies for the book distribution program. And we want to make sure that. We're capturing as many students as possible. From here, the Guardian simply needs to sign their name. And then they would submit their application. And that's it. So our application has really been streamlined. It's a lot easier than it's been in years past, and we're seeing a really great success rate of parents getting through the application this year. You can see here the parent can log in at any time and see what their application status is. The status of these two students. Is submitted. OK, So what are the next steps once that application is submitted you've heard me say a couple of times that step up for students works with the Florida Department of Education to determine eligibility that process could take up to 45. Says we're able to beat that in most cases. Sometimes there's something extraneous going on, and it takes us a little while longer to identify that. You've heard me say a couple times. The e-mail is really important, so how will the families know if they've been awarded a scholarship? We're going to e-mail them to the e-mail address on file, but I showed you where they can log in and see the status of their. Application at any point in time. If an awarded if awarded a scholarship, families will receive another e-mail once the students account has been funded and that e-mail will include instructions on how to begin utilizing those funds. So let's talk about that. Let's talk about how to use. Those scholarship funds. There are three. Different ways that families can utilize their scholarship funds. The first is with direct pay providers, so we work with providers across the state, including tutors. After school and summer literacy programs and a lot of those providers. Have signed up to be direct pay, so that means that families do not have to pay out of pocket and wait to be reimbursed. They're paid directly through. The Emma account. We have also. Created my scholar shop which is a lot like an Amazon that's just full of pre approved instructional materials for families where they can again shop directly with their funds through the Emma platform. They do not need to pay out of pocket and then the 3rd way is reimbursements where families can pay for products and services. Out of pocket and then submit a receipt through Emma for reimbursement. So I want to draw your attention over here to the left side of the screen. I mentioned earlier that in the example that I was showing you in the demo that family has not been funded yet. This is an example of what a family would see once they're funded. They now have a tab for reimbursements, and they also have the marketplace tab. So through the marketplace tab, they're able to shop. For providers. This is where they will find the direct providers that they do not have to pay out. Of pocket for. And that's where they'll be able to navigate to my scholar shop, and then I just wanted to share a quick screenshot of my scholarship. And so they'll be able to either navigate to tiles for the items that they're looking for, or they can search for items directly. And so again, if they're shopping through our marketplace, they do not need to pay out of pocket. The funds go directly from their scholarship account, either to the vendor or to the provider. But what happens if a? Parent goes to the marketplace and they're not seeing the provider they want. They're not seeing the product they want. That's not a problem. They can always pay for qualifying services and products out of pocket. And submit a receipt also through Emma through the reimbursements tab so that they can be reimbursed. OK, so how can you help? So step up for students does not receive any funding for marketing that new World Reading Scholarship accounts program. We do receive some funds to administer the program, but as you can see, an ESA is really a complicated thing to administer and so that's where all of our administrative funding goes, and so. To date, since the scholarship was created in 2018, we have never met the program cap and this year our CAP is larger than ever. We can serve 58,000 students this year. We opened earlier this month and we're off to a great start. We've already had over 3500 students apply for the scholarship. But we really. Need help spreading the word, and so we're really relying on districts and community partners and our partners. At the last Senior Center to help spread the word about the scholarship program. So if you know students who could benefit. You can tell their parents to visit stepupforstudents.org, back slash, readingsubs.org, back slash reading also works if you know of a service provider or a vendor that helps struggling readers. They can also go to our website to learn how to participate. And we also have Flyers that we provide, and so if you would like a flower, you can e-mail my colleague Melissa. Her e-mail address is m.jeremy0@soft.org. That's MJARAMILLO at soft.org, so we really need help. Spreading the word. We do e-mail the district contacts that the DoD has, and so if you're wondering if you're on that list, that's on the Florida DoD website and that's our contact list that we use to communicate about the new World Reading scholarship accounts. OK, let's spend a few minutes. Uhm, doing a few questions and answers. So a student. Yes, so Michelle student can and probably does qualify for both the scholarship and the free book program. And so our goal? Oh, I need to scroll up. I skipped a few. Our goal is. For students to participate in both because if a student receiving the funds and going to tutoring, it's absolutely going to help them if they go home and have a library that's been curated for them to read from. Let me scroll up to.

The top here. There are. I just want to clarify real quick. There are some slight differences between the eligibility in both programs and the detailed eligibility has been provided to the main district. Reading contact in each district. But if you want to send an e-mail to me or. To the just read at ldoe.org account, we can definitely send that to you as well. It's too long to copy and paste into the chat and it'll get kind of mixed up, so we'd be happy to e-mail that to you so that you can see how the eligibility for the programs are alike and also slightly.

Yeah, and and just to clarify that eligibility is laid out in statute, and so it gets. You know, it's very technical and wonky, and that's why it's a little lengthy and that's why there's just some slight differences between the two programs. OK, so this question is from 918, so I believe that was from earlier today. I think I started at 9:24 so so a student must be ELL student along with receiving a level one or two on the fast to qualify. So that is not correct. LL students get priority when it comes to funding. But a student does not have to be LL. In order to qualify for the scholarship, because we've never hit our program cap before, we've actually never had to. There have never been times where a student wasn't LL and therefore wasn't funded, so definitely have all your students apply, whether they're LL or not. How does a school or teacher become a provider for the Reading scholarship program? That's a great question, so we do have some public schools around the state who are providers. So these are schools who kind of thought to themselves. $500.00 per student. We've got a lot of struggling readers we could use that $500.00 to create an after school program. So if you navigate to that step up for students website, there's a four providers tab there and it goes through the process of becoming a provider. Now coming very soon in the new year. All of that is going to change. We're also bringing our providers onto the MO platform, and so it's going to be easier than ever to participate as a provider for the reading scholarship program. Teachers can also participate on their own as part time tutors and we've got a lot of teachers across the state who are doing that. So again, they can just navigate to our website and they'll be able to find information on how to participate. There are some laws and rules around who can participate as a provider. Things like you know a teacher is going to be able to participate because they have a valid teaching certificate, but you could also have a bachelors or masters degree. In reading or literacy, English language arts and qualify. So there are some technicalities there. But our provider relations team is set up for students will help their providers. Through that process. OK, what type of instructional materials all are available through my scholarshop? Are they aligned to best and who has vetted them? So I'm going to navigate back to that page so we can look at that together, so instruction materials that's also laid out. What counts as instruction materials. Also laid out in statute and rule, it includes laptops, tablets, owners, online software, programs, books, curriculum, things of that nature. Uhm, and so that is actually vetted by step up for students compliance team to make sure it matches the letter. Of the law. Uh, that governs the reading, scholarship program, and so is it aligned to best, no, but what we do always communicate with our scholarship families, especially our new world. Reading scholarship families is they should be sitting down and speaking with their students teacher. Or speaking with their districts reading and literacy. Coach and saying, hey, I have this $500.00. What's the best use of that for my student and so families do receive that instructions for step up for students to make sure that they're using their funds in the way that makes the most sense for their students. OK. Where do we go to learn more about getting a reading endorsement for teachers for free? Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question I do.

Yes, it is in the chat, doctor Dugan posted it there starting with pre enrollment for the UF Lastinger Center for Learning. 2223 Flamingo Literacy matrix is open now and she you know had to break it up into a couple pieces. But there's a link there that says please share this fire with your educators to pre enroll. So pre enrollment. For the literacy matrix, which is free for Florida educators, it is currently open for pre enrollment and the next course or semester begins on January 30th.

Right?

Now the next question was about Flyers, so if you would like a flyer to share with your students, the easiest way of doing it is making sure that you're added to the district contact list that the Florida Department of Education uses, because that's who step up communicates with regularly about the program. We share more than just the flyer. We do have Flyers in English and Spanish, but we also share instruction. With those district contacts as well. But you can also e-mail my colleague Melissa Jeremy oh and just let her know that you would like a new road reading scholarship accounts flyer. Let her know if you want it in English and in Spanish, and she'll send that to you, so I'll leave this screen up so you can copy down her e-mail address. Move that over there. Ah OK, I see a lot of thank yous and then will districts have access to the sample video and supporting documents or Flyers to educate school leaders and parents? So the answer is yes. One step up for students, emails, districts and we do so at several points throughout the year. They've already received a few emails from us, but then they're going to receive. Communications around when progress monitoring is occurring and those results are coming in and so we do share that video. We do share supporting documents and we do share those Flyers there as well. OK, what is the recipient cap? Yep, so we have. There's been enough funding allocated at the state level this year to serve 58,000 students, and so we've been open a little less than a month. You know few weeks, and we've already gotten 3500 applicants so far, so, uh. Lot of room to grow and we can serve an awful lot of students this year. OK, here's another question about reading endorsement or higher education faculty eligible for the reading endorsement as well. Chantelle Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question?

Do they have a floor of valid Florida teaching certificate? That's but e-mail For more information. I my colleague Pam Alfaro could respond directly.

OK, so it looks like we've reached the end of the questions. I do want to navigate to the last page in my presentation because I want to share my contact information with you. If you come up with any other questions. My phone number is listed on the right hand side of the screen as well as. My e-mail on. The left hand side of the screen. Is the phone number for our separate for student service center and our website? You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Thank you so much Jen.

Thank you.

And thank you both, I'm. Excited that we were able to. Of Shante and Jen here with us this morning to share information about the New World Reading Initiative and the New World Reading Scholarship accounts. They are both just amazing opportunities for eligible students. If you think of any questions after the webinar, please feel free to reach out to either Jen with her e-mail that she provided. Or the e-mail that Shantae provided. You can also reach out directly to just read at fldoe. Work and a couple days when we have the recording ready and posted we will get that on our website on the just read Florida Web page under educator resources and then we have a tab for webinars and all of the webinars that we host this year. We'll be posting recordings there for viewing, so thank you again. For joining us this morning and we hope you all have a wonderful Wednesday.

# Audio file

[GMT20221130-134805\_Recording (1).m4a](https://floridadoe-my.sharepoint.com/personal/lee_peck_fldoe_org/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/GMT20221130-134805_Recording%20(1).m4a)

# Transcript

Speaker 3

Good morning, good morning, shante. How are you good?

Speaker 1

Good morning.

Speaker 2

How you doing?

Speaker 3

Good morning, Jeff.

Speaker 1

Good morning.

Speaker 3

Lee, are you on? So when I try to click the start video button it says you cannot start your video because the host has stopped it.

Speaker 2

And I'm just going to try sharing screen really quickly. Can you see Lindsay?

Speaker 3

Yes, I can see your screen shangtang.

Speaker 2

Can you see that full screen?

Speaker 3

Yes, I can see the full screen, UM. You may, if you don't mind on that first slide. I'm trying to think about what rather than 'cause, this isn't one of our monthly meetings. This is like a webinar for a much larger group. Huh, so you may want to just change it to like just read Florida webinar and then the date rather than main district reading contacts. Monthly meeting. If you don't. Mind does it allow you to share your video?

Speaker 2

I'm I'm not going to share any videos today.

Speaker 3

No, like your video of yourself.

Speaker 2

Oh no no no no. It gave me that same message unable to. I can't start.

Speaker 3

So something is not able to.

Speaker 5

Uh, share her baby.

Speaker 2

But I'm here. I want I. Have three different screens, so I'm trying to see which one will pick up my my video here.

Speaker 3

OK, Lee is going. To try to work on that Jennifer, do you want to see if you have? Screen sharing capabilities.

Speaker 1

Yes, sorry, I wasn't on Neil. I'm going to share my whole screen instead of just my PowerPoint because I'll be in and out of the PowerPoint as I'm doing demos. But let me pull up the right one. And then I'm going to cruise ahead to that video just so we can make sure that the audio is working.

Speaker 2

Jen, we could see you and presenter Mullins, yeah.

Speaker 3

The the screen that we can see is your presenter notes.

Speaker 1

Interesting, let me, let's see.

Speaker 3

You might have to click display settings. Up at the.

Speaker 1

Top, let's try it again. Goodbye now.

Speaker 3

Yep, that's good great.

Speaker 1

And when I click over to this video.

Speaker

You all can.

Speaker 5

What is an education savings account?

Speaker 1

Hear that just.

Speaker 2

Fine Yep yes great.

Speaker 5

An education savings account or?

Speaker 4

Great OK.

Speaker 3

Yay, my video works now.

Speaker 2

Me too.

Speaker 3

Thank you Lee. Alright, so we have about 5 more minutes until we'll get started and I'll kick it off and introduce both of you and then shante. You'll share your screen 1st and present.

Speaker 1

So I'm still not able to share my video. It still says the host has. Stopped it.

Speaker 3

Alright, let we'll try to work on that in the next couple minutes. Sorry about that, Jennifer. Oh it worked.

Speaker 1

I just had to try it again.

Speaker 3

Yeah, it was magic.

Speaker 1

I just had to speak it out loud.

Speaker 3

Good morning everyone. Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning. My name is Lindsay Brown and I'm the executive director of just read Florida and Majestrix Florida office is excited to offer our first webinar of this school year and our first webinar is focusing on the new world reading. And so we have two special guests with us. Today we have Doctor Shante, duggins for the New World Reading Initiative and she's from the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning and we also have Jennifer Canning to share with you about new World breeding scholarship accounts from step up for students. So I'm going to go ahead and. Hand it over to Doctor Shante Duggins, and she's going to start sharing wonderful information with you about the New World reading initiatives.

Speaker 2

Awesome, thank you so much and good morning everyone. So excited to be here with you all today. If we have not met previously. My name is Shante Diggins. I'm at the University of Florida Lastinger Center for learning. We have lots of exciting things happening at the Lastinger center. We've been around for 20 years. For those of you who may be. Unfamiliar with who we are and what we do, we provide support for both educators and parents and families. Now with the New World Reading Initiative, some of you may be familiar with some of our work such as. The literacy matrix. We're actually now accepting. Uh, pre enrollment information for the literacy matrix so I can share some information in the chat about that. We also do work in the space of early learning, mathematics, leadership and coaching and data and technology. The new goals reading initiative. We are the administrator for the new rules reading initiative. It's a family literacy engagement program that was recently established by statute under the guidance of former Speaker Chris Sprowls, and it is Florida's first statewide book distribution program of its kind. Our vision is. To provide resources to children and families and to create at home libraries for K5 students who are not yet reading on grade level. And we'll talk a bit about the eligibility criteria. We also aim to build caregivers confidence and capacities to support their own kids at home by providing meaningful literacy resources, tips and strategies for them. We recognize the value in partnership and so we partner with everyone and anyone both at in. School school districts and community organizations to support children and families. And we're also able to receive corporate tax payers can make contributions to new roles and sustain the program beyond the initial investment that the state has made. So we're super grateful for that. And then we've recently added teacher professional development, so to develop teacher experts in the science of reading through micro credentials. And teacher professional development that creates a home in school connection and literacy. So we've been pretty busy since we've started last year, but this is what we've been up to. So a little bit about our eligibility criteria. The the the New World Reading Initiative is designed for K5 students who attend public or charter schools in our state who are not yet reading on grade level. So these are students who have been identified based on the the new fast as not yet. Reading on grade level or students who receive either Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction in reading. And I'll, I'll. Add here that we're working with the Florida Department of Education to receive data to determine student eligibility. So in year we we hired a number of engagement team specialists across the state and we're excited to share some highlights from our year one. You can see some photos here. We've been busy out and about in communities working with schools and school districts we have. People located across the state and region, so we have somewhat a couple people in the Panhandle, NE central SW and SE Florida. Again, the purpose is to really engage with communities engaged with schools and school districts. We've sponsored literacy nights with schools. We've worked with community organizations to table at different events to get the information out, because remember that the new rules reading initiative, it's an opt in program. So in order for families to take advantage of the resources that we provide, they have to go to our website. At newworldreading.com to apply to participate and so our goal has been to get the information out there to as many families as possible in order for them to take advantage of the resources that we that we provide. We've received a ton of feedback from families just sharing how positive the new rules reading initiative has been for for their family, but this one is really special. It's from a student and it reads. I like that my parents don't always have to buy me books. I can get them in the mail. It's also kind of fun. It makes me feel like reading more because they're mine. I like to read all kinds of books when I get a book in the mail with my name on it on them. Box I feel like I'm special and again this one just makes me smile. It's from a student and we know that providing books and resources to families it's it's really life changing and that's what we're hearing from a number of families who are participating. All right, so to share some numbers to date. And this is as of we just started delivering books in October for this school year. Here, so based on data that we have from the 2122 school year, we estimate that over 556,000 students are eligible across the state. So again these are students who are not yet reading. On grade level. So far for this school year we have 125,000 students approximately who are enrolled and these are eligible. Since we still have a number of students who are pending based on additional data that we receive from the state, that will help us to determine whether or not those students are in fact eligible and we've shipped over 227,000 books so far, and that those numbers continue to increase every day. And again, our goal. Is to reach as many students as possible. All right, so I'll share a little bit about the resources. So in addition to providing books to students and again we work with the Florida Department of Education to VET and approve all of our titles before we send them out. We also send literacy resources to families, and that's a. An important part of our initiative because we want to support. Port families and children you know, really sharing that experience of a book together, and so we are creating again our book lists, in consultation with the gestri Florida office and those the list for year one is actually posted on their website and I can put that in the chat in. A bit as well. We're creating interactive reading guides for each. Book and these resources are also housed on our website, and we're also posting on our website a series of videos so families could see what the strategies look like in action. So when we talk about, you know selecting you know vocabulary words and what does that look like based on a book that. That they're receiving at home. So again, super excited to have those resources available completely free of charge to families and educators, really, anyone on our website and we'll continue to add to our website monthly. Let's see so for K through two students, the interactive reading guides are printed with the books and actually mailed to the homes of children for and all all of our resources again are on our website, and so we have bookmarks that we're creating for three through five that are mailed with the. Books that are sent to the homes of children. And here's an example of what an interactive reading guide looks like for for students, so again, it's it's intended to support the family to support their caregivers in in having that shared reading experience at home. Our team is working to develop a scope and sequence for our word work that's aligned with the Florida and best DLA standards for this for this school year. All right, so we'll talk a little bit about our outreach and engagement. So last year, we mailed twice. Actually Flyers to every school across the state, over 700,000 Flyers, and we're starting that again for this school year. Flyers started going out, I believe. Last week, again, across the entire state, so we've updated our Flyers. We're shipping them to schools across the. State we've heard from a number of schools that they didn't know what to do with the Flyers, and so we've included again a like a directional sheet. And so we're just asking, please please identify students who meet our eligibility criteria. Students who are not yet reading on grade level and please send those Flyers. Home to those families again, it is an opt in program so they have to go to our website to enroll. We've included a QR code so it's easy the the application is very easy. It could be done on a cell phone and so again the Flyers are are coming to schools across the state. So please share the Flyers with students who are eligible in order for them to enroll. And this is what the front side of the New Flyer looks like. Alright, so I'll also put in the chat in. Just a moment. Our links to our toolkit. So we created toolkits for districts and for schools. And so the the thinking is we want to make it really easy for you all to share the info. Nation and so we have ready to may we just copy everything is copy paste. Everything has been trans created in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, and so the idea again is to to get the information out. If you can scan the QR code that's on the screen right now. It'll take you directly to the school toolkit and we have sample messaging from principals to teachers or teachers to parents. We have the Flyers we have. A recorded phone screen. A number of social media resources. Again, just copy paste ready to use resources. So I'm I'm hopeful that you can scan this QR code and and you'll have the tool. The school toolkit at your fingertips. This is just a screenshot of some of the sample messaging that's included in the toolkit. Again, we're trying to make it really easy to share the information. This is a another example of sample messaging here that's available in our toolkit that can be shared. With parents. We have samples of social media posts. Again you can copy paste. We would love for you to tag us in any posts that you send out regarding new rules. Reading initiative. And here are some other resources and we have QR codes. Our logos. We have a ton of photos that you can use as well. So coming up for in this school year, I mentioned our engagement team. So in addition to sending books and resources to families, we would love to partner. With schools or. School districts or community organizations to engage right? And so we can coast host. Or Co host literacy nights. If you have any academic nights coming up if you wanted us to table at an event that you have at your school, or something that's happening in your organize in your community, we would be happy to do that. We've attended PTA or PTO meetings. Any opportunity to get in front of children. And families and educators. Again, we would love, love, love to take advantage of that. And so I'll share our e-mail address at the end and you can feel free to e-mail us if you would like for us to. Come out to. Your school or to your district to support. Your children and families. Uhm, so we have. We've been asked for students. Or or list. Of students who are actually eligible and enrolled in the New World Reading initiative, and so at every district, there is a district point of contact. And we've shared, UM. Data with the district points of contact regarding eligible students who are enrolled in the new rules reading initiative. And so our. My question to you is now that you all have access to those data, how can we reach more eligible students and so please reach out to your district point of contact. To identify the the students who are eligible and enrolled and then reach out to those who you know are eligible but not yet enrolled and so thank you again for getting the information out there to as many families as possible. Here's another quote, this one from a parent. It reads my daughter is a struggling reader, so to be a part of this program is awesome. The book program has encouraged my child reading, which has improved her whole life for her now to feel comfortable enough just to pick up a book that has been sent to her has changed her. Now she says, hey mom, I'm going to sit and read. That didn't happen before. Or so again, we are really changing the trajectories for our students, who are typically reluctant readers and providing not only them but also their families with resources to support them at home. So we are really grateful for to have this opportunity to share and thank. You all again. We ask that you help us to get additional eligible students enrolled. Be an ambassador for the program. Share with other educators. Share with families. Share with communities. We've attended a number of conferences where people still have not heard about the new rules reading initiative, so please share very widely and follow us on social media. We'd love for you to to tag us. To follow us, if you're sharing anything about families that have provided you with feedback, we'd love to hear that as. Well and again, thank you. Here's our information. I'll put some things in the chat, but I wanted to leave a sufficient amount of time for any questions or comments. From the group. And I'm going to be putting a few things. In the chat. Alright, so where can I find the parent toolkit so? We don't have. A parent toolkit, but we do have a a toolkit for for districts and for schools, so I'll. Put that in the chat right now. And I think. I think it'll go to everyone. If the F. LDOE is sharing data with you as who as to who is eligible. Is there way to. Share that with. Schools they want to know who is eligible and not yet enrolled and and so the data that we receive from the Dewey is data that districts already provide to them. So you all have access to that information based on. Students who scored below Benchmark run fast as well as students who are receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction. So use the data that you have access to to identify students who are eligible. But not yet enrolled. Uh, another question, can we share your e-mail with schools so they can contact you for parents? Yeah, of course we would love. We would love that, so I'm leaving it up on the screen here for you to to grab that information. Uhm, Heather, I'm having issues downloading the data from the SFP I emailed but haven't heard back. Uhm, OK, yes, thank you for that message, Heather. We do have a a how to guide that should have accompanied the the initial e-mail that you received so. Do e-mail this e-mail address again and just say hey, can you send that to me again or we have someone who could actually walk you through? Uhm, the information as well so please e-mail us and sorry if you have not received a response. I'm putting information in the chat regarding the. The literacy matrix as well. If I can copy and paste it over, what other questions are coming up? Do families have to renew their enrollment each year? No, once an eligible family is enrolled, they actually remain enrolled unless they decide to opt out until the the student gets to. You know graduates from 5th. Grade and that that is regardless of you know their improvement in their reading score, so of course we want students to to be more proficient readers. But regardless of you know their improvement, they actually remain enrolled. All we ask is that they update their their enrollment information. So for example, we. Know that families move. You know they. They can also update their their interests. So on our enrollment application, families can select up to. 3 topics of that are of interest to to their students and then based on their selection we send we match the topics to particular titles so they could always update that information monthly as well. Uhm, for grades three through 5 below level is levels one and two on fast, uh, so we actually thank you for that question. We actually have not yet received data for the progress monitoring one, and so we are awaiting. The receiver of that information in order to determine eligibility for this school year. So we are still waiting on on those data to come through.

Speaker 3

You would be able. To identify students from last year that scored a level one or two on FSA and also at the you know, school and district level. You already know which students scored a level one or two on PM one, and so you would be able to identify students that way. The UF Lastinger Center just isn't able to. They can like pre roll pre enroll. They just aren't technically enrolled in the program yet because the department is still trying to clean up data from PM one in order to share that with the Lastinger center.

Speaker 2

Thank you, Lindsey. OK.

Speaker 3

Thank you so much Doctor Duggan for sharing with us this morning.

Speaker 2

There are a few more questions. Do we have? A couple more minutes. There additional questions are coming through UM.

Speaker 3

Yes, yes.

Speaker 2

Let's see OK so I someone I can see your chat, Colleen. Someone is under a tornado watch and wants the recording OK.

Speaker 3

The recording will be posted on our website.

Speaker 2

OK Brandy, we could send you the PDF, so if you e-mail us. Uhm, requesting the toolkit we can send that to you in. A PDF format. My yes Jennifer is going to talk about the scholarship portion of New Worlds. That's for from step up. Yes, we'll send updated data regarding students who. Are eligible and. Enrolled we're hoping to do that monthly, and so you should have access to those data in the SFTP folder, so thank you for that question and. We are adding the ID to the data as well, so that should make it easier for you all. So thank you for that question. We had a parent say their address wasn't identified or recognized. How can that be fixed? The parents, in order to be eligible, they have to have a valid Florida. Address and and if there's an issue where there's a family that. Does not have a you know a mailing address if they're if they're homeless, for example, then you can e-mail us and or or work with the family, right? To think about if they can use a neighbors address, you know that's happened before a church. You know, a friend. Something of that nature. So if if there's an issue around that, you can. E-mail us directly and we can help. Nikki, your question is, can we see who has enrolled? Yes, you can. Every district has a district point of contact and they have access to to those data. We do ask that you share data within your district in a secure way, so don't don't e-mail it. Which is why we send it through the secure or secure platform, and so we can't send personally identifiable information via e-mail. And so your district point of contact has that has those data and just send it securely in your district. OK.

Speaker 3

I see, uh, question about eligibility.

Speaker

Right?

Speaker 3

Yeah, and I'm going to put in the chat the eligibility for the New World Reading Initiative that was shared with district reading contacts. Within the last couple months and so it's it's pretty detailed based on data for K through 5.

Speaker 2

Thank you. Thank you and let me add. Thank you Lindsay in year one because we did not so last year when we first started we didn't have. Some data to verify students. We recognized that there were maybe about approximately 60,000 students who had enrolled and received books and resources who were not actually eligible, and so for those students they have been grandfathered in, and so they will continue to. Receive books and resources, but moving forward we are going to be verifying student eligibility before they actually receive books and resources. OK, anonymous attendee with the address issue. Yeah just e-mail us and we can look into that. Uhm, Katie, the e-mail. The e-mail came from. Erica Fritz Oaks regarding the. The access to the SFTP as well as the step to step step by step guide. Alright, thank you. Yes I will share information Linda about the literacy matrix. I'm gonna put it in the chat, probably after I get to the end of the questions. Ah, how do you know who your district point of contact is? We have a list for that and I'm going to put that in the chat as well. Let's see. Alright, so uhm, I posted the book list that's on the Louise website for year one and a link to the district point of contact for this year and then as soon as I can get to the information regarding the literacy matrix, I will put that in the chat as well. All right, I think we've made it to the end and I'm at time, Lindsey. So thank you all. Feel free to e-mail if you have additional questions.

Speaker 3

Again, thank you so much, Doctor Duggan. It's just so exciting to hear about the New World Reading Initiative and the opportunity that eligible students can receive free books in their home every month. So now we are ready to hear about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts. And it looks like Jennifer is ready to begin.

Speaker 1

I sure am. Can everybody hear me OK? Yes perfect. So my name is Jen Canning. I will step up for students and I'm here to talk to you about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts today and these are scholarships that help struggling readers afford the support they need to succeed. So step up for students who are not familiar with this. We actually administer 4 statewide scholarship programs across the state, the first being the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program, and that helps middle lower to middle income families. We also have the FS program which serves 2 populations, again a lower to middle. A family group, but also helps students who have unique abilities. And then we have our hope scholarship for students who may be bullied or victims of violence. And then I'm the director of the New World Reading Scholarship accounts, which helps K through five public school students who struggle with reading. Now the reading scholarship. Was created in 2018 and then during last year's legislative session it was merged with the new. World reading initiatives. So the new rules reading initiative has two wings, the first being the free book program that Shante talked to us about and the other side being scholarship which step up for students administers. So who qualifies for the scholarship? So this is going to sound awfully familiar. So in previous years, the scholarship was only for grades three through 5. And then last year when it was merged with the New World Reading Initiative, the Legislature expanded eligibility to include K through two as well, and so Florida public and charter school students, who either in last year scored below a Level 3. On the ELA would qualify students this year in grades three through five who were scoring a level one or A2 on the. Best or students in K through two who are identified with a substantial reading deficiency would all qualify. One difference between our eligibility and the book distribution eligibility is that funding priority by law has to be given to English language learners. So if a student is enrolled. In a program or receiving services specifically designed for LL, then that student would receive funding priority. Another difference is students do have to re qualify for the scholarship every year just to make sure. You know, if a student is no longer struggling with reading then they would not receive those extra funds. In the following year. OK, let's talk about the scholarship. So the new World Reading scholarship accounts are education savings account and this is kind of a new concept. It's a lot like a health savings account, and so we have a video that helps explain what an ESA is.

Speaker 5

What is an education savings account? An education savings account or ESA? Is a state. Scholarship program that allows families to personalize the education of their children. For the new. World Reading scholarship accounts. ESA funds can cover the cost of instructional materials. Great technology items. Summer literacy programs and more. How do ESA's work? The state sends the funds to a scholarship funding organization like step up for students. The scholarship funding organization puts the funds into the students account. Families then use the funds to help cover the cost of educational services. Products step up for students has created a platform that helps families manage their students scholarship funds. This platform makes it easy to shop for educational services and products from a variety of education service providers. Families can use scholarship funds to pay providers directly or get reimbursed for out of pocket purchases. Unused funds can roll over to pay for future expenses. Today, thousands of families across the country are using ESA's to personalize their child's education. Learn more about the New World Reading scholarship accounts and how ESA funds can help your student at stepupforstudents.org/reading.

Speaker 1

OK, so that went pretty fast, but I'm still going to explain every part of that. So the first being how the funds can be used so we know it's a $500.00 scholarship and those funds can be put towards part time tutoring, which is a very popular option. Summer and after school literacy programs, instructional materials. Including books, desktop, laptop computers and tablets or curriculum related to reading or literacy. So how did these students apply for the scholarship? So first they would visit stepupforstudents.org back slash reading I'm going to click on that real quick just to show you what that looks like. So here is our web page for the reading scholarship and families would simply click on this. Apply now to be taken to the application platform. OK, so once they click that apply, now they'll create a guardian profile and then add students to their account. This is super quick and easy. I'm actually going to walk you all through that in just a little bit and it's just like setting up an account on any website. I would specifically equate it to setting up an account on like a banking website. Just like an online banking website, so ESA's are essentially a bank account, so there's a lot of security around that, and we'll get into that a little bit late. And then the third step is that they'll complete the application. Most of the information is going to be pulled in from when they create their guardian profile. And add students. I'm going to walk you through the application process and you're going to. See how quick and easy that is. OK, so an important note. Schools and providers should not be completing guardian profiles and applications on parents behalf. So like I mentioned, ESA's are like bank accounts and only the parents and guardians should have access to that ESA. The other really important thing is that step up for students mostly communicates via e-mail with parents and guardians, and so when they create their account, it's really important that they use an e-mail address that they're checking off in. Sometimes we'll hear from parents and they're confused. They're not hearing from us. And then we'll check to see what e-mail address. We have on file and it'll be like junk maillikegmail.com right? And so they they didn't want to get spam from us and so I'll walk you through a little later how parents can can tell us what types of communications they want from us. OK, and you saw in the video that we have created a platform to help manage DSA funds. So our platform is called Emma and that's our education market assistant and so we are going to see lots of different features of Emma throughout my presentation today and the first stop is going to be creating. An account, so we're going to go through a demo together for the account creation. Like I said, it's a lot like creating an online account for a. I think, and so for this part I'm going to show screenshots and then we're moving to a live demo. There's a lot of having to e-mail or text codes, and so I didn't want to waste your time. I'm showing you that today, but I think the screenshots will. Do just. Fine, so when the families navigate to our website and click on apply now it takes them to Emma. And then they would navigate. To the sign up that's circled on the screen. From there a lot like creating an online bank account. They would be sent a code to their e-mail address and it's just a verification code function. It's just like every other website that uses a verification code, right? So once they type that in, we'll let them know that their e-mail address has been. Verified and they can continue to the next. Screen and this is where it will start to create their username and password for the website. From there there set up their security questions again, just like security questions. When you're setting up an online bank account, exact same types of questions. Just like every other website, they certify that they agree to our terms and conditions. And then they'll move on to creating their guardian profile, so we'll assign them a Guardian ID. They'll let us know their marital status and their primary language once they select Spanish. Here, everything from there on out will be in Spanish. Including the application, the marketplace, all of that. So they'll type in their mailing address. We do do a verification check to make sure that it's legitimate address, and then if it's the same as if their physical address is the same as their mailing address, they'll just check this box and it'll fill out this information. Here and then we also asked them for the excuse me for their contact information. So here is where they're able to manage consents, and to say what types of messages they would like to get from. Step up for students. They're also able to manage their contact preferences, so you see that e-mail is required, but we do also communicate via text and prerecorded phone messages, and sometimes personal phone calls when the situation warrants it. OK, from there they just hit save and they have set up their guardian profile. Now I have already logged into a test account to make today go a little fast. Sure, so this is what the Ms Scholarship portal looks like. And one thing I want to point out is in this example that I have pulled up for you. This family has submitted an application but they don't have funds yet, and So what they have access to over here is very limited and I'll show you some screenshots later. Of what this turns into once funds have been applied to. The Sims account. So once the Guardian account has been created, the family then has to add students. I have a student added already, but I'm going to add another student so you can see what. That looks. Like so I'm just going to call this. And a test. So first and last name or required. But then we do have lots of optional things as well, including the ID in years past the ID number was required and that really stopped a lot of parents from completing the application because they just couldn't find their ID number. And so this. Year we work with the. Department of Education. To make sure that this is no longer required, it makes the process a lot easier. Now we do have some rules around the date of birth we want to. Make sure that. The student it makes sense that their age is falling within grades K through 5. From here they select their gender and ethnicity if they're non Hispanic or Latino, race pops up and it's required. They would simply save that student, and they're done. A family can add as many students as they need to. And now I'm going to take you through the application. Right now the only application available for this family through the Emma platform is the New World Reading Scholarship accounts application. They would simply hit apply. OK and select the student so the other student that I had entered had already applied for the scholarship so they're no longer populating in the dropdown, but the student we just created is and you can see how that student information has completely pulled in and the only thing that the parent needs to add at this part. At this point is the school and the students grade level. The parent will then confirm that the student is enrolled in a Florida public school in K through 5th grade for the current school year and has a substantial reading deficiency. The parent is welcome to upload supporting documents. A common question that we get is, does uploading a document help my students chances of getting a scholarship? And the answer is no. So we work with the Department of Education to determine eligibility and all applications. Percent, regardless of if they have supporting documents, or. Not so parents are. Welcome to add documents here, but they do not have to. From here, the parent will hit continue and you can see, just like with the students, the Guardians at information is pulled in from when they created their Guardian account. And I didn't point this out before, but on both screens, if any information is incorrect, they can simply navigate to that page, fix it, and then navigate back to the application. The only thing the parent has to do on this screen, it just let us know their phone type. That's because if they've selected that they would like to receive texts from us, we need to know if. They have a cell phone on file. They would hit continue and at that point the applications done. We just ask them to review their information and then they do have to check a box that says that they certify that all the information presented is true and accurate. We also let them know that we work with the University of Florida Lastinger Center. And we shared our data with them and that by completing this application and submitting it, their data is going to be shared with the last Senior Center for learning and what that data sharing allows us to do is make sure you know there's a lot of overlap between food qualifies for the scholarship and who qualifies for the book distribution program. And we want to make sure that. We're capturing as many students as possible. From here, the Guardian simply needs to sign their name. And then they would submit their application. And that's it. So our application has really been streamlined. It's a lot easier than it's been in years past, and we're seeing a really great success rate of parents getting through the application this year. You can see here the parent can log in at any time and see what their application status is. The status of these two students. Is submitted. OK, So what are the next steps once that application is submitted you've heard me say a couple of times that step up for students works with the Florida Department of Education to determine eligibility that process could take up to 45. Says we're able to beat that in most cases. Sometimes there's something extraneous going on, and it takes us a little while longer to identify that. You've heard me say a couple times. The e-mail is really important, so how will the families know if they've been awarded a scholarship? We're going to e-mail them to the e-mail address on file, but I showed you where they can log in and see the status of their. Application at any point in time. If an awarded if awarded a scholarship, families will receive another e-mail once the students account has been funded and that e-mail will include instructions on how to begin utilizing those funds. So let's talk about that. Let's talk about how to use. Those scholarship funds. There are three. Different ways that families can utilize their scholarship funds. The first is with direct pay providers, so we work with providers across the state, including tutors. After school and summer literacy programs and a lot of those providers. Have signed up to be direct pay, so that means that families do not have to pay out of pocket and wait to be reimbursed. They're paid directly through. The Emma account. We have also. Created my scholar shop which is a lot like an Amazon that's just full of pre approved instructional materials for families where they can again shop directly with their funds through the Emma platform. They do not need to pay out of pocket and then the 3rd way is reimbursements where families can pay for products and services. Out of pocket and then submit a receipt through Emma for reimbursement. So I want to draw your attention over here to the left side of the screen. I mentioned earlier that in the example that I was showing you in the demo that family has not been funded yet. This is an example of what a family would see once they're funded. They now have a tab for reimbursements, and they also have the marketplace tab. So through the marketplace tab, they're able to shop. For providers. This is where they will find the direct providers that they do not have to pay out. Of pocket for. And that's where they'll be able to navigate to my scholar shop, and then I just wanted to share a quick screenshot of my scholarship. And so they'll be able to either navigate to tiles for the items that they're looking for, or they can search for items directly. And so again, if they're shopping through our marketplace, they do not need to pay out of pocket. The funds go directly from their scholarship account, either to the vendor or to the provider. But what happens if a? Parent goes to the marketplace and they're not seeing the provider they want. They're not seeing the product they want. That's not a problem. They can always pay for qualifying services and products out of pocket. And submit a receipt also through Emma through the reimbursements tab so that they can be reimbursed. OK, so how can you help? So step up for students does not receive any funding for marketing that new World Reading Scholarship accounts program. We do receive some funds to administer the program, but as you can see, an ESA is really a complicated thing to administer and so that's where all of our administrative funding goes, and so. To date, since the scholarship was created in 2018, we have never met the program cap and this year our CAP is larger than ever. We can serve 58,000 students this year. We opened earlier this month and we're off to a great start. We've already had over 3500 students apply for the scholarship. But we really. Need help spreading the word, and so we're really relying on districts and community partners and our partners. At the last Senior Center to help spread the word about the scholarship program. So if you know students who could benefit. You can tell their parents to visit stepupforstudents.org, back slash, readingsubs.org, back slash reading also works if you know of a service provider or a vendor that helps struggling readers. They can also go to our website to learn how to participate. And we also have Flyers that we provide, and so if you would like a flower, you can e-mail my colleague Melissa. Her e-mail address is m.jeremy0@soft.org. That's MJARAMILLO at soft.org, so we really need help. Spreading the word. We do e-mail the district contacts that the DoD has, and so if you're wondering if you're on that list, that's on the Florida DoD website and that's our contact list that we use to communicate about the new World Reading scholarship accounts. OK, let's spend a few minutes. Uhm, doing a few questions and answers. So a student. Yes, so Michelle student can and probably does qualify for both the scholarship and the free book program. And so our goal? Oh, I need to scroll up. I skipped a few. Our goal is. For students to participate in both because if a student receiving the funds and going to tutoring, it's absolutely going to help them if they go home and have a library that's been curated for them to read from. Let me scroll up to.

Speaker 3

The top here. There are. I just want to clarify real quick. There are some slight differences between the eligibility in both programs and the detailed eligibility has been provided to the main district. Reading contact in each district. But if you want to send an e-mail to me or. To the just read at ldoe.org account, we can definitely send that to you as well. It's too long to copy and paste into the chat and it'll get kind of mixed up, so we'd be happy to e-mail that to you so that you can see how the eligibility for the programs are alike and also slightly.

Speaker 1

Yeah, and and just to clarify that eligibility is laid out in statute, and so it gets. You know, it's very technical and wonky, and that's why it's a little lengthy and that's why there's just some slight differences between the two programs. OK, so this question is from 918, so I believe that was from earlier today. I think I started at 9:24 so so a student must be ELL student along with receiving a level one or two on the fast to qualify. So that is not correct. LL students get priority when it comes to funding. But a student does not have to be LL. In order to qualify for the scholarship, because we've never hit our program cap before, we've actually never had to. There have never been times where a student wasn't LL and therefore wasn't funded, so definitely have all your students apply, whether they're LL or not. How does a school or teacher become a provider for the Reading scholarship program? That's a great question, so we do have some public schools around the state who are providers. So these are schools who kind of thought to themselves. $500.00 per student. We've got a lot of struggling readers we could use that $500.00 to create an after school program. So if you navigate to that step up for students website, there's a four providers tab there and it goes through the process of becoming a provider. Now coming very soon in the new year. All of that is going to change. We're also bringing our providers onto the MO platform, and so it's going to be easier than ever to participate as a provider for the reading scholarship program. Teachers can also participate on their own as part time tutors and we've got a lot of teachers across the state who are doing that. So again, they can just navigate to our website and they'll be able to find information on how to participate. There are some laws and rules around who can participate as a provider. Things like you know a teacher is going to be able to participate because they have a valid teaching certificate, but you could also have a bachelors or masters degree. In reading or literacy, English language arts and qualify. So there are some technicalities there. But our provider relations team is set up for students will help their providers. Through that process. OK, what type of instructional materials all are available through my scholarshop? Are they aligned to best and who has vetted them? So I'm going to navigate back to that page so we can look at that together, so instruction materials that's also laid out. What counts as instruction materials. Also laid out in statute and rule, it includes laptops, tablets, owners, online software, programs, books, curriculum, things of that nature. Uhm, and so that is actually vetted by step up for students compliance team to make sure it matches the letter. Of the law. Uh, that governs the reading, scholarship program, and so is it aligned to best, no, but what we do always communicate with our scholarship families, especially our new world. Reading scholarship families is they should be sitting down and speaking with their students teacher. Or speaking with their districts reading and literacy. Coach and saying, hey, I have this $500.00. What's the best use of that for my student and so families do receive that instructions for step up for students to make sure that they're using their funds in the way that makes the most sense for their students. OK. Where do we go to learn more about getting a reading endorsement for teachers for free? Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question I do.

Speaker 3

Yes, it is in the chat, doctor Dugan posted it there starting with pre enrollment for the UF Lastinger Center for Learning. 2223 Flamingo Literacy matrix is open now and she you know had to break it up into a couple pieces. But there's a link there that says please share this fire with your educators to pre enroll. So pre enrollment. For the literacy matrix, which is free for Florida educators, it is currently open for pre enrollment and the next course or semester begins on January 30th.

Speaker 4

Right?

Speaker 1

Now the next question was about Flyers, so if you would like a flyer to share with your students, the easiest way of doing it is making sure that you're added to the district contact list that the Florida Department of Education uses, because that's who step up communicates with regularly about the program. We share more than just the flyer. We do have Flyers in English and Spanish, but we also share instruction. With those district contacts as well. But you can also e-mail my colleague Melissa Jeremy oh and just let her know that you would like a new road reading scholarship accounts flyer. Let her know if you want it in English and in Spanish, and she'll send that to you, so I'll leave this screen up so you can copy down her e-mail address. Move that over there. Ah OK, I see a lot of thank yous and then will districts have access to the sample video and supporting documents or Flyers to educate school leaders and parents? So the answer is yes. One step up for students, emails, districts and we do so at several points throughout the year. They've already received a few emails from us, but then they're going to receive. Communications around when progress monitoring is occurring and those results are coming in and so we do share that video. We do share supporting documents and we do share those Flyers there as well. OK, what is the recipient cap? Yep, so we have. There's been enough funding allocated at the state level this year to serve 58,000 students, and so we've been open a little less than a month. You know few weeks, and we've already gotten 3500 applicants so far, so, uh. Lot of room to grow and we can serve an awful lot of students this year. OK, here's another question about reading endorsement or higher education faculty eligible for the reading endorsement as well. Chantelle Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question?

Speaker 2

Do they have a floor of valid Florida teaching certificate? That's but e-mail For more information. I my colleague Pam Alfaro could respond directly.

Speaker 1

OK, so it looks like we've reached the end of the questions. I do want to navigate to the last page in my presentation because I want to share my contact information with you. If you come up with any other questions. My phone number is listed on the right hand side of the screen as well as. My e-mail on. The left hand side of the screen. Is the phone number for our separate for student service center and our website? You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Speaker 3

Thank you so much Jen.

Speaker 1

Thank you.

Speaker 3

And thank you both, I'm. Excited that we were able to. Of Shante and Jen here with us this morning to share information about the New World Reading Initiative and the New World Reading Scholarship accounts. They are both just amazing opportunities for eligible students. If you think of any questions after the webinar, please feel free to reach out to either Jen with her e-mail that she provided. Or the e-mail that Shantae provided. You can also reach out directly to just read at fldoe. Work and a couple days when we have the recording ready and posted we will get that on our website on the just read Florida Web page under educator resources and then we have a tab for webinars and all of the webinars that we host this year. We'll be posting recordings there for viewing, so thank you again. For joining us this morning and we hope you all have a wonderful Wednesday.

# Audio file

[GMT20221130-134805\_Recording (1).m4a](https://floridadoe-my.sharepoint.com/personal/lee_peck_fldoe_org/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/GMT20221130-134805_Recording%20(1).m4a)

# Transcript

Speaker 3

Good morning, good morning, shante. How are you good?

Speaker 1

Good morning.

Speaker 2

How you doing?

Speaker 3

Good morning, Jeff.

Speaker 1

Good morning.

Speaker 3

Lee, are you on? So when I try to click the start video button it says you cannot start your video because the host has stopped it.

Speaker 2

And I'm just going to try sharing screen really quickly. Can you see Lindsay?

Speaker 3

Yes, I can see your screen shangtang.

Speaker 2

Can you see that full screen?

Speaker 3

Yes, I can see the full screen, UM. You may, if you don't mind on that first slide. I'm trying to think about what rather than 'cause, this isn't one of our monthly meetings. This is like a webinar for a much larger group. Huh, so you may want to just change it to like just read Florida webinar and then the date rather than main district reading contacts. Monthly meeting. If you don't. Mind does it allow you to share your video?

Speaker 2

I'm I'm not going to share any videos today.

Speaker 3

No, like your video of yourself.

Speaker 2

Oh no no no no. It gave me that same message unable to. I can't start.

Speaker 3

So something is not able to.

Speaker 5

Uh, share her baby.

Speaker 2

But I'm here. I want I. Have three different screens, so I'm trying to see which one will pick up my my video here.

Speaker 3

OK, Lee is going. To try to work on that Jennifer, do you want to see if you have? Screen sharing capabilities.

Speaker 1

Yes, sorry, I wasn't on Neil. I'm going to share my whole screen instead of just my PowerPoint because I'll be in and out of the PowerPoint as I'm doing demos. But let me pull up the right one. And then I'm going to cruise ahead to that video just so we can make sure that the audio is working.

Speaker 2

Jen, we could see you and presenter Mullins, yeah.

Speaker 3

The the screen that we can see is your presenter notes.

Speaker 1

Interesting, let me, let's see.

Speaker 3

You might have to click display settings. Up at the.

Speaker 1

Top, let's try it again. Goodbye now.

Speaker 3

Yep, that's good great.

Speaker 1

And when I click over to this video.

Speaker

You all can.

Speaker 5

What is an education savings account?

Speaker 1

Hear that just.

Speaker 2

Fine Yep yes great.

Speaker 5

An education savings account or?

Speaker 4

Great OK.

Speaker 3

Yay, my video works now.

Speaker 2

Me too.

Speaker 3

Thank you Lee. Alright, so we have about 5 more minutes until we'll get started and I'll kick it off and introduce both of you and then shante. You'll share your screen 1st and present.

Speaker 1

So I'm still not able to share my video. It still says the host has. Stopped it.

Speaker 3

Alright, let we'll try to work on that in the next couple minutes. Sorry about that, Jennifer. Oh it worked.

Speaker 1

I just had to try it again.

Speaker 3

Yeah, it was magic.

Speaker 1

I just had to speak it out loud.

Speaker 3

Good morning everyone. Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning. My name is Lindsay Brown and I'm the executive director of just read Florida and Majestrix Florida office is excited to offer our first webinar of this school year and our first webinar is focusing on the new world reading. And so we have two special guests with us. Today we have Doctor Shante, duggins for the New World Reading Initiative and she's from the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning and we also have Jennifer Canning to share with you about new World breeding scholarship accounts from step up for students. So I'm going to go ahead and. Hand it over to Doctor Shante Duggins, and she's going to start sharing wonderful information with you about the New World reading initiatives.

Speaker 2

Awesome, thank you so much and good morning everyone. So excited to be here with you all today. If we have not met previously. My name is Shante Diggins. I'm at the University of Florida Lastinger Center for learning. We have lots of exciting things happening at the Lastinger center. We've been around for 20 years. For those of you who may be. Unfamiliar with who we are and what we do, we provide support for both educators and parents and families. Now with the New World Reading Initiative, some of you may be familiar with some of our work such as. The literacy matrix. We're actually now accepting. Uh, pre enrollment information for the literacy matrix so I can share some information in the chat about that. We also do work in the space of early learning, mathematics, leadership and coaching and data and technology. The new goals reading initiative. We are the administrator for the new rules reading initiative. It's a family literacy engagement program that was recently established by statute under the guidance of former Speaker Chris Sprowls, and it is Florida's first statewide book distribution program of its kind. Our vision is. To provide resources to children and families and to create at home libraries for K5 students who are not yet reading on grade level. And we'll talk a bit about the eligibility criteria. We also aim to build caregivers confidence and capacities to support their own kids at home by providing meaningful literacy resources, tips and strategies for them. We recognize the value in partnership and so we partner with everyone and anyone both at in. School school districts and community organizations to support children and families. And we're also able to receive corporate tax payers can make contributions to new roles and sustain the program beyond the initial investment that the state has made. So we're super grateful for that. And then we've recently added teacher professional development, so to develop teacher experts in the science of reading through micro credentials. And teacher professional development that creates a home in school connection and literacy. So we've been pretty busy since we've started last year, but this is what we've been up to. So a little bit about our eligibility criteria. The the the New World Reading Initiative is designed for K5 students who attend public or charter schools in our state who are not yet reading on grade level. So these are students who have been identified based on the the new fast as not yet. Reading on grade level or students who receive either Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction in reading. And I'll, I'll. Add here that we're working with the Florida Department of Education to receive data to determine student eligibility. So in year we we hired a number of engagement team specialists across the state and we're excited to share some highlights from our year one. You can see some photos here. We've been busy out and about in communities working with schools and school districts we have. People located across the state and region, so we have somewhat a couple people in the Panhandle, NE central SW and SE Florida. Again, the purpose is to really engage with communities engaged with schools and school districts. We've sponsored literacy nights with schools. We've worked with community organizations to table at different events to get the information out, because remember that the new rules reading initiative, it's an opt in program. So in order for families to take advantage of the resources that we provide, they have to go to our website. At newworldreading.com to apply to participate and so our goal has been to get the information out there to as many families as possible in order for them to take advantage of the resources that we that we provide. We've received a ton of feedback from families just sharing how positive the new rules reading initiative has been for for their family, but this one is really special. It's from a student and it reads. I like that my parents don't always have to buy me books. I can get them in the mail. It's also kind of fun. It makes me feel like reading more because they're mine. I like to read all kinds of books when I get a book in the mail with my name on it on them. Box I feel like I'm special and again this one just makes me smile. It's from a student and we know that providing books and resources to families it's it's really life changing and that's what we're hearing from a number of families who are participating. All right, so to share some numbers to date. And this is as of we just started delivering books in October for this school year. Here, so based on data that we have from the 2122 school year, we estimate that over 556,000 students are eligible across the state. So again these are students who are not yet reading. On grade level. So far for this school year we have 125,000 students approximately who are enrolled and these are eligible. Since we still have a number of students who are pending based on additional data that we receive from the state, that will help us to determine whether or not those students are in fact eligible and we've shipped over 227,000 books so far, and that those numbers continue to increase every day. And again, our goal. Is to reach as many students as possible. All right, so I'll share a little bit about the resources. So in addition to providing books to students and again we work with the Florida Department of Education to VET and approve all of our titles before we send them out. We also send literacy resources to families, and that's a. An important part of our initiative because we want to support. Port families and children you know, really sharing that experience of a book together, and so we are creating again our book lists, in consultation with the gestri Florida office and those the list for year one is actually posted on their website and I can put that in the chat in. A bit as well. We're creating interactive reading guides for each. Book and these resources are also housed on our website, and we're also posting on our website a series of videos so families could see what the strategies look like in action. So when we talk about, you know selecting you know vocabulary words and what does that look like based on a book that. That they're receiving at home. So again, super excited to have those resources available completely free of charge to families and educators, really, anyone on our website and we'll continue to add to our website monthly. Let's see so for K through two students, the interactive reading guides are printed with the books and actually mailed to the homes of children for and all all of our resources again are on our website, and so we have bookmarks that we're creating for three through five that are mailed with the. Books that are sent to the homes of children. And here's an example of what an interactive reading guide looks like for for students, so again, it's it's intended to support the family to support their caregivers in in having that shared reading experience at home. Our team is working to develop a scope and sequence for our word work that's aligned with the Florida and best DLA standards for this for this school year. All right, so we'll talk a little bit about our outreach and engagement. So last year, we mailed twice. Actually Flyers to every school across the state, over 700,000 Flyers, and we're starting that again for this school year. Flyers started going out, I believe. Last week, again, across the entire state, so we've updated our Flyers. We're shipping them to schools across the. State we've heard from a number of schools that they didn't know what to do with the Flyers, and so we've included again a like a directional sheet. And so we're just asking, please please identify students who meet our eligibility criteria. Students who are not yet reading on grade level and please send those Flyers. Home to those families again, it is an opt in program so they have to go to our website to enroll. We've included a QR code so it's easy the the application is very easy. It could be done on a cell phone and so again the Flyers are are coming to schools across the state. So please share the Flyers with students who are eligible in order for them to enroll. And this is what the front side of the New Flyer looks like. Alright, so I'll also put in the chat in. Just a moment. Our links to our toolkit. So we created toolkits for districts and for schools. And so the the thinking is we want to make it really easy for you all to share the info. Nation and so we have ready to may we just copy everything is copy paste. Everything has been trans created in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, and so the idea again is to to get the information out. If you can scan the QR code that's on the screen right now. It'll take you directly to the school toolkit and we have sample messaging from principals to teachers or teachers to parents. We have the Flyers we have. A recorded phone screen. A number of social media resources. Again, just copy paste ready to use resources. So I'm I'm hopeful that you can scan this QR code and and you'll have the tool. The school toolkit at your fingertips. This is just a screenshot of some of the sample messaging that's included in the toolkit. Again, we're trying to make it really easy to share the information. This is a another example of sample messaging here that's available in our toolkit that can be shared. With parents. We have samples of social media posts. Again you can copy paste. We would love for you to tag us in any posts that you send out regarding new rules. Reading initiative. And here are some other resources and we have QR codes. Our logos. We have a ton of photos that you can use as well. So coming up for in this school year, I mentioned our engagement team. So in addition to sending books and resources to families, we would love to partner. With schools or. School districts or community organizations to engage right? And so we can coast host. Or Co host literacy nights. If you have any academic nights coming up if you wanted us to table at an event that you have at your school, or something that's happening in your organize in your community, we would be happy to do that. We've attended PTA or PTO meetings. Any opportunity to get in front of children. And families and educators. Again, we would love, love, love to take advantage of that. And so I'll share our e-mail address at the end and you can feel free to e-mail us if you would like for us to. Come out to. Your school or to your district to support. Your children and families. Uhm, so we have. We've been asked for students. Or or list. Of students who are actually eligible and enrolled in the New World Reading initiative, and so at every district, there is a district point of contact. And we've shared, UM. Data with the district points of contact regarding eligible students who are enrolled in the new rules reading initiative. And so our. My question to you is now that you all have access to those data, how can we reach more eligible students and so please reach out to your district point of contact. To identify the the students who are eligible and enrolled and then reach out to those who you know are eligible but not yet enrolled and so thank you again for getting the information out there to as many families as possible. Here's another quote, this one from a parent. It reads my daughter is a struggling reader, so to be a part of this program is awesome. The book program has encouraged my child reading, which has improved her whole life for her now to feel comfortable enough just to pick up a book that has been sent to her has changed her. Now she says, hey mom, I'm going to sit and read. That didn't happen before. Or so again, we are really changing the trajectories for our students, who are typically reluctant readers and providing not only them but also their families with resources to support them at home. So we are really grateful for to have this opportunity to share and thank. You all again. We ask that you help us to get additional eligible students enrolled. Be an ambassador for the program. Share with other educators. Share with families. Share with communities. We've attended a number of conferences where people still have not heard about the new rules reading initiative, so please share very widely and follow us on social media. We'd love for you to to tag us. To follow us, if you're sharing anything about families that have provided you with feedback, we'd love to hear that as. Well and again, thank you. Here's our information. I'll put some things in the chat, but I wanted to leave a sufficient amount of time for any questions or comments. From the group. And I'm going to be putting a few things. In the chat. Alright, so where can I find the parent toolkit so? We don't have. A parent toolkit, but we do have a a toolkit for for districts and for schools, so I'll. Put that in the chat right now. And I think. I think it'll go to everyone. If the F. LDOE is sharing data with you as who as to who is eligible. Is there way to. Share that with. Schools they want to know who is eligible and not yet enrolled and and so the data that we receive from the Dewey is data that districts already provide to them. So you all have access to that information based on. Students who scored below Benchmark run fast as well as students who are receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction. So use the data that you have access to to identify students who are eligible. But not yet enrolled. Uh, another question, can we share your e-mail with schools so they can contact you for parents? Yeah, of course we would love. We would love that, so I'm leaving it up on the screen here for you to to grab that information. Uhm, Heather, I'm having issues downloading the data from the SFP I emailed but haven't heard back. Uhm, OK, yes, thank you for that message, Heather. We do have a a how to guide that should have accompanied the the initial e-mail that you received so. Do e-mail this e-mail address again and just say hey, can you send that to me again or we have someone who could actually walk you through? Uhm, the information as well so please e-mail us and sorry if you have not received a response. I'm putting information in the chat regarding the. The literacy matrix as well. If I can copy and paste it over, what other questions are coming up? Do families have to renew their enrollment each year? No, once an eligible family is enrolled, they actually remain enrolled unless they decide to opt out until the the student gets to. You know graduates from 5th. Grade and that that is regardless of you know their improvement in their reading score, so of course we want students to to be more proficient readers. But regardless of you know their improvement, they actually remain enrolled. All we ask is that they update their their enrollment information. So for example, we. Know that families move. You know they. They can also update their their interests. So on our enrollment application, families can select up to. 3 topics of that are of interest to to their students and then based on their selection we send we match the topics to particular titles so they could always update that information monthly as well. Uhm, for grades three through 5 below level is levels one and two on fast, uh, so we actually thank you for that question. We actually have not yet received data for the progress monitoring one, and so we are awaiting. The receiver of that information in order to determine eligibility for this school year. So we are still waiting on on those data to come through.

Speaker 3

You would be able. To identify students from last year that scored a level one or two on FSA and also at the you know, school and district level. You already know which students scored a level one or two on PM one, and so you would be able to identify students that way. The UF Lastinger Center just isn't able to. They can like pre roll pre enroll. They just aren't technically enrolled in the program yet because the department is still trying to clean up data from PM one in order to share that with the Lastinger center.

Speaker 2

Thank you, Lindsey. OK.

Speaker 3

Thank you so much Doctor Duggan for sharing with us this morning.

Speaker 2

There are a few more questions. Do we have? A couple more minutes. There additional questions are coming through UM.

Speaker 3

Yes, yes.

Speaker 2

Let's see OK so I someone I can see your chat, Colleen. Someone is under a tornado watch and wants the recording OK.

Speaker 3

The recording will be posted on our website.

Speaker 2

OK Brandy, we could send you the PDF, so if you e-mail us. Uhm, requesting the toolkit we can send that to you in. A PDF format. My yes Jennifer is going to talk about the scholarship portion of New Worlds. That's for from step up. Yes, we'll send updated data regarding students who. Are eligible and. Enrolled we're hoping to do that monthly, and so you should have access to those data in the SFTP folder, so thank you for that question and. We are adding the ID to the data as well, so that should make it easier for you all. So thank you for that question. We had a parent say their address wasn't identified or recognized. How can that be fixed? The parents, in order to be eligible, they have to have a valid Florida. Address and and if there's an issue where there's a family that. Does not have a you know a mailing address if they're if they're homeless, for example, then you can e-mail us and or or work with the family, right? To think about if they can use a neighbors address, you know that's happened before a church. You know, a friend. Something of that nature. So if if there's an issue around that, you can. E-mail us directly and we can help. Nikki, your question is, can we see who has enrolled? Yes, you can. Every district has a district point of contact and they have access to to those data. We do ask that you share data within your district in a secure way, so don't don't e-mail it. Which is why we send it through the secure or secure platform, and so we can't send personally identifiable information via e-mail. And so your district point of contact has that has those data and just send it securely in your district. OK.

Speaker 3

I see, uh, question about eligibility.

Speaker

Right?

Speaker 3

Yeah, and I'm going to put in the chat the eligibility for the New World Reading Initiative that was shared with district reading contacts. Within the last couple months and so it's it's pretty detailed based on data for K through 5.

Speaker 2

Thank you. Thank you and let me add. Thank you Lindsay in year one because we did not so last year when we first started we didn't have. Some data to verify students. We recognized that there were maybe about approximately 60,000 students who had enrolled and received books and resources who were not actually eligible, and so for those students they have been grandfathered in, and so they will continue to. Receive books and resources, but moving forward we are going to be verifying student eligibility before they actually receive books and resources. OK, anonymous attendee with the address issue. Yeah just e-mail us and we can look into that. Uhm, Katie, the e-mail. The e-mail came from. Erica Fritz Oaks regarding the. The access to the SFTP as well as the step to step step by step guide. Alright, thank you. Yes I will share information Linda about the literacy matrix. I'm gonna put it in the chat, probably after I get to the end of the questions. Ah, how do you know who your district point of contact is? We have a list for that and I'm going to put that in the chat as well. Let's see. Alright, so uhm, I posted the book list that's on the Louise website for year one and a link to the district point of contact for this year and then as soon as I can get to the information regarding the literacy matrix, I will put that in the chat as well. All right, I think we've made it to the end and I'm at time, Lindsey. So thank you all. Feel free to e-mail if you have additional questions.

Speaker 3

Again, thank you so much, Doctor Duggan. It's just so exciting to hear about the New World Reading Initiative and the opportunity that eligible students can receive free books in their home every month. So now we are ready to hear about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts. And it looks like Jennifer is ready to begin.

Speaker 1

I sure am. Can everybody hear me OK? Yes perfect. So my name is Jen Canning. I will step up for students and I'm here to talk to you about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts today and these are scholarships that help struggling readers afford the support they need to succeed. So step up for students who are not familiar with this. We actually administer 4 statewide scholarship programs across the state, the first being the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program, and that helps middle lower to middle income families. We also have the FS program which serves 2 populations, again a lower to middle. A family group, but also helps students who have unique abilities. And then we have our hope scholarship for students who may be bullied or victims of violence. And then I'm the director of the New World Reading Scholarship accounts, which helps K through five public school students who struggle with reading. Now the reading scholarship. Was created in 2018 and then during last year's legislative session it was merged with the new. World reading initiatives. So the new rules reading initiative has two wings, the first being the free book program that Shante talked to us about and the other side being scholarship which step up for students administers. So who qualifies for the scholarship? So this is going to sound awfully familiar. So in previous years, the scholarship was only for grades three through 5. And then last year when it was merged with the New World Reading Initiative, the Legislature expanded eligibility to include K through two as well, and so Florida public and charter school students, who either in last year scored below a Level 3. On the ELA would qualify students this year in grades three through five who were scoring a level one or A2 on the. Best or students in K through two who are identified with a substantial reading deficiency would all qualify. One difference between our eligibility and the book distribution eligibility is that funding priority by law has to be given to English language learners. So if a student is enrolled. In a program or receiving services specifically designed for LL, then that student would receive funding priority. Another difference is students do have to re qualify for the scholarship every year just to make sure. You know, if a student is no longer struggling with reading then they would not receive those extra funds. In the following year. OK, let's talk about the scholarship. So the new World Reading scholarship accounts are education savings account and this is kind of a new concept. It's a lot like a health savings account, and so we have a video that helps explain what an ESA is.

Speaker 5

What is an education savings account? An education savings account or ESA? Is a state. Scholarship program that allows families to personalize the education of their children. For the new. World Reading scholarship accounts. ESA funds can cover the cost of instructional materials. Great technology items. Summer literacy programs and more. How do ESA's work? The state sends the funds to a scholarship funding organization like step up for students. The scholarship funding organization puts the funds into the students account. Families then use the funds to help cover the cost of educational services. Products step up for students has created a platform that helps families manage their students scholarship funds. This platform makes it easy to shop for educational services and products from a variety of education service providers. Families can use scholarship funds to pay providers directly or get reimbursed for out of pocket purchases. Unused funds can roll over to pay for future expenses. Today, thousands of families across the country are using ESA's to personalize their child's education. Learn more about the New World Reading scholarship accounts and how ESA funds can help your student at stepupforstudents.org/reading.

Speaker 1

OK, so that went pretty fast, but I'm still going to explain every part of that. So the first being how the funds can be used so we know it's a $500.00 scholarship and those funds can be put towards part time tutoring, which is a very popular option. Summer and after school literacy programs, instructional materials. Including books, desktop, laptop computers and tablets or curriculum related to reading or literacy. So how did these students apply for the scholarship? So first they would visit stepupforstudents.org back slash reading I'm going to click on that real quick just to show you what that looks like. So here is our web page for the reading scholarship and families would simply click on this. Apply now to be taken to the application platform. OK, so once they click that apply, now they'll create a guardian profile and then add students to their account. This is super quick and easy. I'm actually going to walk you all through that in just a little bit and it's just like setting up an account on any website. I would specifically equate it to setting up an account on like a banking website. Just like an online banking website, so ESA's are essentially a bank account, so there's a lot of security around that, and we'll get into that a little bit late. And then the third step is that they'll complete the application. Most of the information is going to be pulled in from when they create their guardian profile. And add students. I'm going to walk you through the application process and you're going to. See how quick and easy that is. OK, so an important note. Schools and providers should not be completing guardian profiles and applications on parents behalf. So like I mentioned, ESA's are like bank accounts and only the parents and guardians should have access to that ESA. The other really important thing is that step up for students mostly communicates via e-mail with parents and guardians, and so when they create their account, it's really important that they use an e-mail address that they're checking off in. Sometimes we'll hear from parents and they're confused. They're not hearing from us. And then we'll check to see what e-mail address. We have on file and it'll be like junk maillikegmail.com right? And so they they didn't want to get spam from us and so I'll walk you through a little later how parents can can tell us what types of communications they want from us. OK, and you saw in the video that we have created a platform to help manage DSA funds. So our platform is called Emma and that's our education market assistant and so we are going to see lots of different features of Emma throughout my presentation today and the first stop is going to be creating. An account, so we're going to go through a demo together for the account creation. Like I said, it's a lot like creating an online account for a. I think, and so for this part I'm going to show screenshots and then we're moving to a live demo. There's a lot of having to e-mail or text codes, and so I didn't want to waste your time. I'm showing you that today, but I think the screenshots will. Do just. Fine, so when the families navigate to our website and click on apply now it takes them to Emma. And then they would navigate. To the sign up that's circled on the screen. From there a lot like creating an online bank account. They would be sent a code to their e-mail address and it's just a verification code function. It's just like every other website that uses a verification code, right? So once they type that in, we'll let them know that their e-mail address has been. Verified and they can continue to the next. Screen and this is where it will start to create their username and password for the website. From there there set up their security questions again, just like security questions. When you're setting up an online bank account, exact same types of questions. Just like every other website, they certify that they agree to our terms and conditions. And then they'll move on to creating their guardian profile, so we'll assign them a Guardian ID. They'll let us know their marital status and their primary language once they select Spanish. Here, everything from there on out will be in Spanish. Including the application, the marketplace, all of that. So they'll type in their mailing address. We do do a verification check to make sure that it's legitimate address, and then if it's the same as if their physical address is the same as their mailing address, they'll just check this box and it'll fill out this information. Here and then we also asked them for the excuse me for their contact information. So here is where they're able to manage consents, and to say what types of messages they would like to get from. Step up for students. They're also able to manage their contact preferences, so you see that e-mail is required, but we do also communicate via text and prerecorded phone messages, and sometimes personal phone calls when the situation warrants it. OK, from there they just hit save and they have set up their guardian profile. Now I have already logged into a test account to make today go a little fast. Sure, so this is what the Ms Scholarship portal looks like. And one thing I want to point out is in this example that I have pulled up for you. This family has submitted an application but they don't have funds yet, and So what they have access to over here is very limited and I'll show you some screenshots later. Of what this turns into once funds have been applied to. The Sims account. So once the Guardian account has been created, the family then has to add students. I have a student added already, but I'm going to add another student so you can see what. That looks. Like so I'm just going to call this. And a test. So first and last name or required. But then we do have lots of optional things as well, including the ID in years past the ID number was required and that really stopped a lot of parents from completing the application because they just couldn't find their ID number. And so this. Year we work with the. Department of Education. To make sure that this is no longer required, it makes the process a lot easier. Now we do have some rules around the date of birth we want to. Make sure that. The student it makes sense that their age is falling within grades K through 5. From here they select their gender and ethnicity if they're non Hispanic or Latino, race pops up and it's required. They would simply save that student, and they're done. A family can add as many students as they need to. And now I'm going to take you through the application. Right now the only application available for this family through the Emma platform is the New World Reading Scholarship accounts application. They would simply hit apply. OK and select the student so the other student that I had entered had already applied for the scholarship so they're no longer populating in the dropdown, but the student we just created is and you can see how that student information has completely pulled in and the only thing that the parent needs to add at this part. At this point is the school and the students grade level. The parent will then confirm that the student is enrolled in a Florida public school in K through 5th grade for the current school year and has a substantial reading deficiency. The parent is welcome to upload supporting documents. A common question that we get is, does uploading a document help my students chances of getting a scholarship? And the answer is no. So we work with the Department of Education to determine eligibility and all applications. Percent, regardless of if they have supporting documents, or. Not so parents are. Welcome to add documents here, but they do not have to. From here, the parent will hit continue and you can see, just like with the students, the Guardians at information is pulled in from when they created their Guardian account. And I didn't point this out before, but on both screens, if any information is incorrect, they can simply navigate to that page, fix it, and then navigate back to the application. The only thing the parent has to do on this screen, it just let us know their phone type. That's because if they've selected that they would like to receive texts from us, we need to know if. They have a cell phone on file. They would hit continue and at that point the applications done. We just ask them to review their information and then they do have to check a box that says that they certify that all the information presented is true and accurate. We also let them know that we work with the University of Florida Lastinger Center. And we shared our data with them and that by completing this application and submitting it, their data is going to be shared with the last Senior Center for learning and what that data sharing allows us to do is make sure you know there's a lot of overlap between food qualifies for the scholarship and who qualifies for the book distribution program. And we want to make sure that. We're capturing as many students as possible. From here, the Guardian simply needs to sign their name. And then they would submit their application. And that's it. So our application has really been streamlined. It's a lot easier than it's been in years past, and we're seeing a really great success rate of parents getting through the application this year. You can see here the parent can log in at any time and see what their application status is. The status of these two students. Is submitted. OK, So what are the next steps once that application is submitted you've heard me say a couple of times that step up for students works with the Florida Department of Education to determine eligibility that process could take up to 45. Says we're able to beat that in most cases. Sometimes there's something extraneous going on, and it takes us a little while longer to identify that. You've heard me say a couple times. The e-mail is really important, so how will the families know if they've been awarded a scholarship? We're going to e-mail them to the e-mail address on file, but I showed you where they can log in and see the status of their. Application at any point in time. If an awarded if awarded a scholarship, families will receive another e-mail once the students account has been funded and that e-mail will include instructions on how to begin utilizing those funds. So let's talk about that. Let's talk about how to use. Those scholarship funds. There are three. Different ways that families can utilize their scholarship funds. The first is with direct pay providers, so we work with providers across the state, including tutors. After school and summer literacy programs and a lot of those providers. Have signed up to be direct pay, so that means that families do not have to pay out of pocket and wait to be reimbursed. They're paid directly through. The Emma account. We have also. Created my scholar shop which is a lot like an Amazon that's just full of pre approved instructional materials for families where they can again shop directly with their funds through the Emma platform. They do not need to pay out of pocket and then the 3rd way is reimbursements where families can pay for products and services. Out of pocket and then submit a receipt through Emma for reimbursement. So I want to draw your attention over here to the left side of the screen. I mentioned earlier that in the example that I was showing you in the demo that family has not been funded yet. This is an example of what a family would see once they're funded. They now have a tab for reimbursements, and they also have the marketplace tab. So through the marketplace tab, they're able to shop. For providers. This is where they will find the direct providers that they do not have to pay out. Of pocket for. And that's where they'll be able to navigate to my scholar shop, and then I just wanted to share a quick screenshot of my scholarship. And so they'll be able to either navigate to tiles for the items that they're looking for, or they can search for items directly. And so again, if they're shopping through our marketplace, they do not need to pay out of pocket. The funds go directly from their scholarship account, either to the vendor or to the provider. But what happens if a? Parent goes to the marketplace and they're not seeing the provider they want. They're not seeing the product they want. That's not a problem. They can always pay for qualifying services and products out of pocket. And submit a receipt also through Emma through the reimbursements tab so that they can be reimbursed. OK, so how can you help? So step up for students does not receive any funding for marketing that new World Reading Scholarship accounts program. We do receive some funds to administer the program, but as you can see, an ESA is really a complicated thing to administer and so that's where all of our administrative funding goes, and so. To date, since the scholarship was created in 2018, we have never met the program cap and this year our CAP is larger than ever. We can serve 58,000 students this year. We opened earlier this month and we're off to a great start. We've already had over 3500 students apply for the scholarship. But we really. Need help spreading the word, and so we're really relying on districts and community partners and our partners. At the last Senior Center to help spread the word about the scholarship program. So if you know students who could benefit. You can tell their parents to visit stepupforstudents.org, back slash, readingsubs.org, back slash reading also works if you know of a service provider or a vendor that helps struggling readers. They can also go to our website to learn how to participate. And we also have Flyers that we provide, and so if you would like a flower, you can e-mail my colleague Melissa. Her e-mail address is m.jeremy0@soft.org. That's MJARAMILLO at soft.org, so we really need help. Spreading the word. We do e-mail the district contacts that the DoD has, and so if you're wondering if you're on that list, that's on the Florida DoD website and that's our contact list that we use to communicate about the new World Reading scholarship accounts. OK, let's spend a few minutes. Uhm, doing a few questions and answers. So a student. Yes, so Michelle student can and probably does qualify for both the scholarship and the free book program. And so our goal? Oh, I need to scroll up. I skipped a few. Our goal is. For students to participate in both because if a student receiving the funds and going to tutoring, it's absolutely going to help them if they go home and have a library that's been curated for them to read from. Let me scroll up to.

Speaker 3

The top here. There are. I just want to clarify real quick. There are some slight differences between the eligibility in both programs and the detailed eligibility has been provided to the main district. Reading contact in each district. But if you want to send an e-mail to me or. To the just read at ldoe.org account, we can definitely send that to you as well. It's too long to copy and paste into the chat and it'll get kind of mixed up, so we'd be happy to e-mail that to you so that you can see how the eligibility for the programs are alike and also slightly.

Speaker 1

Yeah, and and just to clarify that eligibility is laid out in statute, and so it gets. You know, it's very technical and wonky, and that's why it's a little lengthy and that's why there's just some slight differences between the two programs. OK, so this question is from 918, so I believe that was from earlier today. I think I started at 9:24 so so a student must be ELL student along with receiving a level one or two on the fast to qualify. So that is not correct. LL students get priority when it comes to funding. But a student does not have to be LL. In order to qualify for the scholarship, because we've never hit our program cap before, we've actually never had to. There have never been times where a student wasn't LL and therefore wasn't funded, so definitely have all your students apply, whether they're LL or not. How does a school or teacher become a provider for the Reading scholarship program? That's a great question, so we do have some public schools around the state who are providers. So these are schools who kind of thought to themselves. $500.00 per student. We've got a lot of struggling readers we could use that $500.00 to create an after school program. So if you navigate to that step up for students website, there's a four providers tab there and it goes through the process of becoming a provider. Now coming very soon in the new year. All of that is going to change. We're also bringing our providers onto the MO platform, and so it's going to be easier than ever to participate as a provider for the reading scholarship program. Teachers can also participate on their own as part time tutors and we've got a lot of teachers across the state who are doing that. So again, they can just navigate to our website and they'll be able to find information on how to participate. There are some laws and rules around who can participate as a provider. Things like you know a teacher is going to be able to participate because they have a valid teaching certificate, but you could also have a bachelors or masters degree. In reading or literacy, English language arts and qualify. So there are some technicalities there. But our provider relations team is set up for students will help their providers. Through that process. OK, what type of instructional materials all are available through my scholarshop? Are they aligned to best and who has vetted them? So I'm going to navigate back to that page so we can look at that together, so instruction materials that's also laid out. What counts as instruction materials. Also laid out in statute and rule, it includes laptops, tablets, owners, online software, programs, books, curriculum, things of that nature. Uhm, and so that is actually vetted by step up for students compliance team to make sure it matches the letter. Of the law. Uh, that governs the reading, scholarship program, and so is it aligned to best, no, but what we do always communicate with our scholarship families, especially our new world. Reading scholarship families is they should be sitting down and speaking with their students teacher. Or speaking with their districts reading and literacy. Coach and saying, hey, I have this $500.00. What's the best use of that for my student and so families do receive that instructions for step up for students to make sure that they're using their funds in the way that makes the most sense for their students. OK. Where do we go to learn more about getting a reading endorsement for teachers for free? Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question I do.

Speaker 3

Yes, it is in the chat, doctor Dugan posted it there starting with pre enrollment for the UF Lastinger Center for Learning. 2223 Flamingo Literacy matrix is open now and she you know had to break it up into a couple pieces. But there's a link there that says please share this fire with your educators to pre enroll. So pre enrollment. For the literacy matrix, which is free for Florida educators, it is currently open for pre enrollment and the next course or semester begins on January 30th.

Speaker 4

Right?

Speaker 1

Now the next question was about Flyers, so if you would like a flyer to share with your students, the easiest way of doing it is making sure that you're added to the district contact list that the Florida Department of Education uses, because that's who step up communicates with regularly about the program. We share more than just the flyer. We do have Flyers in English and Spanish, but we also share instruction. With those district contacts as well. But you can also e-mail my colleague Melissa Jeremy oh and just let her know that you would like a new road reading scholarship accounts flyer. Let her know if you want it in English and in Spanish, and she'll send that to you, so I'll leave this screen up so you can copy down her e-mail address. Move that over there. Ah OK, I see a lot of thank yous and then will districts have access to the sample video and supporting documents or Flyers to educate school leaders and parents? So the answer is yes. One step up for students, emails, districts and we do so at several points throughout the year. They've already received a few emails from us, but then they're going to receive. Communications around when progress monitoring is occurring and those results are coming in and so we do share that video. We do share supporting documents and we do share those Flyers there as well. OK, what is the recipient cap? Yep, so we have. There's been enough funding allocated at the state level this year to serve 58,000 students, and so we've been open a little less than a month. You know few weeks, and we've already gotten 3500 applicants so far, so, uh. Lot of room to grow and we can serve an awful lot of students this year. OK, here's another question about reading endorsement or higher education faculty eligible for the reading endorsement as well. Chantelle Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question?

Speaker 2

Do they have a floor of valid Florida teaching certificate? That's but e-mail For more information. I my colleague Pam Alfaro could respond directly.

Speaker 1

OK, so it looks like we've reached the end of the questions. I do want to navigate to the last page in my presentation because I want to share my contact information with you. If you come up with any other questions. My phone number is listed on the right hand side of the screen as well as. My e-mail on. The left hand side of the screen. Is the phone number for our separate for student service center and our website? You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Speaker 3

Thank you so much Jen.

Speaker 1

Thank you.

Speaker 3

And thank you both, I'm. Excited that we were able to. Of Shante and Jen here with us this morning to share information about the New World Reading Initiative and the New World Reading Scholarship accounts. They are both just amazing opportunities for eligible students. If you think of any questions after the webinar, please feel free to reach out to either Jen with her e-mail that she provided. Or the e-mail that Shantae provided. You can also reach out directly to just read at fldoe. Work and a couple days when we have the recording ready and posted we will get that on our website on the just read Florida Web page under educator resources and then we have a tab for webinars and all of the webinars that we host this year. We'll be posting recordings there for viewing, so thank you again. For joining us this morning and we hope you all have a wonderful Wednesday.

# Audio file

[GMT20221130-134805\_Recording (1).m4a](https://floridadoe-my.sharepoint.com/personal/lee_peck_fldoe_org/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/GMT20221130-134805_Recording%20(1).m4a)

# Transcript

00:03:41 Speaker 3

Good morning, good morning, shante.

00:03:43 Speaker 3

How are you good?

00:03:46 Speaker 1

Good morning.

00:03:47 Speaker 2

How you doing?

00:03:48 Speaker 3

Good morning, Jeff.

00:03:50 Speaker 1

Good morning.

00:04:02 Speaker 3

Lee, are you on?

00:04:07 Speaker 3

So when I try to click the start video button it says you cannot start your video because the host has stopped it.

00:04:25 Speaker 2

And I'm just going to try sharing screen really quickly.

00:04:28 Speaker 2

Can you see Lindsay?

00:04:30 Speaker 3

Yes, I can see your screen shangtang.

00:04:40 Speaker 2

Can you see that full screen?

00:04:42 Speaker 3

Yes, I can see the full screen, UM.

00:04:46 Speaker 3

You may, if you don't mind on that first slide.

00:04:51 Speaker 3

I'm trying to think about what rather than 'cause, this isn't one of our monthly meetings.

00:04:56 Speaker 3

This is like a webinar for a much larger group.

00:05:00 Speaker 3

Huh, so you may want to just change it to like just read Florida webinar and then the date rather than main district reading contacts.

00:05:09 Speaker 3

Monthly meeting.

00:05:11 Speaker 3

If you don't.

00:05:11 Speaker 3

Mind does it allow you to share your video?

00:05:15 Speaker 2

I'm I'm not going to share any videos today.

00:05:18 Speaker 3

No, like your video of yourself.

00:05:20 Speaker 2

Oh no no no no.

00:05:22 Speaker 2

It gave me that same message unable to.

00:05:24 Speaker 2

I can't start.

00:05:24 Speaker 3

So something is not able to.

00:05:26 Speaker 5

Uh, share her baby.

00:05:28 Speaker 2

But I'm here.

00:05:42 Speaker 2

I want I.

00:05:42 Speaker 2

Have three different screens, so I'm trying to see which one will pick up my my video here.

00:05:50 Speaker 3

OK, Lee is going.

00:05:50 Speaker 3

To try to work on that Jennifer, do you want to see if you have?

00:05:55 Speaker 3

Screen sharing capabilities.

00:06:00 Speaker 1

Yes, sorry, I wasn't on Neil.

00:06:06 Speaker 1

I'm going to share my whole screen instead of just my PowerPoint because I'll be in and out of the PowerPoint as I'm doing demos.

00:06:17 Speaker 1

But let me pull up the right one.

00:06:24 Speaker 1

And then I'm going to cruise ahead to that video just so we can make sure that the audio is working.

00:06:30 Speaker 2

Jen, we could see you and presenter Mullins, yeah.

00:06:30 Speaker 3

The the screen that we can see is your presenter notes.

00:06:35 Speaker 1

Interesting, let me, let's see.

00:06:40 Speaker 3

You might have to click display settings.

00:06:43 Speaker 3

Up at the.

00:06:43 Speaker 1

Top, let's try it again.

00:06:49 Speaker 1

Goodbye now.

00:06:50 Speaker 3

Yep, that's good great.

00:06:53 Speaker 1

And when I click over to this video.

00:06:58

You all can.

00:06:58 Speaker 5

What is an education savings account?

00:06:58 Speaker 1

Hear that just.

00:06:59 Speaker 2

Fine Yep yes great.

00:07:01 Speaker 5

An education savings account or?

00:07:04 Speaker 4

Great OK.

00:07:20 Speaker 3

Yay, my video works now.

00:07:23 Speaker 2

Me too.

00:07:23 Speaker 3

Thank you Lee.

00:07:32 Speaker 3

Alright, so we have about 5 more minutes until we'll get started and I'll kick it off and introduce both of you and then shante.

00:07:42 Speaker 3

You'll share your screen 1st and present.

00:09:42 Speaker 1

So I'm still not able to share my video.

00:09:45 Speaker 1

It still says the host has.

00:09:46 Speaker 1

Stopped it.

00:09:52 Speaker 3

Alright, let we'll try to work on that in the next couple minutes.

00:09:55 Speaker 3

Sorry about that, Jennifer.

00:09:59 Speaker 3

Oh it worked.

00:10:01 Speaker 1

I just had to try it again.

00:10:02 Speaker 3

Yeah, it was magic.

00:10:05 Speaker 1

I just had to speak it out loud.

00:12:16 Speaker 3

Good morning everyone.

00:12:18 Speaker 3

Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning.

00:12:22 Speaker 3

My name is Lindsay Brown and I'm the executive director of just read Florida and Majestrix Florida office is excited to offer our first webinar of this school year and our first webinar is focusing on the new world reading.

00:12:36 Speaker 3

And so we have two special guests with us.

00:12:38 Speaker 3

Today we have Doctor Shante, duggins for the New World Reading Initiative and she's from the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning and we also have Jennifer Canning to share with you about new World breeding scholarship accounts from step up for students.

00:12:54 Speaker 3

So I'm going to go ahead and.

00:12:57 Speaker 3

Hand it over to Doctor Shante Duggins, and she's going to start sharing wonderful information with you about the New World reading initiatives.

00:13:06 Speaker 2

Awesome, thank you so much and good morning everyone.

00:13:10 Speaker 2

So excited to be here with you all today.

00:13:12 Speaker 2

If we have not met previously.

00:13:14 Speaker 2

My name is Shante Diggins.

00:13:16 Speaker 2

I'm at the University of Florida Lastinger Center for learning.

00:13:20 Speaker 2

We have lots of exciting things happening at the Lastinger center.

00:13:24 Speaker 2

We've been around for 20 years.

00:13:25 Speaker 2

For those of you who may be.

00:13:26 Speaker 2

Unfamiliar with who we are and what we do, we provide support for both educators and parents and families.

00:13:35 Speaker 2

Now with the New World Reading Initiative, some of you may be familiar with some of our work such as.

00:13:43 Speaker 2

The literacy matrix.

00:13:45 Speaker 2

We're actually now accepting.

00:13:50 Speaker 2

Uh, pre enrollment information for the literacy matrix so I can share some information in the chat about that.

00:13:56 Speaker 2

We also do work in the space of early learning, mathematics, leadership and coaching and data and technology.

00:14:10 Speaker 2

The new goals reading initiative. We are the administrator for the new rules reading initiative. It's a family literacy engagement program that was recently established by statute under the guidance of former Speaker Chris Sprowls, and it is Florida's first statewide book distribution program of its kind. Our vision is.

00:14:30 Speaker 2

To provide resources to children and families and to create at home libraries for K5 students who are not yet reading on grade level. And we'll talk a bit about the eligibility criteria.

00:14:42 Speaker 2

We also aim to build caregivers confidence and capacities to support their own kids at home by providing meaningful literacy resources, tips and strategies for them.

00:14:55 Speaker 2

We recognize the value in partnership and so we partner with everyone and anyone both at in.

00:15:02 Speaker 2

School school districts and community organizations to support children and families.

00:15:07 Speaker 2

And we're also able to receive corporate tax payers can make contributions to new roles and sustain the program beyond the initial investment that the state has made.

00:15:17 Speaker 2

So we're super grateful for that.

00:15:19 Speaker 2

And then we've recently added teacher professional development, so to develop teacher experts in the science of reading through micro credentials.

00:15:27 Speaker 2

And teacher professional development that creates a home in school connection and literacy.

00:15:33 Speaker 2

So we've been pretty busy since we've started last year, but this is what we've been up to.

00:15:40 Speaker 2

So a little bit about our eligibility criteria.

00:15:44 Speaker 2

The the the New World Reading Initiative is designed for K5 students who attend public or charter schools in our state who are not yet reading on grade level. So these are students who have been identified based on the the new fast as not yet.

00:16:04 Speaker 2

Reading on grade level or students who receive either Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction in reading.

00:16:11 Speaker 2

And I'll, I'll.

00:16:11 Speaker 2

Add here that we're working with the Florida Department of Education to receive data to determine student eligibility.

00:16:24 Speaker 2

So in year we we hired a number of engagement team specialists across the state and we're excited to share some highlights from our year one.

00:16:34 Speaker 2

You can see some photos here.

00:16:36 Speaker 2

We've been busy out and about in communities working with schools and school districts we have.

00:16:42 Speaker 2

People located across the state and region, so we have somewhat a couple people in the Panhandle, NE central SW and SE Florida.

00:16:50 Speaker 2

Again, the purpose is to really engage with communities engaged with schools and school districts.

00:16:56 Speaker 2

We've sponsored literacy nights with schools.

00:17:00 Speaker 2

We've worked with community organizations to table at different events to get the information out, because remember that the new rules reading initiative, it's an opt in program.

00:17:11 Speaker 2

So in order for families to take advantage of the resources that we provide, they have to go to our website.

00:17:17 Speaker 2

At newworldreading.com to apply to participate and so our goal has been to get the information out there to as many families as possible in order for them to take advantage of the resources that we that we provide.

00:17:36 Speaker 2

We've received a ton of feedback from families just sharing how positive the new rules reading initiative has been for for their family, but this one is really special.

00:17:48 Speaker 2

It's from a student and it reads.

00:17:51 Speaker 2

I like that my parents don't always have to buy me books.

00:17:54 Speaker 2

I can get them in the mail.

00:17:56 Speaker 2

It's also kind of fun.

00:17:57 Speaker 2

It makes me feel like reading more because they're mine.

00:18:01 Speaker 2

I like to read all kinds of books when I get a book in the mail with my name on it on them.

00:18:06 Speaker 2

Box I feel like I'm special and again this one just makes me smile.

00:18:11 Speaker 2

It's from a student and we know that providing books and resources to families it's it's really life changing and that's what we're hearing from a number of families who are participating.

00:18:25 Speaker 2

All right, so to share some numbers to date.

00:18:29 Speaker 2

And this is as of we just started delivering books in October for this school year.

00:18:34 Speaker 2

Here, so based on data that we have from the 2122 school year, we estimate that over 556,000 students are eligible across the state. So again these are students who are not yet reading.

00:18:47 Speaker 2

On grade level.

00:18:49 Speaker 2

So far for this school year we have 125,000 students approximately who are enrolled and these are eligible.

00:18:57 Speaker 2

Since we still have a number of students who are pending based on additional data that we receive from the state, that will help us to determine whether or not those students are in fact eligible and we've shipped over 227,000 books so far, and that those numbers continue to increase every day. And again, our goal.

00:19:17 Speaker 2

Is to reach as many students as possible.

00:19:22 Speaker 2

All right, so I'll share a little bit about the resources.

00:19:27 Speaker 2

So in addition to providing books to students and again we work with the Florida Department of Education to VET and approve all of our titles before we send them out.

00:19:38 Speaker 2

We also send literacy resources to families, and that's a.

00:19:43 Speaker 2

An important part of our initiative because we want to support.

00:19:46 Speaker 2

Port families and children you know, really sharing that experience of a book together, and so we are creating again our book lists, in consultation with the gestri Florida office and those the list for year one is actually posted on their website and I can put that in the chat in.

00:20:04 Speaker 2

A bit as well.

00:20:06 Speaker 2

We're creating interactive reading guides for each.

00:20:09 Speaker 2

Book and these resources are also housed on our website, and we're also posting on our website a series of videos so families could see what the strategies look like in action.

00:20:22 Speaker 2

So when we talk about, you know selecting you know vocabulary words and what does that look like based on a book that.

00:20:29 Speaker 2

That they're receiving at home.

00:20:31 Speaker 2

So again, super excited to have those resources available completely free of charge to families and educators, really, anyone on our website and we'll continue to add to our website monthly.

00:20:46 Speaker 2

Let's see so for K through two students, the interactive reading guides are printed with the books and actually mailed to the homes of children for and all all of our resources again are on our website, and so we have bookmarks that we're creating for three through five that are mailed with the.

00:21:07 Speaker 2

Books that are sent to the homes of children.

00:21:09 Speaker 2

And here's an example of what an interactive reading guide looks like for for students, so again, it's it's intended to support the family to support their caregivers in in having that shared reading experience at home.

00:21:27 Speaker 2

Our team is working to develop a scope and sequence for our word work that's aligned with the Florida and best DLA standards for this for this school year.

00:21:39 Speaker 2

All right, so we'll talk a little bit about our outreach and engagement. So last year, we mailed twice. Actually Flyers to every school across the state, over 700,000 Flyers, and we're starting that again for this school year. Flyers started going out, I believe.

00:22:00 Speaker 2

Last week, again, across the entire state, so we've updated our Flyers.

00:22:05 Speaker 2

We're shipping them to schools across the.

00:22:07 Speaker 2

State we've heard from a number of schools that they didn't know what to do with the Flyers, and so we've included again a like a directional sheet.

00:22:17 Speaker 2

And so we're just asking, please please identify students who meet our eligibility criteria.

00:22:24 Speaker 2

Students who are not yet reading on grade level and please send those Flyers.

00:22:27 Speaker 2

Home to those families again, it is an opt in program so they have to go to our website to enroll.

00:22:34 Speaker 2

We've included a QR code so it's easy the the application is very easy.

00:22:40 Speaker 2

It could be done on a cell phone and so again the Flyers are are coming to schools across the state.

00:22:47 Speaker 2

So please share the Flyers with students who are eligible in order for them to enroll.

00:22:53 Speaker 2

And this is what the front side of the New Flyer looks like.

00:22:59 Speaker 2

Alright, so I'll also put in the chat in.

00:23:02 Speaker 2

Just a moment.

00:23:04 Speaker 2

Our links to our toolkit.

00:23:07 Speaker 2

So we created toolkits for districts and for schools.

00:23:13 Speaker 2

And so the the thinking is we want to make it really easy for you all to share the info.

00:23:18 Speaker 2

Nation and so we have ready to may we just copy everything is copy paste.

00:23:25 Speaker 2

Everything has been trans created in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, and so the idea again is to to get the information out.

00:23:33 Speaker 2

If you can scan the QR code that's on the screen right now.

00:23:38 Speaker 2

It'll take you directly to the school toolkit and we have sample messaging from principals to teachers or teachers to parents.

00:23:46 Speaker 2

We have the Flyers we have.

00:23:49 Speaker 2

A recorded phone screen.

00:23:51 Speaker 2

A number of social media resources.

00:23:54 Speaker 2

Again, just copy paste ready to use resources.

00:23:58 Speaker 2

So I'm I'm hopeful that you can scan this QR code and and you'll have the tool.

00:24:03 Speaker 2

The school toolkit at your fingertips.

00:24:09 Speaker 2

This is just a screenshot of some of the sample messaging that's included in the toolkit.

00:24:15 Speaker 2

Again, we're trying to make it really easy to share the information.

00:24:20 Speaker 2

This is a another example of sample messaging here that's available in our toolkit that can be shared.

00:24:27 Speaker 2

With parents.

00:24:29 Speaker 2

We have samples of social media posts.

00:24:32 Speaker 2

Again you can copy paste.

00:24:34 Speaker 2

We would love for you to tag us in any posts that you send out regarding new rules.

00:24:39 Speaker 2

Reading initiative.

00:24:41 Speaker 2

And here are some other resources and we have QR codes.

00:24:44 Speaker 2

Our logos.

00:24:45 Speaker 2

We have a ton of photos that you can use as well.

00:24:50 Speaker 2

So coming up for in this school year, I mentioned our engagement team.

00:24:55 Speaker 2

So in addition to sending books and resources to families, we would love to partner.

00:25:02 Speaker 2

With schools or.

00:25:03 Speaker 2

School districts or community organizations to engage right?

00:25:08 Speaker 2

And so we can coast host.

00:25:10 Speaker 2

Or Co host literacy nights.

00:25:13 Speaker 2

If you have any academic nights coming up if you wanted us to table at an event that you have at your school, or something that's happening in your organize in your community, we would be happy to do that.

00:25:26 Speaker 2

We've attended PTA or PTO meetings.

00:25:30 Speaker 2

Any opportunity to get in front of children.

00:25:33 Speaker 2

And families and educators.

00:25:34 Speaker 2

Again, we would love, love, love to take advantage of that.

00:25:38 Speaker 2

And so I'll share our e-mail address at the end and you can feel free to e-mail us if you would like for us to.

00:25:43 Speaker 2

Come out to.

00:25:44 Speaker 2

Your school or to your district to support.

00:25:46 Speaker 2

Your children and families.

00:25:52 Speaker 2

Uhm, so we have.

00:25:54 Speaker 2

We've been asked for students.

00:25:57 Speaker 2

Or or list.

00:25:58 Speaker 2

Of students who are actually eligible and enrolled in the New World Reading initiative, and so at every district, there is a district point of contact.

00:26:09 Speaker 2

And we've shared, UM.

00:26:12 Speaker 2

Data with the district points of contact regarding eligible students who are enrolled in the new rules reading initiative.

00:26:20 Speaker 2

And so our.

00:26:21 Speaker 2

My question to you is now that you all have access to those data, how can we reach more eligible students and so please reach out to your district point of contact.

00:26:32 Speaker 2

To identify the the students who are eligible and enrolled and then reach out to those who you know are eligible but not yet enrolled and so thank you again for getting the information out there to as many families as possible.

00:26:53 Speaker 2

Here's another quote, this one from a parent.

00:26:59 Speaker 2

It reads my daughter is a struggling reader, so to be a part of this program is awesome.

00:27:04 Speaker 2

The book program has encouraged my child reading, which has improved her whole life for her now to feel comfortable enough just to pick up a book that has been sent to her has changed her.

00:27:15 Speaker 2

Now she says, hey mom, I'm going to sit and read.

00:27:18 Speaker 2

That didn't happen before.

00:27:19 Speaker 2

Or so again, we are really changing the trajectories for our students, who are typically reluctant readers and providing not only them but also their families with resources to support them at home.

00:27:33 Speaker 2

So we are really grateful for to have this opportunity to share and thank.

00:27:37 Speaker 2

You all again.

00:27:39 Speaker 2

We ask that you help us to get additional eligible students enrolled.

00:27:45 Speaker 2

Be an ambassador for the program.

00:27:47 Speaker 2

Share with other educators.

00:27:49 Speaker 2

Share with families.

00:27:50 Speaker 2

Share with communities.

00:27:52 Speaker 2

We've attended a number of conferences where people still have not heard about the new rules reading initiative, so please share very widely and follow us on social media.

00:28:01 Speaker 2

We'd love for you to to tag us.

00:28:04 Speaker 2

To follow us, if you're sharing anything about families that have provided you with feedback, we'd love to hear that as.

00:28:10 Speaker 2

Well and again, thank you.

00:28:13 Speaker 2

Here's our information.

00:28:14 Speaker 2

I'll put some things in the chat, but I wanted to leave a sufficient amount of time for any questions or comments.

00:28:22 Speaker 2

From the group.

00:28:25 Speaker 2

And I'm going to be putting a few things.

00:28:27 Speaker 2

In the chat.

00:28:32 Speaker 2

Alright, so where can I find the parent toolkit so?

00:28:36 Speaker 2

We don't have.

00:28:37 Speaker 2

A parent toolkit, but we do have a a toolkit for for districts and for schools, so I'll.

00:28:45 Speaker 2

Put that in the chat right now.

00:28:48 Speaker 2

And I think.

00:28:51 Speaker 2

I think it'll go to everyone.

00:29:02 Speaker 2

If the F.

00:29:03 Speaker 2

LDOE is sharing data with you as who as to who is eligible. Is there way to.

00:29:07 Speaker 2

Share that with.

00:29:08 Speaker 2

Schools they want to know who is eligible and not yet enrolled and and so the data that we receive from the Dewey is data that districts already provide to them.

00:29:18 Speaker 2

So you all have access to that information based on.

00:29:23 Speaker 2

Students who scored below Benchmark run fast as well as students who are receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction.

00:29:32 Speaker 2

So use the data that you have access to to identify students who are eligible.

00:29:36 Speaker 2

But not yet enrolled.

00:29:41 Speaker 2

Uh, another question, can we share your e-mail with schools so they can contact you for parents?

00:29:46 Speaker 2

Yeah, of course we would love.

00:29:49 Speaker 2

We would love that, so I'm leaving it up on the screen here for you to to grab that information.

00:29:55 Speaker 2

Uhm, Heather, I'm having issues downloading the data from the SFP I emailed but haven't heard back.

00:30:02 Speaker 2

Uhm, OK, yes, thank you for that message, Heather.

00:30:07 Speaker 2

We do have a a how to guide that should have accompanied the the initial e-mail that you received so.

00:30:16 Speaker 2

Do e-mail this e-mail address again and just say hey, can you send that to me again or we have someone who could actually walk you through?

00:30:26 Speaker 2

Uhm, the information as well so please e-mail us and sorry if you have not received a response.

00:30:36 Speaker 2

I'm putting information in the chat regarding the.

00:30:41 Speaker 2

The literacy matrix as well.

00:30:45 Speaker 2

If I can copy and paste it over, what other questions are coming up?

00:30:51 Speaker 2

Do families have to renew their enrollment each year?

00:30:55 Speaker 2

No, once an eligible family is enrolled, they actually remain enrolled unless they decide to opt out until the the student gets to.

00:31:06 Speaker 2

You know graduates from 5th.

00:31:08 Speaker 2

Grade and that that is regardless of you know their improvement in their reading score, so of course we want students to to be more proficient readers.

00:31:17 Speaker 2

But regardless of you know their improvement, they actually remain enrolled.

00:31:21 Speaker 2

All we ask is that they update their their enrollment information.

00:31:26 Speaker 2

So for example, we.

00:31:26 Speaker 2

Know that families move.

00:31:28 Speaker 2

You know they.

00:31:30 Speaker 2

They can also update their their interests.

00:31:32 Speaker 2

So on our enrollment application, families can select up to.

00:31:37 Speaker 2

3 topics of that are of interest to to their students and then based on their selection we send we match the topics to particular titles so they could always update that information monthly as well.

00:31:54 Speaker 2

Uhm, for grades three through 5 below level is levels one and two on fast, uh, so we actually thank you for that question.

00:32:03 Speaker 2

We actually have not yet received data for the progress monitoring one, and so we are awaiting.

00:32:12 Speaker 2

The receiver of that information in order to determine eligibility for this school year.

00:32:19 Speaker 2

So we are still waiting on on those data to come through.

00:32:24 Speaker 3

You would be able.

00:32:25 Speaker 3

To identify students from last year that scored a level one or two on FSA and also at the you know, school and district level.

00:32:36 Speaker 3

You already know which students scored a level one or two on PM one, and so you would be able to identify students that way.

00:32:46 Speaker 3

The UF Lastinger Center just isn't able to.

00:32:50 Speaker 3

They can like pre roll pre enroll.

00:32:52 Speaker 3

They just aren't technically enrolled in the program yet because the department is still trying to clean up data from PM one in order to share that with the Lastinger center.

00:33:04 Speaker 2

Thank you, Lindsey.

00:33:05 Speaker 2

OK.

00:33:07 Speaker 3

Thank you so much Doctor Duggan for sharing with us this morning.

00:33:09 Speaker 2

There are a few more questions.

00:33:12 Speaker 2

Do we have?

00:33:13 Speaker 2

A couple more minutes.

00:33:15 Speaker 2

There additional questions are coming through UM.

00:33:15 Speaker 3

Yes, yes.

00:33:22 Speaker 2

Let's see OK so I someone I can see your chat, Colleen.

00:33:30 Speaker 2

Someone is under a tornado watch and wants the recording OK.

00:33:35 Speaker 3

The recording will be posted on our website.

00:33:40 Speaker 2

OK Brandy, we could send you the PDF, so if you e-mail us.

00:33:43 Speaker 2

Uhm, requesting the toolkit we can send that to you in.

00:33:47 Speaker 2

A PDF format.

00:33:54 Speaker 2

My yes Jennifer is going to talk about the scholarship portion of New Worlds.

00:33:59 Speaker 2

That's for from step up.

00:34:07 Speaker 2

Yes, we'll send updated data regarding students who.

00:34:10 Speaker 2

Are eligible and.

00:34:11 Speaker 2

Enrolled we're hoping to do that monthly, and so you should have access to those data in the SFTP folder, so thank you for that question and.

00:34:23 Speaker 2

We are adding the ID to the data as well, so that should make it easier for you all.

00:34:29 Speaker 2

So thank you for that question.

00:34:33 Speaker 2

We had a parent say their address wasn't identified or recognized.

00:34:36 Speaker 2

How can that be fixed?

00:34:38 Speaker 2

The parents, in order to be eligible, they have to have a valid Florida.

00:34:44 Speaker 2

Address and and if there's an issue where there's a family that.

00:34:50 Speaker 2

Does not have a you know a mailing address if they're if they're homeless, for example, then you can e-mail us and or or work with the family, right?

00:34:58 Speaker 2

To think about if they can use a neighbors address, you know that's happened before a church.

00:35:04 Speaker 2

You know, a friend.

00:35:05 Speaker 2

Something of that nature.

00:35:06 Speaker 2

So if if there's an issue around that, you can.

00:35:09 Speaker 2

E-mail us directly and we can help.

00:35:14 Speaker 2

Nikki, your question is, can we see who has enrolled?

00:35:17 Speaker 2

Yes, you can.

00:35:19 Speaker 2

Every district has a district point of contact and they have access to to those data.

00:35:25 Speaker 2

We do ask that you share data within your district in a secure way, so don't don't e-mail it.

00:35:33 Speaker 2

Which is why we send it through the secure or secure platform, and so we can't send personally identifiable information via e-mail.

00:35:43 Speaker 2

And so your district point of contact has that has those data and just send it securely in your district.

00:35:52 Speaker 2

OK.

00:35:56 Speaker 3

I see, uh, question about eligibility.

00:35:56

Right?

00:35:58 Speaker 3

Yeah, and I'm going to put in the chat the eligibility for the New World Reading Initiative that was shared with district reading contacts.

00:36:08 Speaker 3

Within the last couple months and so it's it's pretty detailed based on data for K through 5.

00:36:11 Speaker 2

Thank you.

00:36:17 Speaker 2

Thank you and let me add.

00:36:18 Speaker 2

Thank you Lindsay in year one because we did not so last year when we first started we didn't have.

00:36:24 Speaker 2

Some data to verify students. We recognized that there were maybe about approximately 60,000 students who had enrolled and received books and resources who were not actually eligible, and so for those students they have been grandfathered in, and so they will continue to.

00:36:44 Speaker 2

Receive books and resources, but moving forward we are going to be verifying student eligibility before they actually receive books and resources.

00:37:04 Speaker 2

OK, anonymous attendee with the address issue.

00:37:06 Speaker 2

Yeah just e-mail us and we can look into that.

00:37:12 Speaker 2

Uhm, Katie, the e-mail.

00:37:13 Speaker 2

The e-mail came from.

00:37:15 Speaker 2

Erica Fritz Oaks regarding the.

00:37:19 Speaker 2

The access to the SFTP as well as the step to step step by step guide.

00:37:27 Speaker 2

Alright, thank you.

00:37:30 Speaker 2

Yes I will share information Linda about the literacy matrix.

00:37:34 Speaker 2

I'm gonna put it in the chat, probably after I get to the end of the questions.

00:37:40 Speaker 2

Ah, how do you know who your district point of contact is?

00:37:43 Speaker 2

We have a list for that and I'm going to put that in the chat as well.

00:37:47 Speaker 2

Let's see.

00:37:51 Speaker 2

Alright, so uhm, I posted the book list that's on the Louise website for year one and a link to the district point of contact for this year and then as soon as I can get to the information regarding the literacy matrix, I will put that in the chat as well.

00:38:11 Speaker 2

All right, I think we've made it to the end and I'm at time, Lindsey.

00:38:15 Speaker 2

So thank you all.

00:38:17 Speaker 2

Feel free to e-mail if you have additional questions.

00:38:22 Speaker 3

Again, thank you so much, Doctor Duggan.

00:38:26 Speaker 3

It's just so exciting to hear about the New World Reading Initiative and the opportunity that eligible students can receive free books in their home every month.

00:38:37 Speaker 3

So now we are ready to hear about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts.

00:38:42 Speaker 3

And it looks like Jennifer is ready to begin.

00:38:45 Speaker 1

I sure am.

00:38:46 Speaker 1

Can everybody hear me OK?

00:38:48 Speaker 1

Yes perfect.

00:38:50 Speaker 1

So my name is Jen Canning.

00:38:52 Speaker 1

I will step up for students and I'm here to talk to you about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts today and these are scholarships that help struggling readers afford the support they need to succeed.

00:39:03 Speaker 1

So step up for students who are not familiar with this.

00:39:05 Speaker 1

We actually administer 4 statewide scholarship programs across the state, the first being the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program, and that helps middle lower to middle income families.

00:39:18 Speaker 1

We also have the FS program which serves 2 populations, again a lower to middle.

00:39:24 Speaker 1

A family group, but also helps students who have unique abilities.

00:39:29 Speaker 1

And then we have our hope scholarship for students who may be bullied or victims of violence.

00:39:34 Speaker 1

And then I'm the director of the New World Reading Scholarship accounts, which helps K through five public school students who struggle with reading.

00:39:42 Speaker 1

Now the reading scholarship.

00:39:44 Speaker 1

Was created in 2018 and then during last year's legislative session it was merged with the new.

00:39:51 Speaker 1

World reading initiatives.

00:39:53 Speaker 1

So the new rules reading initiative has two wings, the first being the free book program that Shante talked to us about and the other side being scholarship which step up for students administers.

00:40:06 Speaker 1

So who qualifies for the scholarship?

00:40:08 Speaker 1

So this is going to sound awfully familiar.

00:40:11 Speaker 1

So in previous years, the scholarship was only for grades three through 5.

00:40:18 Speaker 1

And then last year when it was merged with the New World Reading Initiative, the Legislature expanded eligibility to include K through two as well, and so Florida public and charter school students, who either in last year scored below a Level 3.

00:40:37 Speaker 1

On the ELA would qualify students this year in grades three through five who were scoring a level one or A2 on the.

00:40:46 Speaker 1

Best or students in K through two who are identified with a substantial reading deficiency would all qualify.

00:40:54 Speaker 1

One difference between our eligibility and the book distribution eligibility is that funding priority by law has to be given to English language learners.

00:41:05 Speaker 1

So if a student is enrolled.

00:41:06 Speaker 1

In a program or receiving services specifically designed for LL, then that student would receive funding priority.

00:41:17 Speaker 1

Another difference is students do have to re qualify for the scholarship every year just to make sure.

00:41:23 Speaker 1

You know, if a student is no longer struggling with reading then they would not receive those extra funds.

00:41:29 Speaker 1

In the following year.

00:41:33 Speaker 1

OK, let's talk about the scholarship.

00:41:35 Speaker 1

So the new World Reading scholarship accounts are education savings account and this is kind of a new concept.

00:41:44 Speaker 1

It's a lot like a health savings account, and so we have a video that helps explain what an ESA is.

00:41:56 Speaker 5

What is an education savings account?

00:41:58 Speaker 5

An education savings account or ESA?

00:42:01 Speaker 5

Is a state.

00:42:02 Speaker 5

Scholarship program that allows families to personalize the education of their children.

00:42:07 Speaker 5

For the new.

00:42:08 Speaker 5

World Reading scholarship accounts.

00:42:10 Speaker 5

ESA funds can cover the cost of instructional materials.

00:42:14 Speaker 5

Great technology items.

00:42:16 Speaker 5

Summer literacy programs and more. How do ESA's work? The state sends the funds to a scholarship funding organization like step up for students.

00:42:28 Speaker 5

The scholarship funding organization puts the funds into the students account.

00:42:32 Speaker 5

Families then use the funds to help cover the cost of educational services.

00:42:36 Speaker 5

Products step up for students has created a platform that helps families manage their students scholarship funds.

00:42:44 Speaker 5

This platform makes it easy to shop for educational services and products from a variety of education service providers.

00:42:52 Speaker 5

Families can use scholarship funds to pay providers directly or get reimbursed for out of pocket purchases.

00:42:59 Speaker 5

Unused funds can roll over to pay for future expenses.

00:43:04 Speaker 5

Today, thousands of families across the country are using ESA's to personalize their child's education. Learn more about the New World Reading scholarship accounts and how ESA funds can help your student at stepupforstudents.org/reading.

00:43:26 Speaker 1

OK, so that went pretty fast, but I'm still going to explain every part of that. So the first being how the funds can be used so we know it's a $500.00 scholarship and those funds can be put towards part time tutoring, which is a very popular option. Summer and after school literacy programs, instructional materials.

00:43:47 Speaker 1

Including books, desktop, laptop computers and tablets or curriculum related to reading or literacy.

00:43:56 Speaker 1

So how did these students apply for the scholarship? So first they would visit stepupforstudents.org back slash reading I'm going to click on that real quick just to show you what that looks like.

00:44:07 Speaker 1

So here is our web page for the reading scholarship and families would simply click on this.

00:44:13 Speaker 1

Apply now to be taken to the application platform.

00:44:18 Speaker 1

OK, so once they click that apply, now they'll create a guardian profile and then add students to their account.

00:44:25 Speaker 1

This is super quick and easy.

00:44:26 Speaker 1

I'm actually going to walk you all through that in just a little bit and it's just like setting up an account on any website.

00:44:32 Speaker 1

I would specifically equate it to setting up an account on like a banking website.

00:44:38 Speaker 1

Just like an online banking website, so ESA's are essentially a bank account, so there's a lot of security around that, and we'll get into that a little bit late.

00:44:47 Speaker 1

And then the third step is that they'll complete the application.

00:44:50 Speaker 1

Most of the information is going to be pulled in from when they create their guardian profile.

00:44:55 Speaker 1

And add students.

00:44:56 Speaker 1

I'm going to walk you through the application process and you're going to.

00:44:58 Speaker 1

See how quick and easy that is.

00:45:02 Speaker 1

OK, so an important note. Schools and providers should not be completing guardian profiles and applications on parents behalf. So like I mentioned, ESA's are like bank accounts and only the parents and guardians should have access to that ESA.

00:45:16 Speaker 1

The other really important thing is that step up for students mostly communicates via e-mail with parents and guardians, and so when they create their account, it's really important that they use an e-mail address that they're checking off in.

00:45:31 Speaker 1

Sometimes we'll hear from parents and they're confused.

00:45:34 Speaker 1

They're not hearing from us.

00:45:35 Speaker 1

And then we'll check to see what e-mail address.

00:45:36 Speaker 1

We have on file and it'll be like junk maillikegmail.com right? And so they they didn't want to get spam from us and so I'll walk you through a little later how parents can can tell us what types of communications they want from us.

00:45:53 Speaker 1

OK, and you saw in the video that we have created a platform to help manage DSA funds.

00:45:59 Speaker 1

So our platform is called Emma and that's our education market assistant and so we are going to see lots of different features of Emma throughout my presentation today and the first stop is going to be creating.

00:46:13 Speaker 1

An account, so we're going to go through a demo together for the account creation.

00:46:17 Speaker 1

Like I said, it's a lot like creating an online account for a.

00:46:24 Speaker 1

I think, and so for this part I'm going to show screenshots and then we're moving to a live demo.

00:46:31 Speaker 1

There's a lot of having to e-mail or text codes, and so I didn't want to waste your time.

00:46:36 Speaker 1

I'm showing you that today, but I think the screenshots will.

00:46:38 Speaker 1

Do just.

00:46:39 Speaker 1

Fine, so when the families navigate to our website and click on apply now it takes them to Emma.

00:46:45 Speaker 1

And then they would navigate.

00:46:47 Speaker 1

To the sign up that's circled on the screen.

00:46:53 Speaker 1

From there a lot like creating an online bank account.

00:46:57 Speaker 1

They would be sent a code to their e-mail address and it's just a verification code function.

00:47:04 Speaker 1

It's just like every other website that uses a verification code, right?

00:47:09 Speaker 1

So once they type that in, we'll let them know that their e-mail address has been.

00:47:12 Speaker 1

Verified and they can continue to the next.

00:47:14 Speaker 1

Screen and this is where it will start to create their username and password for the website.

00:47:22 Speaker 1

From there there set up their security questions again, just like security questions.

00:47:27 Speaker 1

When you're setting up an online bank account, exact same types of questions.

00:47:33 Speaker 1

Just like every other website, they certify that they agree to our terms and conditions.

00:47:39 Speaker 1

And then they'll move on to creating their guardian profile, so we'll assign them a Guardian ID.

00:47:45 Speaker 1

They'll let us know their marital status and their primary language once they select Spanish.

00:47:50 Speaker 1

Here, everything from there on out will be in Spanish.

00:47:54 Speaker 1

Including the application, the marketplace, all of that.

00:47:58 Speaker 1

So they'll type in their mailing address.

00:48:00 Speaker 1

We do do a verification check to make sure that it's legitimate address, and then if it's the same as if their physical address is the same as their mailing address, they'll just check this box and it'll fill out this information.

00:48:13 Speaker 1

Here and then we also asked them for the excuse me for their contact information.

00:48:21 Speaker 1

So here is where they're able to manage consents, and to say what types of messages they would like to get from.

00:48:29 Speaker 1

Step up for students.

00:48:32 Speaker 1

They're also able to manage their contact preferences, so you see that e-mail is required, but we do also communicate via text and prerecorded phone messages, and sometimes personal phone calls when the situation warrants it.

00:48:49 Speaker 1

OK, from there they just hit save and they have set up their guardian profile.

00:48:53 Speaker 1

Now I have already logged into a test account to make today go a little fast.

00:48:58 Speaker 1

Sure, so this is what the Ms Scholarship portal looks like.

00:49:02 Speaker 1

And one thing I want to point out is in this example that I have pulled up for you.

00:49:08 Speaker 1

This family has submitted an application but they don't have funds yet, and So what they have access to over here is very limited and I'll show you some screenshots later.

00:49:19 Speaker 1

Of what this turns into once funds have been applied to.

00:49:23 Speaker 1

The Sims account.

00:49:25 Speaker 1

So once the Guardian account has been created, the family then has to add students.

00:49:29 Speaker 1

I have a student added already, but I'm going to add another student so you can see what.

00:49:33 Speaker 1

That looks.

00:49:33 Speaker 1

Like so I'm just going to call this.

00:49:37 Speaker 1

And a test.

00:49:38 Speaker 1

So first and last name or required.

00:49:41 Speaker 1

But then we do have lots of optional things as well, including the ID in years past the ID number was required and that really stopped a lot of parents from completing the application because they just couldn't find their ID number.

00:49:56 Speaker 1

And so this.

00:49:56 Speaker 1

Year we work with the.

00:49:57 Speaker 1

Department of Education.

00:49:58 Speaker 1

To make sure that this is no longer required, it makes the process a lot easier.

00:50:04 Speaker 1

Now we do have some rules around the date of birth we want to.

00:50:08 Speaker 1

Make sure that.

00:50:08 Speaker 1

The student it makes sense that their age is falling within grades K through 5.

00:50:16 Speaker 1

From here they select their gender and ethnicity if they're non Hispanic or Latino, race pops up and it's required.

00:50:25 Speaker 1

They would simply save that student, and they're done.

00:50:28 Speaker 1

A family can add as many students as they need to.

00:50:33 Speaker 1

And now I'm going to take you through the application.

00:50:36 Speaker 1

Right now the only application available for this family through the Emma platform is the New World Reading Scholarship accounts application.

00:50:44 Speaker 1

They would simply hit apply.

00:50:47 Speaker 1

OK and select the student so the other student that I had entered had already applied for the scholarship so they're no longer populating in the dropdown, but the student we just created is and you can see how that student information has completely pulled in and the only thing that the parent needs to add at this part.

00:51:07 Speaker 1

At this point is the school and the students grade level.

00:51:12 Speaker 1

The parent will then confirm that the student is enrolled in a Florida public school in K through 5th grade for the current school year and has a substantial reading deficiency.

00:51:23 Speaker 1

The parent is welcome to upload supporting documents.

00:51:26 Speaker 1

A common question that we get is, does uploading a document help my students chances of getting a scholarship?

00:51:34 Speaker 1

And the answer is no.

00:51:36 Speaker 1

So we work with the Department of Education to determine eligibility and all applications.

00:51:42 Speaker 1

Percent, regardless of if they have supporting documents, or.

00:51:45 Speaker 1

Not so parents are.

00:51:47 Speaker 1

Welcome to add documents here, but they do not have to.

00:51:51 Speaker 1

From here, the parent will hit continue and you can see, just like with the students, the Guardians at information is pulled in from when they created their Guardian account.

00:52:01 Speaker 1

And I didn't point this out before, but on both screens, if any information is incorrect, they can simply navigate to that page, fix it, and then navigate back to the application.

00:52:11 Speaker 1

The only thing the parent has to do on this screen, it just let us know their phone type.

00:52:16 Speaker 1

That's because if they've selected that they would like to receive texts from us, we need to know if.

00:52:21 Speaker 1

They have a cell phone on file.

00:52:24 Speaker 1

They would hit continue and at that point the applications done.

00:52:27 Speaker 1

We just ask them to review their information and then they do have to check a box that says that they certify that all the information presented is true and accurate.

00:52:40 Speaker 1

We also let them know that we work with the University of Florida Lastinger Center.

00:52:45 Speaker 1

And we shared our data with them and that by completing this application and submitting it, their data is going to be shared with the last Senior Center for learning and what that data sharing allows us to do is make sure you know there's a lot of overlap between food qualifies for the scholarship and who qualifies for the book distribution program.

00:53:04 Speaker 1

And we want to make sure that.

00:53:06 Speaker 1

We're capturing as many students as possible.

00:53:10 Speaker 1

From here, the Guardian simply needs to sign their name.

00:53:17 Speaker 1

And then they would submit their application.

00:53:21 Speaker 1

And that's it.

00:53:21 Speaker 1

So our application has really been streamlined.

00:53:24 Speaker 1

It's a lot easier than it's been in years past, and we're seeing a really great success rate of parents getting through the application this year.

00:53:34 Speaker 1

You can see here the parent can log in at any time and see what their application status is.

00:53:39 Speaker 1

The status of these two students.

00:53:41 Speaker 1

Is submitted.

00:53:53 Speaker 1

OK, So what are the next steps once that application is submitted you've heard me say a couple of times that step up for students works with the Florida Department of Education to determine eligibility that process could take up to 45.

00:54:06 Speaker 1

Says we're able to beat that in most cases.

00:54:09 Speaker 1

Sometimes there's something extraneous going on, and it takes us a little while longer to identify that.

00:54:14 Speaker 1

You've heard me say a couple times.

00:54:16 Speaker 1

The e-mail is really important, so how will the families know if they've been awarded a scholarship?

00:54:20 Speaker 1

We're going to e-mail them to the e-mail address on file, but I showed you where they can log in and see the status of their.

00:54:27 Speaker 1

Application at any point in time.

00:54:30 Speaker 1

If an awarded if awarded a scholarship, families will receive another e-mail once the students account has been funded and that e-mail will include instructions on how to begin utilizing those funds.

00:54:42 Speaker 1

So let's talk about that.

00:54:44 Speaker 1

Let's talk about how to use.

00:54:45 Speaker 1

Those scholarship funds.

00:54:46 Speaker 1

There are three.

00:54:47 Speaker 1

Different ways that families can utilize their scholarship funds.

00:54:51 Speaker 1

The first is with direct pay providers, so we work with providers across the state, including tutors.

00:54:59 Speaker 1

After school and summer literacy programs and a lot of those providers.

00:55:03 Speaker 1

Have signed up to be direct pay, so that means that families do not have to pay out of pocket and wait to be reimbursed.

00:55:10 Speaker 1

They're paid directly through.

00:55:11 Speaker 1

The Emma account.

00:55:13 Speaker 1

We have also.

00:55:14 Speaker 1

Created my scholar shop which is a lot like an Amazon that's just full of pre approved instructional materials for families where they can again shop directly with their funds through the Emma platform.

00:55:26 Speaker 1

They do not need to pay out of pocket and then the 3rd way is reimbursements where families can pay for products and services.

00:55:33 Speaker 1

Out of pocket and then submit a receipt through Emma for reimbursement.

00:55:38 Speaker 1

So I want to draw your attention over here to the left side of the screen.

00:55:43 Speaker 1

I mentioned earlier that in the example that I was showing you in the demo that family has not been funded yet.

00:55:50 Speaker 1

This is an example of what a family would see once they're funded.

00:55:53 Speaker 1

They now have a tab for reimbursements, and they also have the marketplace tab.

00:55:58 Speaker 1

So through the marketplace tab, they're able to shop.

00:56:00 Speaker 1

For providers.

00:56:01 Speaker 1

This is where they will find the direct providers that they do not have to pay out.

00:56:05 Speaker 1

Of pocket for.

00:56:06 Speaker 1

And that's where they'll be able to navigate to my scholar shop, and then I just wanted to share a quick screenshot of my scholarship.

00:56:14 Speaker 1

And so they'll be able to either navigate to tiles for the items that they're looking for, or they can search for items directly.

00:56:22 Speaker 1

And so again, if they're shopping through our marketplace, they do not need to pay out of pocket.

00:56:27 Speaker 1

The funds go directly from their scholarship account, either to the vendor or to the provider.

00:56:35 Speaker 1

But what happens if a?

00:56:35 Speaker 1

Parent goes to the marketplace and they're not seeing the provider they want.

00:56:39 Speaker 1

They're not seeing the product they want.

00:56:40 Speaker 1

That's not a problem.

00:56:42 Speaker 1

They can always pay for qualifying services and products out of pocket.

00:56:46 Speaker 1

And submit a receipt also through Emma through the reimbursements tab so that they can be reimbursed.

00:56:53 Speaker 1

OK, so how can you help?

00:56:55 Speaker 1

So step up for students does not receive any funding for marketing that new World Reading Scholarship accounts program.

00:57:03 Speaker 1

We do receive some funds to administer the program, but as you can see, an ESA is really a complicated thing to administer and so that's where all of our administrative funding goes, and so.

00:57:15 Speaker 1

To date, since the scholarship was created in 2018, we have never met the program cap and this year our CAP is larger than ever. We can serve 58,000 students this year.

00:57:27 Speaker 1

We opened earlier this month and we're off to a great start. We've already had over 3500 students apply for the scholarship.

00:57:35 Speaker 1

But we really.

00:57:36 Speaker 1

Need help spreading the word, and so we're really relying on districts and community partners and our partners.

00:57:42 Speaker 1

At the last Senior Center to help spread the word about the scholarship program.

00:57:46 Speaker 1

So if you know students who could benefit.

00:57:48 Speaker 1

You can tell their parents to visit stepupforstudents.org, back slash, readingsubs.org, back slash reading also works if you know of a service provider or a vendor that helps struggling readers. They can also go to our website to learn how to participate.

00:58:03 Speaker 1

And we also have Flyers that we provide, and so if you would like a flower, you can e-mail my colleague Melissa.

00:58:11 Speaker 1

Her e-mail address is m.jeremy0@soft.org. That's MJARAMILLO at soft.org, so we really need help.

00:58:24 Speaker 1

Spreading the word.

00:58:25 Speaker 1

We do e-mail the district contacts that the DoD has, and so if you're wondering if you're on that list, that's on the Florida DoD website and that's our contact list that we use to communicate about the new World Reading scholarship accounts.

00:58:44 Speaker 1

OK, let's spend a few minutes.

00:58:45 Speaker 1

Uhm, doing a few questions and answers.

00:58:49 Speaker 1

So a student.

00:58:51 Speaker 1

Yes, so Michelle student can and probably does qualify for both the scholarship and the free book program.

00:58:59 Speaker 1

And so our goal?

00:59:02 Speaker 1

Oh, I need to scroll up.

00:59:03 Speaker 1

I skipped a few.

00:59:04 Speaker 1

Our goal is.

00:59:06 Speaker 1

For students to participate in both because if a student receiving the funds and going to tutoring, it's absolutely going to help them if they go home and have a library that's been curated for them to read from.

00:59:18 Speaker 1

Let me scroll up to.

00:59:19 Speaker 3

The top here.

00:59:20 Speaker 3

There are.

00:59:21 Speaker 3

I just want to clarify real quick.

00:59:23 Speaker 3

There are some slight differences between the eligibility in both programs and the detailed eligibility has been provided to the main district.

00:59:32 Speaker 3

Reading contact in each district.

00:59:35 Speaker 3

But if you want to send an e-mail to me or.

00:59:38 Speaker 3

To the just read at ldoe.org account, we can definitely send that to you as well. It's too long to copy and paste into the chat and it'll get kind of mixed up, so we'd be happy to e-mail that to you so that you can see how the eligibility for the programs are alike and also slightly.

00:59:57 Speaker 1

Yeah, and and just to clarify that eligibility is laid out in statute, and so it gets.

01:00:04 Speaker 1

You know, it's very technical and wonky, and that's why it's a little lengthy and that's why there's just some slight differences between the two programs.

01:00:12 Speaker 1

OK, so this question is from 918, so I believe that was from earlier today. I think I started at 9:24 so so a student must be ELL student along with receiving a level one or two on the fast to qualify. So that is not correct. LL students get priority when it comes to funding.

01:00:32 Speaker 1

But a student does not have to be LL.

01:00:36 Speaker 1

In order to qualify for the scholarship, because we've never hit our program cap before, we've actually never had to.

01:00:47 Speaker 1

There have never been times where a student wasn't LL and therefore wasn't funded, so definitely have all your students apply, whether they're LL or not.

01:00:59 Speaker 1

How does a school or teacher become a provider for the Reading scholarship program?

01:01:02 Speaker 1

That's a great question, so we do have some public schools around the state who are providers.

01:01:09 Speaker 1

So these are schools who kind of thought to themselves. $500.00 per student. We've got a lot of struggling readers we could use that $500.00 to create an after school program.

01:01:19 Speaker 1

So if you navigate to that step up for students website, there's a four providers tab there and it goes through the process of becoming a provider.

01:01:29 Speaker 1

Now coming very soon in the new year.

01:01:33 Speaker 1

All of that is going to change.

01:01:34 Speaker 1

We're also bringing our providers onto the MO platform, and so it's going to be easier than ever to participate as a provider for the reading scholarship program.

01:01:44 Speaker 1

Teachers can also participate on their own as part time tutors and we've got a lot of teachers across the state who are doing that.

01:01:52 Speaker 1

So again, they can just navigate to our website and they'll be able to find information on how to participate.

01:01:59 Speaker 1

There are some laws and rules around who can participate as a provider.

01:02:08 Speaker 1

Things like you know a teacher is going to be able to participate because they have a valid teaching certificate, but you could also have a bachelors or masters degree.

01:02:18 Speaker 1

In reading or literacy, English language arts and qualify.

01:02:22 Speaker 1

So there are some technicalities there.

01:02:25 Speaker 1

But our provider relations team is set up for students will help their providers.

01:02:29 Speaker 1

Through that process.

01:02:32 Speaker 1

OK, what type of instructional materials all are available through my scholarshop?

01:02:37 Speaker 1

Are they aligned to best and who has vetted them?

01:02:41 Speaker 1

So I'm going to navigate back to that page so we can look at that together, so instruction materials that's also laid out.

01:02:50 Speaker 1

What counts as instruction materials.

01:02:52 Speaker 1

Also laid out in statute and rule, it includes laptops, tablets, owners, online software, programs, books, curriculum, things of that nature.

01:03:02 Speaker 1

Uhm, and so that is actually vetted by step up for students compliance team to make sure it matches the letter.

01:03:08 Speaker 1

Of the law.

01:03:09 Speaker 1

Uh, that governs the reading, scholarship program, and so is it aligned to best, no, but what we do always communicate with our scholarship families, especially our new world.

01:03:23 Speaker 1

Reading scholarship families is they should be sitting down and speaking with their students teacher.

01:03:29 Speaker 1

Or speaking with their districts reading and literacy.

01:03:32 Speaker 1

Coach and saying, hey, I have this $500.00. What's the best use of that for my student and so families do receive that instructions for step up for students to make sure that they're using their funds in the way that makes the most sense for their students.

01:03:49 Speaker 1

OK.

01:03:52 Speaker 1

Where do we go to learn more about getting a reading endorsement for teachers for free?

01:03:56 Speaker 1

Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question I do.

01:03:59 Speaker 3

Yes, it is in the chat, doctor Dugan posted it there starting with pre enrollment for the UF Lastinger Center for Learning.

01:04:06 Speaker 3

2223 Flamingo Literacy matrix is open now and she you know had to break it up into a couple pieces.

01:04:14 Speaker 3

But there's a link there that says please share this fire with your educators to pre enroll.

01:04:18 Speaker 3

So pre enrollment.

01:04:19 Speaker 3

For the literacy matrix, which is free for Florida educators, it is currently open for pre enrollment and the next course or semester begins on January 30th.

01:04:31 Speaker 4

Right?

01:04:32 Speaker 1

Now the next question was about Flyers, so if you would like a flyer to share with your students, the easiest way of doing it is making sure that you're added to the district contact list that the Florida Department of Education uses, because that's who step up communicates with regularly about the program.

01:04:51 Speaker 1

We share more than just the flyer.

01:04:52 Speaker 1

We do have Flyers in English and Spanish, but we also share instruction.

01:04:57 Speaker 1

With those district contacts as well.

01:05:00 Speaker 1

But you can also e-mail my colleague Melissa Jeremy oh and just let her know that you would like a new road reading scholarship accounts flyer.

01:05:08 Speaker 1

Let her know if you want it in English and in Spanish, and she'll send that to you, so I'll leave this screen up so you can copy down her e-mail address.

01:05:18 Speaker 1

Move that over there.

01:05:20 Speaker 1

Ah OK, I see a lot of thank yous and then will districts have access to the sample video and supporting documents or Flyers to educate school leaders and parents?

01:05:30 Speaker 1

So the answer is yes.

01:05:31 Speaker 1

One step up for students, emails, districts and we do so at several points throughout the year.

01:05:36 Speaker 1

They've already received a few emails from us, but then they're going to receive.

01:05:42 Speaker 1

Communications around when progress monitoring is occurring and those results are coming in and so we do share that video.

01:05:50 Speaker 1

We do share supporting documents and we do share those Flyers there as well.

01:05:55 Speaker 1

OK, what is the recipient cap? Yep, so we have. There's been enough funding allocated at the state level this year to serve 58,000 students, and so we've been open a little less than a month. You know few weeks, and we've already gotten 3500 applicants so far, so, uh.

01:06:16 Speaker 1

Lot of room to grow and we can serve an awful lot of students this year.

01:06:23 Speaker 1

OK, here's another question about reading endorsement or higher education faculty eligible for the reading endorsement as well.

01:06:34 Speaker 1

Chantelle Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question?

01:06:39 Speaker 2

Do they have a floor of valid Florida teaching certificate?

01:06:44 Speaker 2

That's but e-mail For more information.

01:06:47 Speaker 2

I my colleague Pam Alfaro could respond directly.

01:06:53 Speaker 1

OK, so it looks like we've reached the end of the questions.

01:06:56 Speaker 1

01:07:03 Speaker 1

If you come up with any other questions.

01:07:05 Speaker 1

My phone number is listed on the right hand side of the screen as well as.

01:07:10 Speaker 1

My e-mail on.

01:07:11 Speaker 1

The left hand side of the screen.

01:07:13 Speaker 1

Is the phone number for our separate for student service center and our website?

01:07:18 Speaker 1

You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

01:07:24 Speaker 3

Thank you so much Jen.

01:07:26 Speaker 1

Thank you.

01:07:28 Speaker 3

And thank you both, I'm.

01:07:29 Speaker 3

Excited that we were able to.

01:07:31 Speaker 3

Of Shante and Jen here with us this morning to share information about the New World Reading Initiative and the New World Reading Scholarship accounts.

01:07:40 Speaker 3

They are both just amazing opportunities for eligible students.

01:07:43 Speaker 3

If you think of any questions after the webinar, please feel free to reach out to either Jen with her e-mail that she provided.

01:07:52 Speaker 3

Or the e-mail that Shantae provided.

01:07:54 Speaker 3

You can also reach out directly to just read at fldoe.

01:07:58 Speaker 3

Work and a couple days when we have the recording ready and posted we will get that on our website on the just read Florida Web page under educator resources and then we have a tab for webinars and all of the webinars that we host this year.

01:08:14 Speaker 3

We'll be posting recordings there for viewing, so thank you again.

01:08:19 Speaker 3

For joining us this morning and we hope you all have a wonderful Wednesday.

# Audio file

[GMT20221130-134805\_Recording (1).m4a](https://floridadoe-my.sharepoint.com/personal/lee_peck_fldoe_org/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/GMT20221130-134805_Recording%20(1).m4a)

# Transcript

Speaker 3

Good morning, good morning, shante. How are you good?

Speaker 1

Good morning.

Speaker 2

How you doing?

Speaker 3

Good morning, Jeff.

Speaker 1

Good morning.

Speaker 3

Lee, are you on? So when I try to click the start video button it says you cannot start your video because the host has stopped it.

Speaker 2

And I'm just going to try sharing screen really quickly. Can you see Lindsay?

Speaker 3

Yes, I can see your screen shangtang.

Speaker 2

Can you see that full screen?

Speaker 3

Yes, I can see the full screen, UM. You may, if you don't mind on that first slide. I'm trying to think about what rather than 'cause, this isn't one of our monthly meetings. This is like a webinar for a much larger group. Huh, so you may want to just change it to like just read Florida webinar and then the date rather than main district reading contacts. Monthly meeting. If you don't. Mind does it allow you to share your video?

Speaker 2

I'm I'm not going to share any videos today.

Speaker 3

No, like your video of yourself.

Speaker 2

Oh no no no no. It gave me that same message unable to. I can't start.

Speaker 3

So something is not able to.

Speaker 5

Uh, share her baby.

Speaker 2

But I'm here. I want I. Have three different screens, so I'm trying to see which one will pick up my my video here.

Speaker 3

OK, Lee is going. To try to work on that Jennifer, do you want to see if you have? Screen sharing capabilities.

Speaker 1

Yes, sorry, I wasn't on Neil. I'm going to share my whole screen instead of just my PowerPoint because I'll be in and out of the PowerPoint as I'm doing demos. But let me pull up the right one. And then I'm going to cruise ahead to that video just so we can make sure that the audio is working.

Speaker 2

Jen, we could see you and presenter Mullins, yeah.

Speaker 3

The the screen that we can see is your presenter notes.

Speaker 1

Interesting, let me, let's see.

Speaker 3

You might have to click display settings. Up at the.

Speaker 1

Top, let's try it again. Goodbye now.

Speaker 3

Yep, that's good great.

Speaker 1

And when I click over to this video.

Speaker

You all can.

Speaker 5

What is an education savings account?

Speaker 1

Hear that just.

Speaker 2

Fine Yep yes great.

Speaker 5

An education savings account or?

Speaker 4

Great OK.

Speaker 3

Yay, my video works now.

Speaker 2

Me too.

Speaker 3

Thank you Lee. Alright, so we have about 5 more minutes until we'll get started and I'll kick it off and introduce both of you and then shante. You'll share your screen 1st and present.

Speaker 1

So I'm still not able to share my video. It still says the host has. Stopped it.

Speaker 3

Alright, let we'll try to work on that in the next couple minutes. Sorry about that, Jennifer. Oh it worked.

Speaker 1

I just had to try it again.

Speaker 3

Yeah, it was magic.

Speaker 1

I just had to speak it out loud.

Speaker 3

Good morning everyone. Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning. My name is Lindsay Brown and I'm the executive director of just read Florida and Majestrix Florida office is excited to offer our first webinar of this school year and our first webinar is focusing on the new world reading. And so we have two special guests with us. Today we have Doctor Shante, duggins for the New World Reading Initiative and she's from the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning and we also have Jennifer Canning to share with you about new World breeding scholarship accounts from step up for students. So I'm going to go ahead and. Hand it over to Doctor Shante Duggins, and she's going to start sharing wonderful information with you about the New World reading initiatives.

Speaker 2

Awesome, thank you so much and good morning everyone. So excited to be here with you all today. If we have not met previously. My name is Shante Diggins. I'm at the University of Florida Lastinger Center for learning. We have lots of exciting things happening at the Lastinger center. We've been around for 20 years. For those of you who may be. Unfamiliar with who we are and what we do, we provide support for both educators and parents and families. Now with the New World Reading Initiative, some of you may be familiar with some of our work such as. The literacy matrix. We're actually now accepting. Uh, pre enrollment information for the literacy matrix so I can share some information in the chat about that. We also do work in the space of early learning, mathematics, leadership and coaching and data and technology. The new goals reading initiative. We are the administrator for the new rules reading initiative. It's a family literacy engagement program that was recently established by statute under the guidance of former Speaker Chris Sprowls, and it is Florida's first statewide book distribution program of its kind. Our vision is. To provide resources to children and families and to create at home libraries for K5 students who are not yet reading on grade level. And we'll talk a bit about the eligibility criteria. We also aim to build caregivers confidence and capacities to support their own kids at home by providing meaningful literacy resources, tips and strategies for them. We recognize the value in partnership and so we partner with everyone and anyone both at in. School school districts and community organizations to support children and families. And we're also able to receive corporate tax payers can make contributions to new roles and sustain the program beyond the initial investment that the state has made. So we're super grateful for that. And then we've recently added teacher professional development, so to develop teacher experts in the science of reading through micro credentials. And teacher professional development that creates a home in school connection and literacy. So we've been pretty busy since we've started last year, but this is what we've been up to. So a little bit about our eligibility criteria. The the the New World Reading Initiative is designed for K5 students who attend public or charter schools in our state who are not yet reading on grade level. So these are students who have been identified based on the the new fast as not yet. Reading on grade level or students who receive either Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction in reading. And I'll, I'll. Add here that we're working with the Florida Department of Education to receive data to determine student eligibility. So in year we we hired a number of engagement team specialists across the state and we're excited to share some highlights from our year one. You can see some photos here. We've been busy out and about in communities working with schools and school districts we have. People located across the state and region, so we have somewhat a couple people in the Panhandle, NE central SW and SE Florida. Again, the purpose is to really engage with communities engaged with schools and school districts. We've sponsored literacy nights with schools. We've worked with community organizations to table at different events to get the information out, because remember that the new rules reading initiative, it's an opt in program. So in order for families to take advantage of the resources that we provide, they have to go to our website. At newworldreading.com to apply to participate and so our goal has been to get the information out there to as many families as possible in order for them to take advantage of the resources that we that we provide. We've received a ton of feedback from families just sharing how positive the new rules reading initiative has been for for their family, but this one is really special. It's from a student and it reads. I like that my parents don't always have to buy me books. I can get them in the mail. It's also kind of fun. It makes me feel like reading more because they're mine. I like to read all kinds of books when I get a book in the mail with my name on it on them. Box I feel like I'm special and again this one just makes me smile. It's from a student and we know that providing books and resources to families it's it's really life changing and that's what we're hearing from a number of families who are participating. All right, so to share some numbers to date. And this is as of we just started delivering books in October for this school year. Here, so based on data that we have from the 2122 school year, we estimate that over 556,000 students are eligible across the state. So again these are students who are not yet reading. On grade level. So far for this school year we have 125,000 students approximately who are enrolled and these are eligible. Since we still have a number of students who are pending based on additional data that we receive from the state, that will help us to determine whether or not those students are in fact eligible and we've shipped over 227,000 books so far, and that those numbers continue to increase every day. And again, our goal. Is to reach as many students as possible. All right, so I'll share a little bit about the resources. So in addition to providing books to students and again we work with the Florida Department of Education to VET and approve all of our titles before we send them out. We also send literacy resources to families, and that's a. An important part of our initiative because we want to support. Port families and children you know, really sharing that experience of a book together, and so we are creating again our book lists, in consultation with the gestri Florida office and those the list for year one is actually posted on their website and I can put that in the chat in. A bit as well. We're creating interactive reading guides for each. Book and these resources are also housed on our website, and we're also posting on our website a series of videos so families could see what the strategies look like in action. So when we talk about, you know selecting you know vocabulary words and what does that look like based on a book that. That they're receiving at home. So again, super excited to have those resources available completely free of charge to families and educators, really, anyone on our website and we'll continue to add to our website monthly. Let's see so for K through two students, the interactive reading guides are printed with the books and actually mailed to the homes of children for and all all of our resources again are on our website, and so we have bookmarks that we're creating for three through five that are mailed with the. Books that are sent to the homes of children. And here's an example of what an interactive reading guide looks like for for students, so again, it's it's intended to support the family to support their caregivers in in having that shared reading experience at home. Our team is working to develop a scope and sequence for our word work that's aligned with the Florida and best DLA standards for this for this school year. All right, so we'll talk a little bit about our outreach and engagement. So last year, we mailed twice. Actually Flyers to every school across the state, over 700,000 Flyers, and we're starting that again for this school year. Flyers started going out, I believe. Last week, again, across the entire state, so we've updated our Flyers. We're shipping them to schools across the. State we've heard from a number of schools that they didn't know what to do with the Flyers, and so we've included again a like a directional sheet. And so we're just asking, please please identify students who meet our eligibility criteria. Students who are not yet reading on grade level and please send those Flyers. Home to those families again, it is an opt in program so they have to go to our website to enroll. We've included a QR code so it's easy the the application is very easy. It could be done on a cell phone and so again the Flyers are are coming to schools across the state. So please share the Flyers with students who are eligible in order for them to enroll. And this is what the front side of the New Flyer looks like. Alright, so I'll also put in the chat in. Just a moment. Our links to our toolkit. So we created toolkits for districts and for schools. And so the the thinking is we want to make it really easy for you all to share the info. Nation and so we have ready to may we just copy everything is copy paste. Everything has been trans created in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, and so the idea again is to to get the information out. If you can scan the QR code that's on the screen right now. It'll take you directly to the school toolkit and we have sample messaging from principals to teachers or teachers to parents. We have the Flyers we have. A recorded phone screen. A number of social media resources. Again, just copy paste ready to use resources. So I'm I'm hopeful that you can scan this QR code and and you'll have the tool. The school toolkit at your fingertips. This is just a screenshot of some of the sample messaging that's included in the toolkit. Again, we're trying to make it really easy to share the information. This is a another example of sample messaging here that's available in our toolkit that can be shared. With parents. We have samples of social media posts. Again you can copy paste. We would love for you to tag us in any posts that you send out regarding new rules. Reading initiative. And here are some other resources and we have QR codes. Our logos. We have a ton of photos that you can use as well. So coming up for in this school year, I mentioned our engagement team. So in addition to sending books and resources to families, we would love to partner. With schools or. School districts or community organizations to engage right? And so we can coast host. Or Co host literacy nights. If you have any academic nights coming up if you wanted us to table at an event that you have at your school, or something that's happening in your organize in your community, we would be happy to do that. We've attended PTA or PTO meetings. Any opportunity to get in front of children. And families and educators. Again, we would love, love, love to take advantage of that. And so I'll share our e-mail address at the end and you can feel free to e-mail us if you would like for us to. Come out to. Your school or to your district to support. Your children and families. Uhm, so we have. We've been asked for students. Or or list. Of students who are actually eligible and enrolled in the New World Reading initiative, and so at every district, there is a district point of contact. And we've shared, UM. Data with the district points of contact regarding eligible students who are enrolled in the new rules reading initiative. And so our. My question to you is now that you all have access to those data, how can we reach more eligible students and so please reach out to your district point of contact. To identify the the students who are eligible and enrolled and then reach out to those who you know are eligible but not yet enrolled and so thank you again for getting the information out there to as many families as possible. Here's another quote, this one from a parent. It reads my daughter is a struggling reader, so to be a part of this program is awesome. The book program has encouraged my child reading, which has improved her whole life for her now to feel comfortable enough just to pick up a book that has been sent to her has changed her. Now she says, hey mom, I'm going to sit and read. That didn't happen before. Or so again, we are really changing the trajectories for our students, who are typically reluctant readers and providing not only them but also their families with resources to support them at home. So we are really grateful for to have this opportunity to share and thank. You all again. We ask that you help us to get additional eligible students enrolled. Be an ambassador for the program. Share with other educators. Share with families. Share with communities. We've attended a number of conferences where people still have not heard about the new rules reading initiative, so please share very widely and follow us on social media. We'd love for you to to tag us. To follow us, if you're sharing anything about families that have provided you with feedback, we'd love to hear that as. Well and again, thank you. Here's our information. I'll put some things in the chat, but I wanted to leave a sufficient amount of time for any questions or comments. From the group. And I'm going to be putting a few things. In the chat. Alright, so where can I find the parent toolkit so? We don't have. A parent toolkit, but we do have a a toolkit for for districts and for schools, so I'll. Put that in the chat right now. And I think. I think it'll go to everyone. If the F. LDOE is sharing data with you as who as to who is eligible. Is there way to. Share that with. Schools they want to know who is eligible and not yet enrolled and and so the data that we receive from the Dewey is data that districts already provide to them. So you all have access to that information based on. Students who scored below Benchmark run fast as well as students who are receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction. So use the data that you have access to to identify students who are eligible. But not yet enrolled. Uh, another question, can we share your e-mail with schools so they can contact you for parents? Yeah, of course we would love. We would love that, so I'm leaving it up on the screen here for you to to grab that information. Uhm, Heather, I'm having issues downloading the data from the SFP I emailed but haven't heard back. Uhm, OK, yes, thank you for that message, Heather. We do have a a how to guide that should have accompanied the the initial e-mail that you received so. Do e-mail this e-mail address again and just say hey, can you send that to me again or we have someone who could actually walk you through? Uhm, the information as well so please e-mail us and sorry if you have not received a response. I'm putting information in the chat regarding the. The literacy matrix as well. If I can copy and paste it over, what other questions are coming up? Do families have to renew their enrollment each year? No, once an eligible family is enrolled, they actually remain enrolled unless they decide to opt out until the the student gets to. You know graduates from 5th. Grade and that that is regardless of you know their improvement in their reading score, so of course we want students to to be more proficient readers. But regardless of you know their improvement, they actually remain enrolled. All we ask is that they update their their enrollment information. So for example, we. Know that families move. You know they. They can also update their their interests. So on our enrollment application, families can select up to. 3 topics of that are of interest to to their students and then based on their selection we send we match the topics to particular titles so they could always update that information monthly as well. Uhm, for grades three through 5 below level is levels one and two on fast, uh, so we actually thank you for that question. We actually have not yet received data for the progress monitoring one, and so we are awaiting. The receiver of that information in order to determine eligibility for this school year. So we are still waiting on on those data to come through.

Speaker 3

You would be able. To identify students from last year that scored a level one or two on FSA and also at the you know, school and district level. You already know which students scored a level one or two on PM one, and so you would be able to identify students that way. The UF Lastinger Center just isn't able to. They can like pre roll pre enroll. They just aren't technically enrolled in the program yet because the department is still trying to clean up data from PM one in order to share that with the Lastinger center.

Speaker 2

Thank you, Lindsey. OK.

Speaker 3

Thank you so much Doctor Duggan for sharing with us this morning.

Speaker 2

There are a few more questions. Do we have? A couple more minutes. There additional questions are coming through UM.

Speaker 3

Yes, yes.

Speaker 2

Let's see OK so I someone I can see your chat, Colleen. Someone is under a tornado watch and wants the recording OK.

Speaker 3

The recording will be posted on our website.

Speaker 2

OK Brandy, we could send you the PDF, so if you e-mail us. Uhm, requesting the toolkit we can send that to you in. A PDF format. My yes Jennifer is going to talk about the scholarship portion of New Worlds. That's for from step up. Yes, we'll send updated data regarding students who. Are eligible and. Enrolled we're hoping to do that monthly, and so you should have access to those data in the SFTP folder, so thank you for that question and. We are adding the ID to the data as well, so that should make it easier for you all. So thank you for that question. We had a parent say their address wasn't identified or recognized. How can that be fixed? The parents, in order to be eligible, they have to have a valid Florida. Address and and if there's an issue where there's a family that. Does not have a you know a mailing address if they're if they're homeless, for example, then you can e-mail us and or or work with the family, right? To think about if they can use a neighbors address, you know that's happened before a church. You know, a friend. Something of that nature. So if if there's an issue around that, you can. E-mail us directly and we can help. Nikki, your question is, can we see who has enrolled? Yes, you can. Every district has a district point of contact and they have access to to those data. We do ask that you share data within your district in a secure way, so don't don't e-mail it. Which is why we send it through the secure or secure platform, and so we can't send personally identifiable information via e-mail. And so your district point of contact has that has those data and just send it securely in your district. OK.

Speaker 3

I see, uh, question about eligibility.

Speaker

Right?

Speaker 3

Yeah, and I'm going to put in the chat the eligibility for the New World Reading Initiative that was shared with district reading contacts. Within the last couple months and so it's it's pretty detailed based on data for K through 5.

Speaker 2

Thank you. Thank you and let me add. Thank you Lindsay in year one because we did not so last year when we first started we didn't have. Some data to verify students. We recognized that there were maybe about approximately 60,000 students who had enrolled and received books and resources who were not actually eligible, and so for those students they have been grandfathered in, and so they will continue to. Receive books and resources, but moving forward we are going to be verifying student eligibility before they actually receive books and resources. OK, anonymous attendee with the address issue. Yeah just e-mail us and we can look into that. Uhm, Katie, the e-mail. The e-mail came from. Erica Fritz Oaks regarding the. The access to the SFTP as well as the step to step step by step guide. Alright, thank you. Yes I will share information Linda about the literacy matrix. I'm gonna put it in the chat, probably after I get to the end of the questions. Ah, how do you know who your district point of contact is? We have a list for that and I'm going to put that in the chat as well. Let's see. Alright, so uhm, I posted the book list that's on the Louise website for year one and a link to the district point of contact for this year and then as soon as I can get to the information regarding the literacy matrix, I will put that in the chat as well. All right, I think we've made it to the end and I'm at time, Lindsey. So thank you all. Feel free to e-mail if you have additional questions.

Speaker 3

Again, thank you so much, Doctor Duggan. It's just so exciting to hear about the New World Reading Initiative and the opportunity that eligible students can receive free books in their home every month. So now we are ready to hear about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts. And it looks like Jennifer is ready to begin.

Speaker 1

I sure am. Can everybody hear me OK? Yes perfect. So my name is Jen Canning. I will step up for students and I'm here to talk to you about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts today and these are scholarships that help struggling readers afford the support they need to succeed. So step up for students who are not familiar with this. We actually administer 4 statewide scholarship programs across the state, the first being the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program, and that helps middle lower to middle income families. We also have the FS program which serves 2 populations, again a lower to middle. A family group, but also helps students who have unique abilities. And then we have our hope scholarship for students who may be bullied or victims of violence. And then I'm the director of the New World Reading Scholarship accounts, which helps K through five public school students who struggle with reading. Now the reading scholarship. Was created in 2018 and then during last year's legislative session it was merged with the new. World reading initiatives. So the new rules reading initiative has two wings, the first being the free book program that Shante talked to us about and the other side being scholarship which step up for students administers. So who qualifies for the scholarship? So this is going to sound awfully familiar. So in previous years, the scholarship was only for grades three through 5. And then last year when it was merged with the New World Reading Initiative, the Legislature expanded eligibility to include K through two as well, and so Florida public and charter school students, who either in last year scored below a Level 3. On the ELA would qualify students this year in grades three through five who were scoring a level one or A2 on the. Best or students in K through two who are identified with a substantial reading deficiency would all qualify. One difference between our eligibility and the book distribution eligibility is that funding priority by law has to be given to English language learners. So if a student is enrolled. In a program or receiving services specifically designed for LL, then that student would receive funding priority. Another difference is students do have to re qualify for the scholarship every year just to make sure. You know, if a student is no longer struggling with reading then they would not receive those extra funds. In the following year. OK, let's talk about the scholarship. So the new World Reading scholarship accounts are education savings account and this is kind of a new concept. It's a lot like a health savings account, and so we have a video that helps explain what an ESA is.

Speaker 5

What is an education savings account? An education savings account or ESA? Is a state. Scholarship program that allows families to personalize the education of their children. For the new. World Reading scholarship accounts. ESA funds can cover the cost of instructional materials. Great technology items. Summer literacy programs and more. How do ESA's work? The state sends the funds to a scholarship funding organization like step up for students. The scholarship funding organization puts the funds into the students account. Families then use the funds to help cover the cost of educational services. Products step up for students has created a platform that helps families manage their students scholarship funds. This platform makes it easy to shop for educational services and products from a variety of education service providers. Families can use scholarship funds to pay providers directly or get reimbursed for out of pocket purchases. Unused funds can roll over to pay for future expenses. Today, thousands of families across the country are using ESA's to personalize their child's education. Learn more about the New World Reading scholarship accounts and how ESA funds can help your student at stepupforstudents.org/reading.

Speaker 1

OK, so that went pretty fast, but I'm still going to explain every part of that. So the first being how the funds can be used so we know it's a $500.00 scholarship and those funds can be put towards part time tutoring, which is a very popular option. Summer and after school literacy programs, instructional materials. Including books, desktop, laptop computers and tablets or curriculum related to reading or literacy. So how did these students apply for the scholarship? So first they would visit stepupforstudents.org back slash reading I'm going to click on that real quick just to show you what that looks like. So here is our web page for the reading scholarship and families would simply click on this. Apply now to be taken to the application platform. OK, so once they click that apply, now they'll create a guardian profile and then add students to their account. This is super quick and easy. I'm actually going to walk you all through that in just a little bit and it's just like setting up an account on any website. I would specifically equate it to setting up an account on like a banking website. Just like an online banking website, so ESA's are essentially a bank account, so there's a lot of security around that, and we'll get into that a little bit late. And then the third step is that they'll complete the application. Most of the information is going to be pulled in from when they create their guardian profile. And add students. I'm going to walk you through the application process and you're going to. See how quick and easy that is. OK, so an important note. Schools and providers should not be completing guardian profiles and applications on parents behalf. So like I mentioned, ESA's are like bank accounts and only the parents and guardians should have access to that ESA. The other really important thing is that step up for students mostly communicates via e-mail with parents and guardians, and so when they create their account, it's really important that they use an e-mail address that they're checking off in. Sometimes we'll hear from parents and they're confused. They're not hearing from us. And then we'll check to see what e-mail address. We have on file and it'll be like junk maillikegmail.com right? And so they they didn't want to get spam from us and so I'll walk you through a little later how parents can can tell us what types of communications they want from us. OK, and you saw in the video that we have created a platform to help manage DSA funds. So our platform is called Emma and that's our education market assistant and so we are going to see lots of different features of Emma throughout my presentation today and the first stop is going to be creating. An account, so we're going to go through a demo together for the account creation. Like I said, it's a lot like creating an online account for a. I think, and so for this part I'm going to show screenshots and then we're moving to a live demo. There's a lot of having to e-mail or text codes, and so I didn't want to waste your time. I'm showing you that today, but I think the screenshots will. Do just. Fine, so when the families navigate to our website and click on apply now it takes them to Emma. And then they would navigate. To the sign up that's circled on the screen. From there a lot like creating an online bank account. They would be sent a code to their e-mail address and it's just a verification code function. It's just like every other website that uses a verification code, right? So once they type that in, we'll let them know that their e-mail address has been. Verified and they can continue to the next. Screen and this is where it will start to create their username and password for the website. From there there set up their security questions again, just like security questions. When you're setting up an online bank account, exact same types of questions. Just like every other website, they certify that they agree to our terms and conditions. And then they'll move on to creating their guardian profile, so we'll assign them a Guardian ID. They'll let us know their marital status and their primary language once they select Spanish. Here, everything from there on out will be in Spanish. Including the application, the marketplace, all of that. So they'll type in their mailing address. We do do a verification check to make sure that it's legitimate address, and then if it's the same as if their physical address is the same as their mailing address, they'll just check this box and it'll fill out this information. Here and then we also asked them for the excuse me for their contact information. So here is where they're able to manage consents, and to say what types of messages they would like to get from. Step up for students. They're also able to manage their contact preferences, so you see that e-mail is required, but we do also communicate via text and prerecorded phone messages, and sometimes personal phone calls when the situation warrants it. OK, from there they just hit save and they have set up their guardian profile. Now I have already logged into a test account to make today go a little fast. Sure, so this is what the Ms Scholarship portal looks like. And one thing I want to point out is in this example that I have pulled up for you. This family has submitted an application but they don't have funds yet, and So what they have access to over here is very limited and I'll show you some screenshots later. Of what this turns into once funds have been applied to. The Sims account. So once the Guardian account has been created, the family then has to add students. I have a student added already, but I'm going to add another student so you can see what. That looks. Like so I'm just going to call this. And a test. So first and last name or required. But then we do have lots of optional things as well, including the ID in years past the ID number was required and that really stopped a lot of parents from completing the application because they just couldn't find their ID number. And so this. Year we work with the. Department of Education. To make sure that this is no longer required, it makes the process a lot easier. Now we do have some rules around the date of birth we want to. Make sure that. The student it makes sense that their age is falling within grades K through 5. From here they select their gender and ethnicity if they're non Hispanic or Latino, race pops up and it's required. They would simply save that student, and they're done. A family can add as many students as they need to. And now I'm going to take you through the application. Right now the only application available for this family through the Emma platform is the New World Reading Scholarship accounts application. They would simply hit apply. OK and select the student so the other student that I had entered had already applied for the scholarship so they're no longer populating in the dropdown, but the student we just created is and you can see how that student information has completely pulled in and the only thing that the parent needs to add at this part. At this point is the school and the students grade level. The parent will then confirm that the student is enrolled in a Florida public school in K through 5th grade for the current school year and has a substantial reading deficiency. The parent is welcome to upload supporting documents. A common question that we get is, does uploading a document help my students chances of getting a scholarship? And the answer is no. So we work with the Department of Education to determine eligibility and all applications. Percent, regardless of if they have supporting documents, or. Not so parents are. Welcome to add documents here, but they do not have to. From here, the parent will hit continue and you can see, just like with the students, the Guardians at information is pulled in from when they created their Guardian account. And I didn't point this out before, but on both screens, if any information is incorrect, they can simply navigate to that page, fix it, and then navigate back to the application. The only thing the parent has to do on this screen, it just let us know their phone type. That's because if they've selected that they would like to receive texts from us, we need to know if. They have a cell phone on file. They would hit continue and at that point the applications done. We just ask them to review their information and then they do have to check a box that says that they certify that all the information presented is true and accurate. We also let them know that we work with the University of Florida Lastinger Center. And we shared our data with them and that by completing this application and submitting it, their data is going to be shared with the last Senior Center for learning and what that data sharing allows us to do is make sure you know there's a lot of overlap between food qualifies for the scholarship and who qualifies for the book distribution program. And we want to make sure that. We're capturing as many students as possible. From here, the Guardian simply needs to sign their name. And then they would submit their application. And that's it. So our application has really been streamlined. It's a lot easier than it's been in years past, and we're seeing a really great success rate of parents getting through the application this year. You can see here the parent can log in at any time and see what their application status is. The status of these two students. Is submitted. OK, So what are the next steps once that application is submitted you've heard me say a couple of times that step up for students works with the Florida Department of Education to determine eligibility that process could take up to 45. Says we're able to beat that in most cases. Sometimes there's something extraneous going on, and it takes us a little while longer to identify that. You've heard me say a couple times. The e-mail is really important, so how will the families know if they've been awarded a scholarship? We're going to e-mail them to the e-mail address on file, but I showed you where they can log in and see the status of their. Application at any point in time. If an awarded if awarded a scholarship, families will receive another e-mail once the students account has been funded and that e-mail will include instructions on how to begin utilizing those funds. So let's talk about that. Let's talk about how to use. Those scholarship funds. There are three. Different ways that families can utilize their scholarship funds. The first is with direct pay providers, so we work with providers across the state, including tutors. After school and summer literacy programs and a lot of those providers. Have signed up to be direct pay, so that means that families do not have to pay out of pocket and wait to be reimbursed. They're paid directly through. The Emma account. We have also. Created my scholar shop which is a lot like an Amazon that's just full of pre approved instructional materials for families where they can again shop directly with their funds through the Emma platform. They do not need to pay out of pocket and then the 3rd way is reimbursements where families can pay for products and services. Out of pocket and then submit a receipt through Emma for reimbursement. So I want to draw your attention over here to the left side of the screen. I mentioned earlier that in the example that I was showing you in the demo that family has not been funded yet. This is an example of what a family would see once they're funded. They now have a tab for reimbursements, and they also have the marketplace tab. So through the marketplace tab, they're able to shop. For providers. This is where they will find the direct providers that they do not have to pay out. Of pocket for. And that's where they'll be able to navigate to my scholar shop, and then I just wanted to share a quick screenshot of my scholarship. And so they'll be able to either navigate to tiles for the items that they're looking for, or they can search for items directly. And so again, if they're shopping through our marketplace, they do not need to pay out of pocket. The funds go directly from their scholarship account, either to the vendor or to the provider. But what happens if a? Parent goes to the marketplace and they're not seeing the provider they want. They're not seeing the product they want. That's not a problem. They can always pay for qualifying services and products out of pocket. And submit a receipt also through Emma through the reimbursements tab so that they can be reimbursed. OK, so how can you help? So step up for students does not receive any funding for marketing that new World Reading Scholarship accounts program. We do receive some funds to administer the program, but as you can see, an ESA is really a complicated thing to administer and so that's where all of our administrative funding goes, and so. To date, since the scholarship was created in 2018, we have never met the program cap and this year our CAP is larger than ever. We can serve 58,000 students this year. We opened earlier this month and we're off to a great start. We've already had over 3500 students apply for the scholarship. But we really. Need help spreading the word, and so we're really relying on districts and community partners and our partners. At the last Senior Center to help spread the word about the scholarship program. So if you know students who could benefit. You can tell their parents to visit stepupforstudents.org, back slash, readingsubs.org, back slash reading also works if you know of a service provider or a vendor that helps struggling readers. They can also go to our website to learn how to participate. And we also have Flyers that we provide, and so if you would like a flower, you can e-mail my colleague Melissa. Her e-mail address is m.jeremy0@soft.org. That's MJARAMILLO at soft.org, so we really need help. Spreading the word. We do e-mail the district contacts that the DoD has, and so if you're wondering if you're on that list, that's on the Florida DoD website and that's our contact list that we use to communicate about the new World Reading scholarship accounts. OK, let's spend a few minutes. Uhm, doing a few questions and answers. So a student. Yes, so Michelle student can and probably does qualify for both the scholarship and the free book program. And so our goal? Oh, I need to scroll up. I skipped a few. Our goal is. For students to participate in both because if a student receiving the funds and going to tutoring, it's absolutely going to help them if they go home and have a library that's been curated for them to read from. Let me scroll up to.

Speaker 3

The top here. There are. I just want to clarify real quick. There are some slight differences between the eligibility in both programs and the detailed eligibility has been provided to the main district. Reading contact in each district. But if you want to send an e-mail to me or. To the just read at ldoe.org account, we can definitely send that to you as well. It's too long to copy and paste into the chat and it'll get kind of mixed up, so we'd be happy to e-mail that to you so that you can see how the eligibility for the programs are alike and also slightly.

Speaker 1

Yeah, and and just to clarify that eligibility is laid out in statute, and so it gets. You know, it's very technical and wonky, and that's why it's a little lengthy and that's why there's just some slight differences between the two programs. OK, so this question is from 918, so I believe that was from earlier today. I think I started at 9:24 so so a student must be ELL student along with receiving a level one or two on the fast to qualify. So that is not correct. LL students get priority when it comes to funding. But a student does not have to be LL. In order to qualify for the scholarship, because we've never hit our program cap before, we've actually never had to. There have never been times where a student wasn't LL and therefore wasn't funded, so definitely have all your students apply, whether they're LL or not. How does a school or teacher become a provider for the Reading scholarship program? That's a great question, so we do have some public schools around the state who are providers. So these are schools who kind of thought to themselves. $500.00 per student. We've got a lot of struggling readers we could use that $500.00 to create an after school program. So if you navigate to that step up for students website, there's a four providers tab there and it goes through the process of becoming a provider. Now coming very soon in the new year. All of that is going to change. We're also bringing our providers onto the MO platform, and so it's going to be easier than ever to participate as a provider for the reading scholarship program. Teachers can also participate on their own as part time tutors and we've got a lot of teachers across the state who are doing that. So again, they can just navigate to our website and they'll be able to find information on how to participate. There are some laws and rules around who can participate as a provider. Things like you know a teacher is going to be able to participate because they have a valid teaching certificate, but you could also have a bachelors or masters degree. In reading or literacy, English language arts and qualify. So there are some technicalities there. But our provider relations team is set up for students will help their providers. Through that process. OK, what type of instructional materials all are available through my scholarshop? Are they aligned to best and who has vetted them? So I'm going to navigate back to that page so we can look at that together, so instruction materials that's also laid out. What counts as instruction materials. Also laid out in statute and rule, it includes laptops, tablets, owners, online software, programs, books, curriculum, things of that nature. Uhm, and so that is actually vetted by step up for students compliance team to make sure it matches the letter. Of the law. Uh, that governs the reading, scholarship program, and so is it aligned to best, no, but what we do always communicate with our scholarship families, especially our new world. Reading scholarship families is they should be sitting down and speaking with their students teacher. Or speaking with their districts reading and literacy. Coach and saying, hey, I have this $500.00. What's the best use of that for my student and so families do receive that instructions for step up for students to make sure that they're using their funds in the way that makes the most sense for their students. OK. Where do we go to learn more about getting a reading endorsement for teachers for free? Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question I do.

Speaker 3

Yes, it is in the chat, doctor Dugan posted it there starting with pre enrollment for the UF Lastinger Center for Learning. 2223 Flamingo Literacy matrix is open now and she you know had to break it up into a couple pieces. But there's a link there that says please share this fire with your educators to pre enroll. So pre enrollment. For the literacy matrix, which is free for Florida educators, it is currently open for pre enrollment and the next course or semester begins on January 30th.

Speaker 4

Right?

Speaker 1

Now the next question was about Flyers, so if you would like a flyer to share with your students, the easiest way of doing it is making sure that you're added to the district contact list that the Florida Department of Education uses, because that's who step up communicates with regularly about the program. We share more than just the flyer. We do have Flyers in English and Spanish, but we also share instruction. With those district contacts as well. But you can also e-mail my colleague Melissa Jeremy oh and just let her know that you would like a new road reading scholarship accounts flyer. Let her know if you want it in English and in Spanish, and she'll send that to you, so I'll leave this screen up so you can copy down her e-mail address. Move that over there. Ah OK, I see a lot of thank yous and then will districts have access to the sample video and supporting documents or Flyers to educate school leaders and parents? So the answer is yes. One step up for students, emails, districts and we do so at several points throughout the year. They've already received a few emails from us, but then they're going to receive. Communications around when progress monitoring is occurring and those results are coming in and so we do share that video. We do share supporting documents and we do share those Flyers there as well. OK, what is the recipient cap? Yep, so we have. There's been enough funding allocated at the state level this year to serve 58,000 students, and so we've been open a little less than a month. You know few weeks, and we've already gotten 3500 applicants so far, so, uh. Lot of room to grow and we can serve an awful lot of students this year. OK, here's another question about reading endorsement or higher education faculty eligible for the reading endorsement as well. Chantelle Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question?

Speaker 2

Do they have a floor of valid Florida teaching certificate? That's but e-mail For more information. I my colleague Pam Alfaro could respond directly.

Speaker 1

OK, so it looks like we've reached the end of the questions. I do want to navigate to the last page in my presentation because I want to share my contact information with you. If you come up with any other questions. My phone number is listed on the right hand side of the screen as well as. My e-mail on. The left hand side of the screen. Is the phone number for our separate for student service center and our website? You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Speaker 3

Thank you so much Jen.

Speaker 1

Thank you.

Speaker 3

And thank you both, I'm. Excited that we were able to. Of Shante and Jen here with us this morning to share information about the New World Reading Initiative and the New World Reading Scholarship accounts. They are both just amazing opportunities for eligible students. If you think of any questions after the webinar, please feel free to reach out to either Jen with her e-mail that she provided. Or the e-mail that Shantae provided. You can also reach out directly to just read at fldoe. Work and a couple days when we have the recording ready and posted we will get that on our website on the just read Florida Web page under educator resources and then we have a tab for webinars and all of the webinars that we host this year. We'll be posting recordings there for viewing, so thank you again. For joining us this morning and we hope you all have a wonderful Wednesday.

00:12:16

Good morning everyone.

00:12:18

Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning.

00:12:22

My name is Lindsay Brown and I'm the executive director of just read Florida and Majestrix Florida office is excited to offer our first webinar of this school year and our first webinar is focusing on the new world reading.

00:12:36

And so we have two special guests with us.

00:12:38

Today we have Doctor Shante, duggins for the New World Reading Initiative and she's from the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning and we also have Jennifer Canning to share with you about new World breeding scholarship accounts from step up for students.

00:12:54

So I'm going to go ahead and.

00:12:57

Hand it over to Doctor Shante Duggins, and she's going to start sharing wonderful information with you about the New World reading initiatives.

00:13:06

Awesome, thank you so much and good morning everyone.

00:13:10

So excited to be here with you all today.

00:13:12

If we have not met previously.

00:13:14

My name is Shante Diggins.

00:13:16

I'm at the University of Florida Lastinger Center for learning.

00:13:20

We have lots of exciting things happening at the Lastinger center.

00:13:24

We've been around for 20 years.

00:13:25

For those of you who may be.

00:13:26

Unfamiliar with who we are and what we do, we provide support for both educators and parents and families.

00:13:35

Now with the New World Reading Initiative, some of you may be familiar with some of our work such as.

00:13:43

The literacy matrix.

00:13:45

We're actually now accepting.

00:13:50

Uh, pre enrollment information for the literacy matrix so I can share some information in the chat about that.

00:13:56

We also do work in the space of early learning, mathematics, leadership and coaching and data and technology.

00:14:10

The new goals reading initiative. We are the administrator for the new rules reading initiative. It's a family literacy engagement program that was recently established by statute under the guidance of former Speaker Chris Sprowls, and it is Florida's first statewide book distribution program of its kind. Our vision is.

00:14:30

To provide resources to children and families and to create at home libraries for K5 students who are not yet reading on grade level. And we'll talk a bit about the eligibility criteria.

00:14:42

We also aim to build caregivers confidence and capacities to support their own kids at home by providing meaningful literacy resources, tips and strategies for them.

00:14:55

We recognize the value in partnership and so we partner with everyone and anyone both at in.

00:15:02

School school districts and community organizations to support children and families.

00:15:07

And we're also able to receive corporate tax payers can make contributions to new roles and sustain the program beyond the initial investment that the state has made.

00:15:17

So we're super grateful for that.

00:15:19

And then we've recently added teacher professional development, so to develop teacher experts in the science of reading through micro credentials.

00:15:27

And teacher professional development that creates a home in school connection and literacy.

00:15:33

So we've been pretty busy since we've started last year, but this is what we've been up to.

00:15:40

So a little bit about our eligibility criteria.

00:15:44

The the the New World Reading Initiative is designed for K5 students who attend public or charter schools in our state who are not yet reading on grade level. So these are students who have been identified based on the the new fast as not yet.

00:16:04

Reading on grade level or students who receive either Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction in reading.

00:16:11

And I'll, I'll.

00:16:11

Add here that we're working with the Florida Department of Education to receive data to determine student eligibility.

00:16:24

So in year we we hired a number of engagement team specialists across the state and we're excited to share some highlights from our year one.

00:16:34

You can see some photos here.

00:16:36

We've been busy out and about in communities working with schools and school districts we have.

00:16:42

People located across the state and region, so we have somewhat a couple people in the Panhandle, NE central SW and SE Florida.

00:16:50

Again, the purpose is to really engage with communities engaged with schools and school districts.

00:16:56

We've sponsored literacy nights with schools.

00:17:00

We've worked with community organizations to table at different events to get the information out, because remember that the new rules reading initiative, it's an opt in program.

00:17:11

So in order for families to take advantage of the resources that we provide, they have to go to our website.

00:17:17

At newworldreading.com to apply to participate and so our goal has been to get the information out there to as many families as possible in order for them to take advantage of the resources that we that we provide.

00:17:36

We've received a ton of feedback from families just sharing how positive the new rules reading initiative has been for for their family, but this one is really special.

00:17:48

It's from a student and it reads.

00:17:51

I like that my parents don't always have to buy me books.

00:17:54

I can get them in the mail.

00:17:56

It's also kind of fun.

00:17:57

It makes me feel like reading more because they're mine.

00:18:01

I like to read all kinds of books when I get a book in the mail with my name on it on them.

00:18:06

Box I feel like I'm special and again this one just makes me smile.

00:18:11

It's from a student and we know that providing books and resources to families it's it's really life changing and that's what we're hearing from a number of families who are participating.

00:18:25

All right, so to share some numbers to date.

00:18:29

And this is as of we just started delivering books in October for this school year.

00:18:34

Here, so based on data that we have from the 2122 school year, we estimate that over 556,000 students are eligible across the state. So again these are students who are not yet reading.

00:18:47

On grade level.

00:18:49

So far for this school year we have 125,000 students approximately who are enrolled and these are eligible.

00:18:57

Since we still have a number of students who are pending based on additional data that we receive from the state, that will help us to determine whether or not those students are in fact eligible and we've shipped over 227,000 books so far, and that those numbers continue to increase every day. And again, our goal.

00:19:17

Is to reach as many students as possible.

00:19:22

All right, so I'll share a little bit about the resources.

00:19:27

So in addition to providing books to students and again we work with the Florida Department of Education to VET and approve all of our titles before we send them out.

00:19:38

We also send literacy resources to families, and that's a.

00:19:43

An important part of our initiative because we want to support.

00:19:46

Port families and children you know, really sharing that experience of a book together, and so we are creating again our book lists, in consultation with the gestri Florida office and those the list for year one is actually posted on their website and I can put that in the chat in.

00:20:04

A bit as well.

00:20:06

We're creating interactive reading guides for each.

00:20:09

Book and these resources are also housed on our website, and we're also posting on our website a series of videos so families could see what the strategies look like in action.

00:20:22

So when we talk about, you know selecting you know vocabulary words and what does that look like based on a book that.

00:20:29

That they're receiving at home.

00:20:31

So again, super excited to have those resources available completely free of charge to families and educators, really, anyone on our website and we'll continue to add to our website monthly.

00:20:46

Let's see so for K through two students, the interactive reading guides are printed with the books and actually mailed to the homes of children for and all all of our resources again are on our website, and so we have bookmarks that we're creating for three through five that are mailed with the.

00:21:07

Books that are sent to the homes of children.

00:21:09

And here's an example of what an interactive reading guide looks like for for students, so again, it's it's intended to support the family to support their caregivers in in having that shared reading experience at home.

00:21:27

Our team is working to develop a scope and sequence for our word work that's aligned with the Florida and best DLA standards for this for this school year.

00:21:39

All right, so we'll talk a little bit about our outreach and engagement. So last year, we mailed twice. Actually Flyers to every school across the state, over 700,000 Flyers, and we're starting that again for this school year. Flyers started going out, I believe.

00:22:00

Last week, again, across the entire state, so we've updated our Flyers.

00:22:05

We're shipping them to schools across the.

00:22:07

State we've heard from a number of schools that they didn't know what to do with the Flyers, and so we've included again a like a directional sheet.

00:22:17

And so we're just asking, please please identify students who meet our eligibility criteria.

00:22:24

Students who are not yet reading on grade level and please send those Flyers.

00:22:27

Home to those families again, it is an opt in program so they have to go to our website to enroll.

00:22:34

We've included a QR code so it's easy the the application is very easy.

00:22:40

It could be done on a cell phone and so again the Flyers are are coming to schools across the state.

00:22:47

So please share the Flyers with students who are eligible in order for them to enroll.

00:22:53

And this is what the front side of the New Flyer looks like.

00:22:59

Alright, so I'll also put in the chat in.

00:23:02

Just a moment.

00:23:04

Our links to our toolkit.

00:23:07

So we created toolkits for districts and for schools.

00:23:13

And so the the thinking is we want to make it really easy for you all to share the info.

00:23:18

Nation and so we have ready to may we just copy everything is copy paste.

00:23:25

Everything has been trans created in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, and so the idea again is to to get the information out.

00:23:33

If you can scan the QR code that's on the screen right now.

00:23:38

It'll take you directly to the school toolkit and we have sample messaging from principals to teachers or teachers to parents.

00:23:46

We have the Flyers we have.

00:23:49

A recorded phone screen.

00:23:51

A number of social media resources.

00:23:54

Again, just copy paste ready to use resources.

00:23:58

So I'm I'm hopeful that you can scan this QR code and and you'll have the tool.

00:24:03

The school toolkit at your fingertips.

00:24:09

This is just a screenshot of some of the sample messaging that's included in the toolkit.

00:24:15

Again, we're trying to make it really easy to share the information.

00:24:20

This is a another example of sample messaging here that's available in our toolkit that can be shared.

00:24:27

With parents.

00:24:29

We have samples of social media posts.

00:24:32

Again you can copy paste.

00:24:34

We would love for you to tag us in any posts that you send out regarding new rules.

00:24:39

Reading initiative.

00:24:41

And here are some other resources and we have QR codes.

00:24:44

Our logos.

00:24:45

We have a ton of photos that you can use as well.

00:24:50

So coming up for in this school year, I mentioned our engagement team.

00:24:55

So in addition to sending books and resources to families, we would love to partner.

00:25:02

With schools or.

00:25:03

School districts or community organizations to engage right?

00:25:08

And so we can coast host.

00:25:10

Or Co host literacy nights.

00:25:13

If you have any academic nights coming up if you wanted us to table at an event that you have at your school, or something that's happening in your organize in your community, we would be happy to do that.

00:25:26

We've attended PTA or PTO meetings.

00:25:30

Any opportunity to get in front of children.

00:25:33

And families and educators.

00:25:34

Again, we would love, love, love to take advantage of that.

00:25:38

And so I'll share our e-mail address at the end and you can feel free to e-mail us if you would like for us to.

00:25:43

Come out to.

00:25:44

Your school or to your district to support.

00:25:46

Your children and families.

00:25:52

Uhm, so we have.

00:25:54

We've been asked for students.

00:25:57

Or or list.

00:25:58

Of students who are actually eligible and enrolled in the New World Reading initiative, and so at every district, there is a district point of contact.

00:26:09

And we've shared, UM.

00:26:12

Data with the district points of contact regarding eligible students who are enrolled in the new rules reading initiative.

00:26:20

And so our.

00:26:21

My question to you is now that you all have access to those data, how can we reach more eligible students and so please reach out to your district point of contact.

00:26:32

To identify the the students who are eligible and enrolled and then reach out to those who you know are eligible but not yet enrolled and so thank you again for getting the information out there to as many families as possible.

00:26:53

Here's another quote, this one from a parent.

00:26:59

It reads my daughter is a struggling reader, so to be a part of this program is awesome.

00:27:04

The book program has encouraged my child reading, which has improved her whole life for her now to feel comfortable enough just to pick up a book that has been sent to her has changed her.

00:27:15

Now she says, hey mom, I'm going to sit and read.

00:27:18

That didn't happen before.

00:27:19

Or so again, we are really changing the trajectories for our students, who are typically reluctant readers and providing not only them but also their families with resources to support them at home.

00:27:33

So we are really grateful for to have this opportunity to share and thank.

00:27:37

You all again.

00:27:39

We ask that you help us to get additional eligible students enrolled.

00:27:45

Be an ambassador for the program.

00:27:47

Share with other educators.

00:27:49

Share with families.

00:27:50

Share with communities.

00:27:52

We've attended a number of conferences where people still have not heard about the new rules reading initiative, so please share very widely and follow us on social media.

00:28:01

We'd love for you to to tag us.

00:28:04

To follow us, if you're sharing anything about families that have provided you with feedback, we'd love to hear that as.

00:28:10

Well and again, thank you.

00:28:13

Here's our information.

00:28:14

I'll put some things in the chat, but I wanted to leave a sufficient amount of time for any questions or comments.

00:28:22

From the group.

00:28:25

And I'm going to be putting a few things.

00:28:27

In the chat.

00:28:32

Alright, so where can I find the parent toolkit so?

00:28:36

We don't have.

00:28:37

A parent toolkit, but we do have a a toolkit for for districts and for schools, so I'll.

00:28:45

Put that in the chat right now.

00:28:48

And I think.

00:28:51

I think it'll go to everyone.

00:29:02

If the F.

00:29:03

LDOE is sharing data with you as who as to who is eligible. Is there way to.

00:29:07

Share that with.

00:29:08

Schools they want to know who is eligible and not yet enrolled and and so the data that we receive from the Dewey is data that districts already provide to them.

00:29:18

So you all have access to that information based on.

00:29:23

Students who scored below Benchmark run fast as well as students who are receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 instruction.

00:29:32

So use the data that you have access to to identify students who are eligible.

00:29:36

But not yet enrolled.

00:29:41

Uh, another question, can we share your e-mail with schools so they can contact you for parents?

00:29:46

Yeah, of course we would love.

00:29:49

We would love that, so I'm leaving it up on the screen here for you to to grab that information.

00:29:55

Uhm, Heather, I'm having issues downloading the data from the SFP I emailed but haven't heard back.

00:30:02

Uhm, OK, yes, thank you for that message, Heather.

00:30:07

We do have a a how to guide that should have accompanied the the initial e-mail that you received so.

00:30:16

Do e-mail this e-mail address again and just say hey, can you send that to me again or we have someone who could actually walk you through?

00:30:26

Uhm, the information as well so please e-mail us and sorry if you have not received a response.

00:30:36

I'm putting information in the chat regarding the.

00:30:41

The literacy matrix as well.

00:30:45

If I can copy and paste it over, what other questions are coming up?

00:30:51

Do families have to renew their enrollment each year?

00:30:55

No, once an eligible family is enrolled, they actually remain enrolled unless they decide to opt out until the the student gets to.

00:31:06

You know graduates from 5th.

00:31:08

Grade and that that is regardless of you know their improvement in their reading score, so of course we want students to to be more proficient readers.

00:31:17

But regardless of you know their improvement, they actually remain enrolled.

00:31:21

All we ask is that they update their their enrollment information.

00:31:26

So for example, we.

00:31:26

Know that families move.

00:31:28

You know they.

00:31:30

They can also update their their interests.

00:31:32

So on our enrollment application, families can select up to.

00:31:37

3 topics of that are of interest to to their students and then based on their selection we send we match the topics to particular titles so they could always update that information monthly as well.

00:31:54

Uhm, for grades three through 5 below level is levels one and two on fast, uh, so we actually thank you for that question.

00:32:03

We actually have not yet received data for the progress monitoring one, and so we are awaiting.

00:32:12

The receiver of that information in order to determine eligibility for this school year.

00:32:19

So we are still waiting on on those data to come through.

00:32:24

You would be able.

00:32:25

To identify students from last year that scored a level one or two on FSA and also at the you know, school and district level.

00:32:36

You already know which students scored a level one or two on PM one, and so you would be able to identify students that way.

00:32:46

The UF Lastinger Center just isn't able to.

00:32:50

They can like pre roll pre enroll.

00:32:52

They just aren't technically enrolled in the program yet because the department is still trying to clean up data from PM one in order to share that with the Lastinger center.

00:33:04

Thank you, Lindsey.

00:33:05

OK.

00:33:07

Thank you so much Doctor Duggan for sharing with us this morning.

00:33:09

There are a few more questions.

00:33:12

Do we have?

00:33:13

A couple more minutes.

00:33:15

There additional questions are coming through UM.

00:33:15

Yes, yes.

00:33:22

Let's see OK so I someone I can see your chat, Colleen.

00:33:30

Someone is under a tornado watch and wants the recording OK.

00:33:35

The recording will be posted on our website.

00:33:40

OK Brandy, we could send you the PDF, so if you e-mail us.

00:33:43

Uhm, requesting the toolkit we can send that to you in.

00:33:47

A PDF format.

00:33:54

My yes Jennifer is going to talk about the scholarship portion of New Worlds.

00:33:59

That's for from step up.

00:34:07

Yes, we'll send updated data regarding students who.

00:34:10

Are eligible and.

00:34:11

Enrolled we're hoping to do that monthly, and so you should have access to those data in the SFTP folder, so thank you for that question and.

00:34:23

We are adding the ID to the data as well, so that should make it easier for you all.

00:34:29

So thank you for that question.

00:34:33

We had a parent say their address wasn't identified or recognized.

00:34:36

How can that be fixed?

00:34:38

The parents, in order to be eligible, they have to have a valid Florida.

00:34:44

Address and and if there's an issue where there's a family that.

00:34:50

Does not have a you know a mailing address if they're if they're homeless, for example, then you can e-mail us and or or work with the family, right?

00:34:58

To think about if they can use a neighbors address, you know that's happened before a church.

00:35:04

You know, a friend.

00:35:05

Something of that nature.

00:35:06

So if if there's an issue around that, you can.

00:35:09

E-mail us directly and we can help.

00:35:14

Nikki, your question is, can we see who has enrolled?

00:35:17

Yes, you can.

00:35:19

Every district has a district point of contact and they have access to to those data.

00:35:25

We do ask that you share data within your district in a secure way, so don't don't e-mail it.

00:35:33

Which is why we send it through the secure or secure platform, and so we can't send personally identifiable information via e-mail.

00:35:43

And so your district point of contact has that has those data and just send it securely in your district.

00:35:52

OK.

00:35:56

I see, uh, question about eligibility.

00:35:56

Right?

00:35:58

Yeah, and I'm going to put in the chat the eligibility for the New World Reading Initiative that was shared with district reading contacts.

00:36:08

Within the last couple months and so it's it's pretty detailed based on data for K through 5.

00:36:11

Thank you.

00:36:17

Thank you and let me add.

00:36:18

Thank you Lindsay in year one because we did not so last year when we first started we didn't have.

00:36:24

Some data to verify students. We recognized that there were maybe about approximately 60,000 students who had enrolled and received books and resources who were not actually eligible, and so for those students they have been grandfathered in, and so they will continue to.

00:36:44

Receive books and resources, but moving forward we are going to be verifying student eligibility before they actually receive books and resources.

00:37:04

OK, anonymous attendee with the address issue.

00:37:06

Yeah just e-mail us and we can look into that.

00:37:12

Uhm, Katie, the e-mail.

00:37:13

The e-mail came from.

00:37:15

Erica Fritz Oaks regarding the.

00:37:19

The access to the SFTP as well as the step to step step by step guide.

00:37:27

Alright, thank you.

00:37:30

Yes I will share information Linda about the literacy matrix.

00:37:34

I'm gonna put it in the chat, probably after I get to the end of the questions.

00:37:40

Ah, how do you know who your district point of contact is?

00:37:43

We have a list for that and I'm going to put that in the chat as well.

00:37:47

Let's see.

00:37:51

Alright, so uhm, I posted the book list that's on the Louise website for year one and a link to the district point of contact for this year and then as soon as I can get to the information regarding the literacy matrix, I will put that in the chat as well.

00:38:11

All right, I think we've made it to the end and I'm at time, Lindsey.

00:38:15

So thank you all.

00:38:17

Feel free to e-mail if you have additional questions.

00:38:22

Again, thank you so much, Doctor Duggan.

00:38:26

It's just so exciting to hear about the New World Reading Initiative and the opportunity that eligible students can receive free books in their home every month.

00:38:37

So now we are ready to hear about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts.

00:38:42

And it looks like Jennifer is ready to begin.

00:38:45

I sure am.

00:38:46

Can everybody hear me OK?

00:38:48

Yes perfect.

00:38:50

So my name is Jen Canning.

00:38:52

I will step up for students and I'm here to talk to you about the new World Reading Scholarship accounts today and these are scholarships that help struggling readers afford the support they need to succeed.

00:39:03

So step up for students who are not familiar with this.

00:39:05

We actually administer 4 statewide scholarship programs across the state, the first being the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program, and that helps middle lower to middle income families.

00:39:18

We also have the FS program which serves 2 populations, again a lower to middle.

00:39:24

A family group, but also helps students who have unique abilities.

00:39:29

And then we have our hope scholarship for students who may be bullied or victims of violence.

00:39:34

And then I'm the director of the New World Reading Scholarship accounts, which helps K through five public school students who struggle with reading.

00:39:42

Now the reading scholarship.

00:39:44

Was created in 2018 and then during last year's legislative session it was merged with the new.

00:39:51

World reading initiatives.

00:39:53

So the new rules reading initiative has two wings, the first being the free book program that Shante talked to us about and the other side being scholarship which step up for students administers.

00:40:06

So who qualifies for the scholarship?

00:40:08

So this is going to sound awfully familiar.

00:40:11

So in previous years, the scholarship was only for grades three through 5.

00:40:18

And then last year when it was merged with the New World Reading Initiative, the Legislature expanded eligibility to include K through two as well, and so Florida public and charter school students, who either in last year scored below a Level 3.

00:40:37

On the ELA would qualify students this year in grades three through five who were scoring a level one or A2 on the.

00:40:46

Best or students in K through two who are identified with a substantial reading deficiency would all qualify.

00:40:54

One difference between our eligibility and the book distribution eligibility is that funding priority by law has to be given to English language learners.

00:41:05

So if a student is enrolled.

00:41:06

In a program or receiving services specifically designed for LL, then that student would receive funding priority.

00:41:17

Another difference is students do have to re qualify for the scholarship every year just to make sure.

00:41:23

You know, if a student is no longer struggling with reading then they would not receive those extra funds.

00:41:29

In the following year.

00:41:33

OK, let's talk about the scholarship.

00:41:35

So the new World Reading scholarship accounts are education savings account and this is kind of a new concept.

00:41:44

It's a lot like a health savings account, and so we have a video that helps explain what an ESA is.

00:41:56

What is an education savings account?

00:41:58

An education savings account or ESA?

00:42:01

Is a state.

00:42:02

Scholarship program that allows families to personalize the education of their children.

00:42:07

For the new.

00:42:08

World Reading scholarship accounts.

00:42:10

ESA funds can cover the cost of instructional materials.

00:42:14

Great technology items.

00:42:16

Summer literacy programs and more. How do ESA's work? The state sends the funds to a scholarship funding organization like step up for students.

00:42:28

The scholarship funding organization puts the funds into the students account.

00:42:32

Families then use the funds to help cover the cost of educational services.

00:42:36

Products step up for students has created a platform that helps families manage their students scholarship funds.

00:42:44

This platform makes it easy to shop for educational services and products from a variety of education service providers.

00:42:52

Families can use scholarship funds to pay providers directly or get reimbursed for out of pocket purchases.

00:42:59

Unused funds can roll over to pay for future expenses.

00:43:04

Today, thousands of families across the country are using ESA's to personalize their child's education. Learn more about the New World Reading scholarship accounts and how ESA funds can help your student at stepupforstudents.org/reading.

00:43:26

OK, so that went pretty fast, but I'm still going to explain every part of that. So the first being how the funds can be used so we know it's a $500.00 scholarship and those funds can be put towards part time tutoring, which is a very popular option. Summer and after school literacy programs, instructional materials.

00:43:47

Including books, desktop, laptop computers and tablets or curriculum related to reading or literacy.

00:43:56

So how did these students apply for the scholarship? So first they would visit stepupforstudents.org back slash reading I'm going to click on that real quick just to show you what that looks like.

00:44:07

So here is our web page for the reading scholarship and families would simply click on this.

00:44:13

Apply now to be taken to the application platform.

00:44:18

OK, so once they click that apply, now they'll create a guardian profile and then add students to their account.

00:44:25

This is super quick and easy.

00:44:26

I'm actually going to walk you all through that in just a little bit and it's just like setting up an account on any website.

00:44:32

I would specifically equate it to setting up an account on like a banking website.

00:44:38

Just like an online banking website, so ESA's are essentially a bank account, so there's a lot of security around that, and we'll get into that a little bit late.

00:44:47

And then the third step is that they'll complete the application.

00:44:50

Most of the information is going to be pulled in from when they create their guardian profile.

00:44:55

And add students.

00:44:56

I'm going to walk you through the application process and you're going to.

00:44:58

See how quick and easy that is.

00:45:02

OK, so an important note. Schools and providers should not be completing guardian profiles and applications on parents behalf. So like I mentioned, ESA's are like bank accounts and only the parents and guardians should have access to that ESA.

00:45:16

The other really important thing is that step up for students mostly communicates via e-mail with parents and guardians, and so when they create their account, it's really important that they use an e-mail address that they're checking off in.

00:45:31

Sometimes we'll hear from parents and they're confused.

00:45:34

They're not hearing from us.

00:45:35

And then we'll check to see what e-mail address.

00:45:36

We have on file and it'll be like junk maillikegmail.com right? And so they they didn't want to get spam from us and so I'll walk you through a little later how parents can can tell us what types of communications they want from us.

00:45:53

OK, and you saw in the video that we have created a platform to help manage DSA funds.

00:45:59

So our platform is called Emma and that's our education market assistant and so we are going to see lots of different features of Emma throughout my presentation today and the first stop is going to be creating.

00:46:13

An account, so we're going to go through a demo together for the account creation.

00:46:17

Like I said, it's a lot like creating an online account for a.

00:46:24

I think, and so for this part I'm going to show screenshots and then we're moving to a live demo.

00:46:31

There's a lot of having to e-mail or text codes, and so I didn't want to waste your time.

00:46:36

I'm showing you that today, but I think the screenshots will.

00:46:38

Do just.

00:46:39

Fine, so when the families navigate to our website and click on apply now it takes them to Emma.

00:46:45

And then they would navigate.

00:46:47

To the sign up that's circled on the screen.

00:46:53

From there a lot like creating an online bank account.

00:46:57

They would be sent a code to their e-mail address and it's just a verification code function.

00:47:04

It's just like every other website that uses a verification code, right?

00:47:09

So once they type that in, we'll let them know that their e-mail address has been.

00:47:12

Verified and they can continue to the next.

00:47:14

Screen and this is where it will start to create their username and password for the website.

00:47:22

From there there set up their security questions again, just like security questions.

00:47:27

When you're setting up an online bank account, exact same types of questions.

00:47:33

Just like every other website, they certify that they agree to our terms and conditions.

00:47:39

And then they'll move on to creating their guardian profile, so we'll assign them a Guardian ID.

00:47:45

They'll let us know their marital status and their primary language once they select Spanish.

00:47:50

Here, everything from there on out will be in Spanish.

00:47:54

Including the application, the marketplace, all of that.

00:47:58

So they'll type in their mailing address.

00:48:00

We do do a verification check to make sure that it's legitimate address, and then if it's the same as if their physical address is the same as their mailing address, they'll just check this box and it'll fill out this information.

00:48:13

Here and then we also asked them for the excuse me for their contact information.

00:48:21

So here is where they're able to manage consents, and to say what types of messages they would like to get from.

00:48:29

Step up for students.

00:48:32

They're also able to manage their contact preferences, so you see that e-mail is required, but we do also communicate via text and prerecorded phone messages, and sometimes personal phone calls when the situation warrants it.

00:48:49

OK, from there they just hit save and they have set up their guardian profile.

00:48:53

Now I have already logged into a test account to make today go a little fast.

00:48:58

Sure, so this is what the Ms Scholarship portal looks like.

00:49:02

And one thing I want to point out is in this example that I have pulled up for you.

00:49:08

This family has submitted an application but they don't have funds yet, and So what they have access to over here is very limited and I'll show you some screenshots later.

00:49:19

Of what this turns into once funds have been applied to.

00:49:23

The Sims account.

00:49:25

So once the Guardian account has been created, the family then has to add students.

00:49:29

I have a student added already, but I'm going to add another student so you can see what.

00:49:33

That looks.

00:49:33

Like so I'm just going to call this.

00:49:37

And a test.

00:49:38

So first and last name or required.

00:49:41

But then we do have lots of optional things as well, including the ID in years past the ID number was required and that really stopped a lot of parents from completing the application because they just couldn't find their ID number.

00:49:56

And so this.

00:49:56

Year we work with the.

00:49:57

Department of Education.

00:49:58

To make sure that this is no longer required, it makes the process a lot easier.

00:50:04

Now we do have some rules around the date of birth we want to.

00:50:08

Make sure that.

00:50:08

The student it makes sense that their age is falling within grades K through 5.

00:50:16

From here they select their gender and ethnicity if they're non Hispanic or Latino, race pops up and it's required.

00:50:25

They would simply save that student, and they're done.

00:50:28

A family can add as many students as they need to.

00:50:33

And now I'm going to take you through the application.

00:50:36

Right now the only application available for this family through the Emma platform is the New World Reading Scholarship accounts application.

00:50:44

They would simply hit apply.

00:50:47

OK and select the student so the other student that I had entered had already applied for the scholarship so they're no longer populating in the dropdown, but the student we just created is and you can see how that student information has completely pulled in and the only thing that the parent needs to add at this part.

00:51:07

At this point is the school and the students grade level.

00:51:12

The parent will then confirm that the student is enrolled in a Florida public school in K through 5th grade for the current school year and has a substantial reading deficiency.

00:51:23

The parent is welcome to upload supporting documents.

00:51:26

A common question that we get is, does uploading a document help my students chances of getting a scholarship?

00:51:34

And the answer is no.

00:51:36

So we work with the Department of Education to determine eligibility and all applications.

00:51:42

Percent, regardless of if they have supporting documents, or.

00:51:45

Not so parents are.

00:51:47

Welcome to add documents here, but they do not have to.

00:51:51

From here, the parent will hit continue and you can see, just like with the students, the Guardians at information is pulled in from when they created their Guardian account.

00:52:01

And I didn't point this out before, but on both screens, if any information is incorrect, they can simply navigate to that page, fix it, and then navigate back to the application.

00:52:11

The only thing the parent has to do on this screen, it just let us know their phone type.

00:52:16

That's because if they've selected that they would like to receive texts from us, we need to know if.

00:52:21

They have a cell phone on file.

00:52:24

They would hit continue and at that point the applications done.

00:52:27

We just ask them to review their information and then they do have to check a box that says that they certify that all the information presented is true and accurate.

00:52:40

We also let them know that we work with the University of Florida Lastinger Center.

00:52:45

And we shared our data with them and that by completing this application and submitting it, their data is going to be shared with the last Senior Center for learning and what that data sharing allows us to do is make sure you know there's a lot of overlap between food qualifies for the scholarship and who qualifies for the book distribution program.

00:53:04

And we want to make sure that.

00:53:06

We're capturing as many students as possible.

00:53:10

From here, the Guardian simply needs to sign their name.

00:53:17

And then they would submit their application.

00:53:21

And that's it.

00:53:21

So our application has really been streamlined.

00:53:24

It's a lot easier than it's been in years past, and we're seeing a really great success rate of parents getting through the application this year.

00:53:34

You can see here the parent can log in at any time and see what their application status is.

00:53:39

The status of these two students.

00:53:41

Is submitted.

00:53:53

OK, So what are the next steps once that application is submitted you've heard me say a couple of times that step up for students works with the Florida Department of Education to determine eligibility that process could take up to 45.

00:54:06

Says we're able to beat that in most cases.

00:54:09

Sometimes there's something extraneous going on, and it takes us a little while longer to identify that.

00:54:14

You've heard me say a couple times.

00:54:16

The e-mail is really important, so how will the families know if they've been awarded a scholarship?

00:54:20

We're going to e-mail them to the e-mail address on file, but I showed you where they can log in and see the status of their.

00:54:27

Application at any point in time.

00:54:30

If an awarded if awarded a scholarship, families will receive another e-mail once the students account has been funded and that e-mail will include instructions on how to begin utilizing those funds.

00:54:42

So let's talk about that.

00:54:44

Let's talk about how to use.

00:54:45

Those scholarship funds.

00:54:46

There are three.

00:54:47

Different ways that families can utilize their scholarship funds.

00:54:51

The first is with direct pay providers, so we work with providers across the state, including tutors.

00:54:59

After school and summer literacy programs and a lot of those providers.

00:55:03

Have signed up to be direct pay, so that means that families do not have to pay out of pocket and wait to be reimbursed.

00:55:10

They're paid directly through.

00:55:11

The Emma account.

00:55:13

We have also.

00:55:14

Created my scholar shop which is a lot like an Amazon that's just full of pre approved instructional materials for families where they can again shop directly with their funds through the Emma platform.

00:55:26

They do not need to pay out of pocket and then the 3rd way is reimbursements where families can pay for products and services.

00:55:33

Out of pocket and then submit a receipt through Emma for reimbursement.

00:55:38

So I want to draw your attention over here to the left side of the screen.

00:55:43

I mentioned earlier that in the example that I was showing you in the demo that family has not been funded yet.

00:55:50

This is an example of what a family would see once they're funded.

00:55:53

They now have a tab for reimbursements, and they also have the marketplace tab.

00:55:58

So through the marketplace tab, they're able to shop.

00:56:00

For providers.

00:56:01

This is where they will find the direct providers that they do not have to pay out.

00:56:05

Of pocket for.

00:56:06

And that's where they'll be able to navigate to my scholar shop, and then I just wanted to share a quick screenshot of my scholarship.

00:56:14

And so they'll be able to either navigate to tiles for the items that they're looking for, or they can search for items directly.

00:56:22

And so again, if they're shopping through our marketplace, they do not need to pay out of pocket.

00:56:27

The funds go directly from their scholarship account, either to the vendor or to the provider.

00:56:35

But what happens if a?

00:56:35

Parent goes to the marketplace and they're not seeing the provider they want.

00:56:39

They're not seeing the product they want.

00:56:40

That's not a problem.

00:56:42

They can always pay for qualifying services and products out of pocket.

00:56:46

And submit a receipt also through Emma through the reimbursements tab so that they can be reimbursed.

00:56:53

OK, so how can you help?

00:56:55

So step up for students does not receive any funding for marketing that new World Reading Scholarship accounts program.

00:57:03

We do receive some funds to administer the program, but as you can see, an ESA is really a complicated thing to administer and so that's where all of our administrative funding goes, and so.

00:57:15

To date, since the scholarship was created in 2018, we have never met the program cap and this year our CAP is larger than ever. We can serve 58,000 students this year.

00:57:27

We opened earlier this month and we're off to a great start. We've already had over 3500 students apply for the scholarship.

00:57:35

But we really.

00:57:36

Need help spreading the word, and so we're really relying on districts and community partners and our partners.

00:57:42

At the last Senior Center to help spread the word about the scholarship program.

00:57:46

So if you know students who could benefit.

00:57:48

You can tell their parents to visit stepupforstudents.org, back slash, readingsubs.org, back slash reading also works if you know of a service provider or a vendor that helps struggling readers. They can also go to our website to learn how to participate.

00:58:03

And we also have Flyers that we provide, and so if you would like a flower, you can e-mail my colleague Melissa.

00:58:11

Her e-mail address is m.jeremy0@soft.org. That's MJARAMILLO at soft.org, so we really need help.

00:58:24

Spreading the word.

00:58:25

We do e-mail the district contacts that the DoD has, and so if you're wondering if you're on that list, that's on the Florida DoD website and that's our contact list that we use to communicate about the new World Reading scholarship accounts.

00:58:44

OK, let's spend a few minutes.

00:58:45

Uhm, doing a few questions and answers.

00:58:49

So a student.

00:58:51

Yes, so Michelle student can and probably does qualify for both the scholarship and the free book program.

00:58:59

And so our goal?

00:59:02

Oh, I need to scroll up.

00:59:03

I skipped a few.

00:59:04

Our goal is.

00:59:06

For students to participate in both because if a student receiving the funds and going to tutoring, it's absolutely going to help them if they go home and have a library that's been curated for them to read from.

00:59:18

Let me scroll up to.

00:59:19

The top here.

00:59:20

There are.

00:59:21

I just want to clarify real quick.

00:59:23

There are some slight differences between the eligibility in both programs and the detailed eligibility has been provided to the main district.

00:59:32

Reading contact in each district.

00:59:35

But if you want to send an e-mail to me or.

00:59:38

To the just read at ldoe.org account, we can definitely send that to you as well. It's too long to copy and paste into the chat and it'll get kind of mixed up, so we'd be happy to e-mail that to you so that you can see how the eligibility for the programs are alike and also slightly.

00:59:57

Yeah, and and just to clarify that eligibility is laid out in statute, and so it gets.

01:00:04

You know, it's very technical and wonky, and that's why it's a little lengthy and that's why there's just some slight differences between the two programs.

01:00:12

OK, so this question is from 918, so I believe that was from earlier today. I think I started at 9:24 so so a student must be ELL student along with receiving a level one or two on the fast to qualify. So that is not correct. LL students get priority when it comes to funding.

01:00:32

But a student does not have to be LL.

01:00:36

In order to qualify for the scholarship, because we've never hit our program cap before, we've actually never had to.

01:00:47

There have never been times where a student wasn't LL and therefore wasn't funded, so definitely have all your students apply, whether they're LL or not.

01:00:59

How does a school or teacher become a provider for the Reading scholarship program?

01:01:02

That's a great question, so we do have some public schools around the state who are providers.

01:01:09

So these are schools who kind of thought to themselves. $500.00 per student. We've got a lot of struggling readers we could use that $500.00 to create an after school program.

01:01:19

So if you navigate to that step up for students website, there's a four providers tab there and it goes through the process of becoming a provider.

01:01:29

Now coming very soon in the new year.

01:01:33

All of that is going to change.

01:01:34

We're also bringing our providers onto the MO platform, and so it's going to be easier than ever to participate as a provider for the reading scholarship program.

01:01:44

Teachers can also participate on their own as part time tutors and we've got a lot of teachers across the state who are doing that.

01:01:52

So again, they can just navigate to our website and they'll be able to find information on how to participate.

01:01:59

There are some laws and rules around who can participate as a provider.

01:02:08

Things like you know a teacher is going to be able to participate because they have a valid teaching certificate, but you could also have a bachelors or masters degree.

01:02:18

In reading or literacy, English language arts and qualify.

01:02:22

So there are some technicalities there.

01:02:25

But our provider relations team is set up for students will help their providers.

01:02:29

Through that process.

01:02:32

OK, what type of instructional materials all are available through my scholarshop?

01:02:37

Are they aligned to best and who has vetted them?

01:02:41

So I'm going to navigate back to that page so we can look at that together, so instruction materials that's also laid out.

01:02:50

What counts as instruction materials.

01:02:52

Also laid out in statute and rule, it includes laptops, tablets, owners, online software, programs, books, curriculum, things of that nature.

01:03:02

Uhm, and so that is actually vetted by step up for students compliance team to make sure it matches the letter.

01:03:08

Of the law.

01:03:09

Uh, that governs the reading, scholarship program, and so is it aligned to best, no, but what we do always communicate with our scholarship families, especially our new world.

01:03:23

Reading scholarship families is they should be sitting down and speaking with their students teacher.

01:03:29

Or speaking with their districts reading and literacy.

01:03:32

Coach and saying, hey, I have this $500.00. What's the best use of that for my student and so families do receive that instructions for step up for students to make sure that they're using their funds in the way that makes the most sense for their students.

01:03:49

OK.

01:03:52

Where do we go to learn more about getting a reading endorsement for teachers for free?

01:03:56

Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question I do.

01:03:59

Yes, it is in the chat, doctor Dugan posted it there starting with pre enrollment for the UF Lastinger Center for Learning.

01:04:06

2223 Flamingo Literacy matrix is open now and she you know had to break it up into a couple pieces.

01:04:14

But there's a link there that says please share this fire with your educators to pre enroll.

01:04:18

So pre enrollment.

01:04:19

For the literacy matrix, which is free for Florida educators, it is currently open for pre enrollment and the next course or semester begins on January 30th.

01:04:31

Right?

01:04:32

Now the next question was about Flyers, so if you would like a flyer to share with your students, the easiest way of doing it is making sure that you're added to the district contact list that the Florida Department of Education uses, because that's who step up communicates with regularly about the program.

01:04:51

We share more than just the flyer.

01:04:52

We do have Flyers in English and Spanish, but we also share instruction.

01:04:57

With those district contacts as well.

01:05:00

But you can also e-mail my colleague Melissa Jeremy oh and just let her know that you would like a new road reading scholarship accounts flyer.

01:05:08

Let her know if you want it in English and in Spanish, and she'll send that to you, so I'll leave this screen up so you can copy down her e-mail address.

01:05:18

Move that over there.

01:05:20

Ah OK, I see a lot of thank yous and then will districts have access to the sample video and supporting documents or Flyers to educate school leaders and parents?

01:05:30

So the answer is yes.

01:05:31

One step up for students, emails, districts and we do so at several points throughout the year.

01:05:36

They've already received a few emails from us, but then they're going to receive.

01:05:42

Communications around when progress monitoring is occurring and those results are coming in and so we do share that video.

01:05:50

We do share supporting documents and we do share those Flyers there as well.

01:05:55

OK, what is the recipient cap? Yep, so we have. There's been enough funding allocated at the state level this year to serve 58,000 students, and so we've been open a little less than a month. You know few weeks, and we've already gotten 3500 applicants so far, so, uh.

01:06:16

Lot of room to grow and we can serve an awful lot of students this year.

01:06:23

OK, here's another question about reading endorsement or higher education faculty eligible for the reading endorsement as well.

01:06:34

Chantelle Lindsey, do you know the answer to that question?

01:06:39

Do they have a floor of valid Florida teaching certificate?

01:06:44

That's but e-mail For more information.

01:06:47

I my colleague Pam Alfaro could respond directly.

01:06:53

OK, so it looks like we've reached the end of the questions.

01:06:56

I do want to navigate to the last page in my presentation because I want to share my contact information with you.

01:07:03

If you come up with any other questions.

01:07:05

My phone number is listed on the right hand side of the screen as well as.

01:07:10

My e-mail on.

01:07:11

The left hand side of the screen.

01:07:13

Is the phone number for our separate for student service center and our website?

01:07:18

You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

01:07:24

Thank you so much Jen.

01:07:26

Thank you.

01:07:28

And thank you both, I'm.

01:07:29

Excited that we were able to.

01:07:31

Of Shante and Jen here with us this morning to share information about the New World Reading Initiative and the New World Reading Scholarship accounts.

01:07:40

They are both just amazing opportunities for eligible students.

01:07:43

If you think of any questions after the webinar, please feel free to reach out to either Jen with her e-mail that she provided.

01:07:52

Or the e-mail that Shantae provided.

01:07:54

You can also reach out directly to just read at fldoe.

01:07:58

Work and a couple days when we have the recording ready and posted we will get that on our website on the just read Florida Web page under educator resources and then we have a tab for webinars and all of the webinars that we host this year.

01:08:14

We'll be posting recordings there for viewing, so thank you again.

01:08:19

For joining us this morning and we hope you all have a wonderful Wednesday.