

**From:** [Presnell, Kevin L.](#)  
**To:** [KDE KBE](#)  
**Subject:** KBE Public Comments  
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**Attachments:** [RTA RFA Release.png](#)  
[KRA President.png](#)

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As the President of the Kentucky Reading Association, in response the Early Literacy Initiative, I would like to submit KRA's statement into public comments for the upcoming Board meeting on December 1st.



# Kentucky Reading Association

*A Voice for Literacy*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Kevin Presnell, President

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## **Kentucky Reading Association's Statement Regarding the Kentucky Department of Education's Request for Application for the Read to Achieve (RTA) Reading Diagnostic and Intervention Grant**

[KENTUCKY, November 24th] — The Kentucky Reading Association (KRA) believes that as schools return from the pandemic, it is crucial for schools to have the resources necessary to assess students where they are and provide the appropriate interventions for students' needs. **There has never been a more crucial moment in history to provide intervention resources and services for our students.**

KRA believes that this new Request for Applications (RFA) alters the design of a grant that has been structured as an intervention grant in statute for the last 15 years. **KRA has listened to the concerns of our members and wishes to express that we are deeply disappointed with the Kentucky Department of Education's unilateral redirection of a grant designed to assist schools with providing intervention services.** This new design drastically undercuts the ability of schools to continue their intervention services in a time when these services are desperately needed.

As we discuss with members of the Reading Diagnostic and Intervention Steering Committee, the oversight body intended to steer the grant, they are appalled by their inability to advise the creation of the RFA. By refusing to allow the steering committee access to the RFA, KDE stripped the steering committee of its ability to complete the statutory responsibilities.

As always, as Kentucky's professional literacy association, KRA stands ready and willing to help improve this RFA for Kentucky's kids.

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*The Kentucky Reading Association is a regional affiliate of the International Literacy Association and works to be a voice for literacy in Kentucky.*

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Thanks,

Kevin Presnell  
President, Kentucky Reading Association

