High-Quality Instructional Materials in Mathematics: Recommended List for K-5 Core Instructional Materials Request for Applications



Vendor and Applicant Guidance and Request for Applications

2026-2027



Table of Contents

Introduction and Context 4

Overview and Purpose 4

Definitions 5

Timeline and Participation 8

Pertinent Dates 8

Intent to Apply 8

Program Information 9

General Information 9

Recommended List Information 9

Review Process 9

Core Curriculum and Instructional Materials Quality Review 9

Application and Review Timeline 10

K-5 Review Process and Applications 11

Submission Process 11

Applicant Information 11

Submission Materials 13

Submission Requirements 13

Program Materials and Evaluation 13

Compliance and Legal 15

Textbook Pricing and Accessibility Compliance 15

Reservation of Rights 15

Confidential, Proprietary, and Trade Secret Information 16

Communication with Applicants 16

Communication with Applicants 16

Appeals 17

Publication and Approval 17

Publication of Recommended List 17

Publication of Final Recommended List 17

Approval 17

Future Application and Review 18
Appendices 19
Appendix A: Professional Development Information 20
Appendix B: K-5 Review Application 21
Appendix C: K-5 Program Summary 24
Appendix D: Ohio's Learning Standards and Mathematics K-5 Crosswalk 25
Appendix E: Public Records Exemption Justification Form (As Applicable) 26

Introduction and Context

Overview and Purpose

Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3301.0734

(A) Not later than April 15, 2027, the Department of Education and Workforce shall review core mathematics curricula and establish a list of high-quality core curriculum and instructional materials in mathematics, and a list of evidence-based mathematics intervention programs, that are aligned with state standards and best practices.

(B) The Department shall establish a rubric and scoring system to evaluate core mathematics curricula based upon whether or the extent to which a curriculum facilitates a student's skill building and sequential advancement through mastery and meets standards established by the Department. The standards may include whether a curriculum is supported by research that qualifies as tier two or higher under the "Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965," 20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq., and demonstrates a statistically significant effect on improving student outcomes. The standards also may include whether a curriculum receives an all-green rating from EdReports, or its successor organization, for the relevant subject matter and grade bands.

The Department shall post the rubric and scoring system on its publicly accessible website. Upon request, the Department shall provide the scored rubric to the entity that submitted a curriculum to be scored and to any member of the Ohio General Assembly.

(C) Each school district, community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, and STEM school established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code may use the core curriculum and instructional materials established by the Department or may select different high-quality core curriculum and instructional materials.

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is requesting applications for inclusion on its recommended list of high-quality instructional materials and core curriculum in mathematics for kindergarten through grade 5 (i.e., K-5). The purpose of this Request for Applications (RFA) is to identify eligible high-quality core curriculum and instructional materials in mathematics that are aligned with the Ohio Learning Standards for Mathematics and best practices.

Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year and each school year thereafter, state law (ORC 3302.131 (A)) requires that, each school district or community school must establish and submit to the Department of Education and Workforce a Mathematics Achievement Improvement Plan (MAP) for any school building or community school in which 51% or less of students in a school scored “proficient” or higher on the Grade 3 Ohio state mathematics test. Each building or school for which a MAP is established must use curriculum from the list established by the Department.

Each school district, community school, and STEM school that does not qualify for a MAP may use the core curriculum and instructional materials recommended by the Department or may select different high-quality core curriculum and instructional materials.

The purpose of this *Recommended List for K-5 Core Instructional Materials* document is to outline the Department’s process for evaluating high-quality core curriculum and instructional materials in

mathematics. This document is intended to assist entities interested in submitting core curriculum and instructional materials for potential addition to the "list of high-quality core curriculum and instructional materials in mathematics" referenced in ORC 3301.0734.

Definitions

To provide applicants with an understanding of the common language used in Ohio, the Department provides the following list of definitions.

Accommodations: Strategies or tools that facilitate equal access to instruction and instructional content for students with disabilities and may be used for both screening and instruction/intervention. These strategies or tools change how students access instruction or an assessment, but do not change the content of instruction or what the assessment measures.

Assessment: Assessments measure how students are learning and progressing on established standards, through formative and summative assessments, specific to what has been taught to the students.

Cognitive demand: A scale used to measure content complexity or rigor required by a set of standards and aligned assessments.

Coherence: Thinking across grades: The Ohio Learning Standards are designed around coherent progressions from grade to grade and course to course. Educators carefully connect the learning across grades and courses so that students can build new understanding on foundations built in previous years. Educators can begin to count on a deep conceptual understanding of core content and build on it. Each standard is not a new event but an extension of previous learning.

Comprehension: The understanding and interpretation of what is read in written material or heard from speaking or a read aloud.

Computer-based or online instruction: Instruction consists of lessons via software or a web-based platform where students receive instruction via interactive lessons and digital feedback.

Content alignment study: A study meeting industry-standard practices for the demonstration of content alignment, considering the range of knowledge and cognitive demand or depth of knowledge.

Core comprehensive program: High-quality instructional materials that are comprehensive in scope and aligned to Ohio's Learning Standards for Mathematics. The skills taught within and across grades are articulated in a clear scope and sequence.

Core curriculum and instructional materials: High-quality instructional materials used within the general education setting to provide instruction to all students, through either a core comprehensive program or a coherent set of core and foundational skills programs.

Delivery method: The primary method or means by which the instruction is delivered to students. These methods may include teacher-directed instruction, computer-based instruction, online instruction, or a combination of these approaches.

Department: The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce.

Eligible applicant: Must meet eligibility criteria.

Evidence-based: Programs, strategies, and activities for mathematics instruction that are rooted in best practices that have been evaluated and proven to improve student outcomes through rigorous external evaluation. These strategies are likely to yield the maximum return for students with diverse needs.

Explicit instruction: A teacher-directed and systematic approach to instruction that includes specific components of delivery and design, including but not limited to modeling of previous step-by-step demonstrations, clear language, adequate range of examples, frequent student responses, monitoring of student progress, feedback to students, and multiple practice opportunities, both guided and independent. This includes in-lesson or within-unit, and cumulative practice. It does not make assumptions that learners will acquire skills and knowledge on their own without any instructional support(s).

Focus: The Ohio Learning Standards call for a greater focus on grade level/course mathematics. They focus deeply on the critical areas of each grade/course so that students can gain strong foundations: solid conceptual understanding, a high degree of procedural skill and fluency, and the ability to apply the math they know to solve problems inside and outside the math classroom.

Fluency: The ability to use efficient, accurate, and flexible methods for computing. Fluency does not imply timed tests.

Foundational Skills: Instruction aligned to Ohio's Learning Standards for Mathematics for grade-level-appropriate foundational mathematics skills, including:

- Counting and Cardinality (applicable to kindergarten only)
- Number and Operations in Base Ten
- Numbers and Operations – Fractions (applicable to grade 3 only)
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Geometry
- Measurement and Data

Grade-level appropriate: Relating to the connection of taught skills, concepts, and learning activities to the grade-level specific standards within Ohio's Learning Standards for Mathematics.

High-quality instructional materials (HQIM): Instructional materials that provide:

- standards-aligned instructional content;
- a coherent and grade-level appropriate scope and sequence;
- evidence-based instructional strategies, and
- embedded formative assessments that support data-driven instruction and educative materials that provide implementation support for educators to ensure all students' learning needs are met.

High-quality instructional materials are critical for instructional access and to ensure that each student acquires the knowledge and skills to be successful through a standards-aligned instructional foundation. High-quality instructional materials act as a common language and platform for engaging all partners in students' educational experience by incorporating student and educator supports.

Integrated Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS): The integrated multi-tiered system of supports structure provides a framework for supporting learners based on their unique needs. It can guide staff in designing effective instruction and appropriate interventions as part of school improvement efforts. A multi-tiered system of supports for mathematics includes full access to grade-level instruction for all learners that is differentiated and designed to meet the needs of all learners (Tier 1) and additional strategic and targeted (Tier 2) and/or intensive intervention (Tier 3) for learners experiencing difficulties.

Instructional routines: A predictable, consistent, repetitive set of practices that provide structure to maximize learning time and aid in classroom management.

Materials: Components of a program to be used by students and their educators for instruction, including printed or digital scope and sequence, assessments, teaching scripts, pacing guides, assessment schedules and tools, student tools, graphic organizers, decodable text, etc.

Program: A packaged set of lessons and materials that provide teacher guidance for preparing learner instruction. A program must include assessments of the content being taught. A program must also provide support language for the teacher carrying out the program through explicit instruction of the content and skills, using the provided materials to do so.

Ohio's Learning Standards for Mathematics: Revised and adopted in 2017, these are the state content standards that determine what should be taught and the progress that should be made by the end of the grade level the standard is assigned to.

Operator (ORC 3314.02(A)(8)): An operator or management company means either of the following: a) An individual or organization that manages the daily operations of a community school pursuant to a contract between the operator or management company and the school's governing authority; or b) A nonprofit organization that provides programmatic oversight and support to a community school under a contract with the school's governing authority and that retains the right to terminate its affiliation with the school if the school fails to meet the organization's quality standards.

ORC: Ohio Revised Code.

Research-based: Instructional practices, strategies, or approaches that are based on research but have not yet been tested for evidence of student outcomes.

Rigor: Refers to the deep, authentic command of mathematical concepts, not making math harder or introducing topics at earlier grades. To help students meet the standards, educators need to pursue, with equal intensity, three aspects of rigor in each grade: conceptual understanding, procedural skills, and fluency and application.

Scope and sequence: A list of instructional skills and concepts, in the sequence in which they should be taught.

Supplementary instructional materials: A supplementary instructional material provides additional evidence-based mathematics instruction and practice on a specific mathematics skill. Supplementary instructional material is used to enhance core curriculum and instructional materials during whole-class or small-group instruction, providing additional instructional materials and practice opportunities.

Systematic instruction: Organized through a planned sequence of instruction that follows the logical order of the language, with important prerequisite skills taught before more advanced skills and care taken to not introduce skills in an unintentionally confusing way.

Teacher: A person(s) leading instruction using the core curriculum and instructional materials.

Vendor: An individual, corporation, tax-exempt or non-profit organization, limited liability company, partnership, association, or institution of higher education that is engaged in the business of producing and selling, offering for sale, or negotiating the sale of curriculum materials for purchase and/or use by a consumer, such as a district or community school.

Timeline and Participation

PERTINENT DATES

The Department will make every effort to meet these dates but note that they may vary. Applicants are encouraged to check the Department's webpage frequently for updated information.

- **RFA Issued**: October 5, 2026
- **Intent to Apply Window**: October 5-30, 2026
- **Vendor Call Question Period**: Oct. 5-15, 2026
- **Vendor Call**: October 16, 2026, at 1 p.m. (Register)
- **Final Submission Date**: November 30, 2026
- **Vendors Notified of Review Outcomes**: Spring 2027
- **Recommended List Posted**: Spring 2027

Intent to Apply

Entities interested in participating in the review process **must submit an Intent to Apply for review to receive submission access from the Department. The deadline for submitting the Intent to Apply is October 30, 2026**, to allow for processing and confirmation by the Department. Instructions for submitting the required application materials will be provided after submission and confirmation of the Intent to Apply form.

Interested applicants are encouraged to submit their Intent to Apply well in advance of the requested date to allow for sufficient time to access the submission link before the application deadline and to allow the Department to adequately plan for the review process.

Submitting an Intent to Apply does not obligate an entity to submit a program review application.

Note: Submission of the Intent to Apply does not guarantee programs will be included on the list. Programs must meet the criteria outlined in the Request for Applications under the program application and review for inclusion on the recommended list.

Program Information

General Information

The purpose of this Request for Qualifications (RFA) is to:

- Establish a recommended list of high-quality core curriculum and instructional materials in mathematics that are aligned with the Ohio Learning Standards for mathematics and best practices
- Outline a process for determining whether materials should be included in the recommended list of high-quality core curriculum and instructional materials

Vendors seeking inclusion on the list of high-quality core curriculum and instructional materials in mathematics must submit a complete application for consideration.

Recommended List Information

The Department's recommended list includes high-quality mathematics core curriculum and instructional materials for K-5. Vendors with core curriculum materials that are part of a package that exceeds K-5, such as K-6 or K-8, are eligible to apply. When materials extend beyond grade 5, the Department's review and approval process is limited to the materials intended for grades K-5 only. The Department's process to establish a recommended list consists of an application process followed by a quality review process of the materials for alignment to the Ohio Learning Standards for mathematics and best practices. Only high-quality instructional materials and core curriculum in mathematics with an overall rating of "Meets Expectations" using the Department's High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) Rubric for Mathematics will be included in the recommended list.

Review Process

Core Curriculum and Instructional Materials Quality Review

All materials will be reviewed using the Department's HQIM Rubric for Mathematics. The table below outlines how mathematics core curriculum and instructional materials for K-5 will be evaluated for inclusion on the Department's recommended list.

Limited Versus Full Review Eligibility Criteria			
Gateway 1: Focus and Coherence	**Gateway 2: Rigor and Mathematical Practices**	**Gateway 3: Teacher and Student Support**	**DEW HQIM Review**
Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations	Limited Review
All other eligible applicants			Full Review

Core instructional materials that receive "Meets Expectations" ratings across all three EdReports gateways—Focus and Coherence, Rigor and Mathematical Practices, and Teacher and Student Support—will receive a limited review. A limited review will consist of only the Alignment criteria in the Department's HQIM Rubric for Mathematics. Applicants who qualify for a limited review will

automatically be scored as “Meets Expectations” on Instructional Support criteria of the Department’s HQIM Rubric for Mathematics.

Materials that have not previously been reviewed by EdReports are eligible for a full review of their K-5 core instructional materials.

Regardless of whether an applicant qualifies for a limited or a full review all submissions must include a completed Ohio Learning Standards for Mathematics K-5 Crosswalk (Appendix D). In the Ohio Learning Standards for Mathematics K-5 Crosswalk, applicants must identify the alignment between their core instructional materials and the Ohio Learning Standards for all grades in K-5 for which they are applying. When materials extend beyond grade 5, the Department’s review and approval process is limited to the materials intended for grades K-5 only.

Each eligible applicant must submit a complete application regardless of whether their high-quality instructional materials and core curriculum in mathematics will receive a limited or full review by the Department.

Materials that do not meet expectations in Alignment or Instructional Supports of the Ohio HQIM Rubric for Math are ineligible for the recommended list.

Application and Review Timeline

All required application materials for each round of the review process must be received by the Department no later than the following deadlines, as applicable:

Event	Approximate Timeframe	Notes
Request for Applications Issued	Oct. 5, 2026	
Intent to Apply Window	Oct. 5-30, 2026	Submit Intent to Apply
Vendor Call Question Period	Oct. 5-15, 2026	Submit questions to MathMaterialsReview@education.ohio.gov
Vendor Call	Oct. 16, 2026, at 1 p.m.	Register
Final Submission Date:	Nov. 30, 2026	Submit electronically via instructions provided by the Department
Notification of Inclusion or Denial	Spring 2027	
Appeals Period	Spring 2027	
Publication of Full Recommended List	Spring 2027	

Note: The Department will make every effort to meet this timeline, but variation may occur. Applicants are encouraged to check the Department’s webpage frequently for updated information.

K-5 Review Process and Applications

All entities interested in participating in the core curriculum and instructional materials review process must submit an application.

All eligible entities must submit a completed application (Appendix B) that includes the following information:

- Program information and applicant contact information.
- Attestation of understanding regarding Ohio's policies on textbook pricing and accessibility compliance.
- Alignment to the Ohio Learning Standards for Mathematics (2017) in K-5 (ORC 3301.079).
- Information regarding professional development related to implementation of materials.
- Information regarding alignment to the Ohio Learning Standards for Mathematics
- Program evidence worksheet, identifying citations within materials that demonstrate quality for each indicator.
- Required program materials, including scope and sequence, assessments, teacher materials, and student materials.
- Attestation of understanding of submission requirements for Core Curriculum and Instructional Materials Program Review.

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply well in advance of the requested date to allow for sufficient time to access the submission link before the application deadline and to allow the Department to adequately plan for the review process.

The Department will establish a recommended list for Mathematics core curriculum and instructional materials in K-5, as laid out in this document.

All applications will be evaluated by the Department, using the HQIM Rubric for Mathematics. The Department will review submitted materials and documentation in the scoring and review process.

Submission Process

Applicant Information

INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Core curriculum and instructional materials in K-5 that meet the criteria or description of any of the following are ineligible for review under this process.

- Core curriculum and instructional materials that were created to be used only in a particular state other than Ohio.
- Core curriculum and instructional materials specific to Grades 6 and above.
- Single-mathematics component instructional or supplementary materials, including materials that do not provide instruction in the full breadth of foundational skills standards.
- Materials designed for mathematics intervention are not eligible for this submission. Information regarding an approved list of mathematics intervention programs will be available in Fall 2026.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Entities eligible to apply for inclusion on the Department's recommended list include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Tax-exempt or non-profit organizations;
- Institutions of higher education;
- City, local, exempted village, and joint vocational school districts established under R.C. Chapter 3311;
- STEM schools established under R.C. Chapter 3326;
- Community schools established under R.C. Chapter 3314;
- Operators of a community school;
- Nonprofit organizations.

Applicants are required to submit one Intent to Apply and one application for each program for which inclusion is sought on the Department's list.

Eligible entities (or vendors) must submit a complete application regardless of whether their high-quality instructional materials and core curriculum in mathematics will receive a limited or full review by the Department.

Applicants must submit one application for each core curriculum for which approval is sought on the Department's list. If an applicant publishes multiple distinct core curricula that meet the eligibility criteria, each curriculum requires its own application. However, when a single core curriculum spans multiple grade levels, for example, K–5, only one application is required, with the applicant clearly indicating all grade levels the curriculum covers.

Applicants must indicate on their application the specific grade levels the materials address and the grade bands for which approval is sought. Applicants with a core curriculum and instructional material that are part of a package that exceeds K-5, such as K-6 or K-8, are eligible to apply for the recommended list, but materials above grade 5 and below kindergarten will not be reviewed or considered for approval.

Applicants who make the recommended list will be responsible for all contracts with individual districts, community schools, and STEM schools. The contracts between an applicant and districts, community schools, and STEM schools shall not conflict with the terms and requirements of Ohio law. Selection denotes inclusion on the recommended list only. No contract with the Department, or any other entity, is implied by inclusion on the recommended list.

Applicants acknowledge that their eligibility is not guaranteed once programs are identified as approved by the Department. Changes made to federal law or state law impacting the need and/or requirements for high-quality instructional materials in Mathematics may affect the materials' eligibility for inclusion on the recommended list.

Note for joint applicants and programs with multiple publishers: Applicants should not submit separate intents to apply for core instructional materials. Applications for combined sets of materials (also known as programs packaged jointly but published separately by more than one eligible entity) should submit a joint application if inclusion on the list is sought for the package of materials. Applications must clearly specify the set of materials that should be considered for approval if program components are available for separate purchase.

Submission Materials

The following items must be submitted as part of the kindergarten- grade 5 program review application:

- **Appendix A:** Professional Development Information
- **Appendix B:** K-5 Review Application
- **Appendix C:** K-5 Program Summary
- **Appendix D:** Ohio Learning Standards for Mathematics K-5 Crosswalk
- **Appendix E:** Public Records Exemption Justification Form (As Applicable)
- Required program materials, including scope and sequences, assessments, teacher materials, and student materials.

Submission Requirements

Applications must be received no later than **November 30, 2026**. Applications must be submitted electronically, following the instructions provided by the Department. Submitted application documents **must** use the following naming convention:

- **Program Name_Year_Vendor or Applicant Name_Applicaton**

Incomplete submissions or late applications may not be considered.

If names are too long based on the character limit, abbreviate the title of the type of worksheet as necessary. **All application and program materials must be submitted in digital or online format as readable PDF files. No hard copies of application or program materials will be accepted.**

Applications must be submitted electronically in readable PDF format via the submission upload provided by the Department following Intent to Apply confirmation. All application files must be submitted in readable PDF format, with individual files not to exceed 100 MB. The following formats are **not** acceptable for submission:

- Online access to Google Drive or SharePoint files.
- Online access to Dropbox or other document retrieval sites.
- Uploaded documents in any format other than readable PDF or Excel (applies to Appendix D *only*).

All applications must be completed on the fillable application forms provided by the Department but saved and submitted as readable PDFs. No alterations may be made to the formatting of the forms. No additional documents or materials are permitted outside the application documents. No images or graphics are permitted on application documents provided by the Department. No hyperlinks to Google Drive, SharePoint, or file storage and/or retrieval sites are permitted on application documents outside of fields where expressly requested by the Department.

Program Materials and Evaluation

Applicants may provide access to program materials as an additional submitted readable PDF document, as noted on the application document. Alternatively, applicants are permitted to indicate on their application where reviewers can access materials through the program's digital platform (if applicable). Log-in information, including a username and password, must be provided on the

application if providing digital materials access and will be verified for review. Applicants should ensure that this log-in permits anonymous access for reviewers for up to nine months.

Note: Online program access may **only** be provided through the program's digital platform hosted by the applicant. Document storage or retrieval platforms such as Google or Dropbox are not acceptable submissions for program materials. If a program does not have a digital platform, all program materials must be provided in readable PDF format through the submission portal.

Note: Incomplete submissions or applications may not be considered. Submission of the application does not guarantee programs will be included on the recommended list. Programs must meet criteria outlined in the RFA under the program application and review for inclusion on the recommended list.

Quality Review Scoring

Indicators will be reviewed and scored using the following scoring characteristics:

Alignment

- **Does Not Meet Expectations (0) -** The evidence provided does not meet the criteria indicated.
- **Partially Meets Expectations (1) -** The evidence provided partially meets the criteria indicated, but additional information, detail, or examples are needed to meet all the criteria.
- **Meets Expectations (2) -** The evidence provided meets or exceeds all the criteria indicated, demonstrating thorough implementation or alignment of the indicator to expectations.

Core curriculum and instructional materials undergoing a limited review that receive a rating of either Meets Expectations or Partially Meets Expectations will receive an automatic rating of Meets Expectations for Instructional Support. Materials that do not meet expectations on Alignment will be removed from further consideration for the recommended list.

Core curriculum and instructional materials undergoing a full review that receive a rating of either Meets Expectations or Partially Meets Expectations will advance to Instructional Support. Materials that do not meet expectations in Alignment will be removed from further consideration for the recommended list.

Instructional Support

Materials reviewed will result in a rating of quality on the following scale:

- **Does Not Meet Expectations (0) -** The evidence provided does not meet the criteria indicated.
- **Partially Meets Expectations (1) -** The evidence provided partially meets the criteria indicated, but additional information, detail, or examples are needed to meet all the criteria.
- **Meets Expectations (2) -** The evidence provided meets or exceeds all the criteria indicated, demonstrating thorough implementation or alignment of the indicator to expectations.

Core curriculum and instructional materials must receive an overall rating of Meets Expectations or Partially Meets Expectations to be included on the recommended list. Only core curriculum and instructional materials that receive a rating of Meets Expectations in both Alignment and Instructional Support on the Department's rubric will receive an overall rating of Meets Expectations. Receiving a rating of Partially Meets Expectations on either Alignment or Instructional Support on the Department's rubric will result in an overall rating of Partially Meets Expectations.

Notification of decision will be provided to applicants by email. Applicants to be included on the

recommended list will be asked to submit a vendor and program information form within five business days.

Entities with materials not receiving inclusion on the list will receive a scoring summary with explanatory notes from the Department.

Compliance and Legal

Textbook Pricing and Accessibility Compliance

Under ORC 3329.01, Ohio public school districts must adopt or purchase printed or electronic textbooks from publishers approved by the Department that have agreed to sell textbooks to school districts and community schools in Ohio at a price no more than the lowest list wholesale price available to school districts in any other state. Publishers also must meet accessibility requirements outlined in law.

Textbook publishers requesting to be placed on the list must satisfy the requirements set forth in ORC Chapter 3329 and OAC 3301-51-21 each year. More information about requirements for the Instructions for Pricing and Accessibility Compliant Publishers List is available on the Department's website.

Approval for the core curriculum and instructional materials list does not constitute approval on the Pricing and Accessibility Compliant Publishers List. Approved applicants that have materials included on the Department's approved list of core curriculum and instructional materials must also request to be placed on the Pricing and Accessibility Compliant List, if applicable. Approved applicants are responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy, if applicable, for the materials that are included on the approved list of core curriculum and instructional materials. For more information, please contact Lacey Snoke at Lacey.Snoke@education.ohio.gov.

Reservation of Rights

The Department reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all proposals received in response to or applications to this RFA;
- Grant limited inclusion of materials (e.g., inclusion for one grade band but not all);
- Disqualify any provider for failing to conform to the requirements of the RFA;
- Withdraw the RFA at any time;
- During the application period, amend the RFA specifications to correct errors or oversights, or to supply additional information, as it becomes available;
- During the application period, direct applicants to submit application modifications addressing subsequent RFA amendments;
- Change any of the scheduled dates;
- Waive any requirements in this RFA;
- Require clarification at any time during the application process and/or require correction of errors to assure a complete understanding of an applicant's submission and/or to determine a provider's compliance with the requirements of the RFA;
- Prioritize evaluation and/or approval of certain submissions;
- Re-evaluate inclusion on the list or request other documentation during or after the inclusion

process;
- Evaluate and modify future processes for determining Department-recommended lists of core curriculum and instructional materials; and
- Request information or reports regarding Ohio districts and schools purchasing their materials.

Confidential, Proprietary, and Trade Secret Information

The Department solicits information through this RFA in a transparent manner and in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio. All information, responses, and documents provided to the Department in response to this RFA become records of the Department and as such, will be open to inspection by the public pursuant to section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code unless exempt from public release or disclosure under the Ohio Revised Code or other applicable law. Applicants should not include in the application or supporting materials any information that the applicant claims as confidential, proprietary, or "trade secret," as that term is defined in ORC 1333.61, and exempt from disclosure under the Ohio Revised Code or other applicable law. Nevertheless, if an applicant chooses to include information it deems trade secret, confidential, or proprietary information, the applicant must do both of the following:

- Clearly identify the trade secret, confidential, or proprietary information on the pages of the application on which it appears and mark each page with the following statement: "This page contains trade secrets or other confidential information which the applicant believes to be exempt from disclosure under the Ohio Public Records Act."
- Submit with the application a completed Public Records Exemption Justification Form (Appendix E) containing all requested information in support of the claimed exemption, which includes a list of the specific statutory exemption for each exemption claimed and the document title(s) and page number(s) to which each exemption applies. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in the Department considering all information, responses, and documents voluntarily submitted to be free of confidential, proprietary, and trade secret information, and such materials, if opened by the Department will, in their entirety, be made a part of the public record, and will become the property of the Department, pursuant to ORC 149.43. The Department has the sole discretion in redacting information in response to public records requests pursuant to ORC 149.43.

Communication with Applicants

Communication with Applicants

Throughout the review process, official Department communication with applicants will be via notices on the website or through email communication initiated by the Department.

The sole point of contact for the review process is MathMaterialsReview@education.ohio.gov. Applicants may not reach out to individual Department staff other than the sole point of contact. If applicants reach out to Department staff other than the sole point of contact to discuss or influence the review process, the applicant's product may, in the Department's sole discretion, not be considered for inclusion on the recommended list of core curriculum and instructional materials in mathematics.

The Department will provide technical assistance with submitting the application documents but will not answer questions about how to respond to items within the application. The Department will not meet with individual applicants to discuss the results of the review. Applicants should rely on feedback provided in the rubric scoring summary to determine whether to submit an appeal.

Applicants seeking to remove an application from the review process at any time must submit a written request to MathMaterialsReview@education.ohio.gov.

Appeals

Any applicant whose materials are not approved for inclusion on the list following the Department's review may submit a written appeal no later than ten business days after the Department issues the notice of decision. Grounds for written appeal must be limited to an explanation of why the original submission met the evaluation criteria that were identified and posted by the Department. The applicant must submit the appeal to the Department by email. Except for the appeal addendum describing the grounds for written appeal, applicants may not submit additional documentation as part of the appeals process. The Department will evaluate all appeal requests and notify applicants of the final determination along with a copy of the scored rubric immediately following the posting of the list on the Department's website.

Publication and Approval

Publication of Recommended List

Mathematics core curriculum and instructional materials for K-5 that meet requirements and criteria under the program quality review will be included in the Department's recommended list. A copy of the rubric and scoring system will be posted on the Department's website.

Publication of Final Recommended List

The Department's recommended list of core curriculum and instructional materials in Mathematics will consist of materials included following the review process. The updates to the list will be added to the Department's webpage following applicant notification of inclusion or denial.

Applicants with materials to be included on the list will be sent a vendor and program information form to provide updated contact and program information to be posted on the Department's webpage. This information will accompany the materials on the recommended list for the convenience of districts and schools in decision-making. Vendor and program information forms must be submitted to the Department within five days of receipt.

Approval

If included on the recommended list of core curriculum and instructional materials, materials may be continuously included, contingent on the following:

- No substantive changes to the program edition have occurred since the most recent application.
- No changes in legislation, law, or Department policy preclude continued inclusion.
- **No changes in content standards, if applicable, have occurred since the materials were**

most recently included on the recommended list by the Department.

- The entity submitted updated vendor or program information requested by the Department to ensure current information for districts and schools.

Inclusion on the list is limited to the edition or version of the program submitted in the application. **Applicants must submit a new application for revised editions** of materials to be considered for inclusion. Revised editions of previously included materials are not eligible for inclusion on the Recommended List of Core Curriculum and Instructional Materials without going through review process, as described in this document.

The Department reserves the right to update the process and procedures for establishing the recommended list or revise review criteria at any time. Substantive changes to the Department's processes and criteria may preclude continuous inclusion at any time.

Future Application and Review

The Department anticipates conducting bi-annual review cycles for new kindergarten through grade 5 mathematics products or materials with the next full review cycle occurring during the 2028-2029 school year. Future application and review cycles will be noted on the High-Quality Instructional Materials in Mathematics webpage.

Appendices

Appendix A: Professional Development Information

Appendix B: K-5 Review Application

Appendix C: K-5 Program Summary

Appendix D: Ohio Learning Standards for Mathematics K-5 Crosswalk

Appendix E: Public Records Exemption Justification Form (As applicable)

Appendix A: Professional Development Information

Instructions: Applicants must provide information on the specific professional development available for their core instructional materials. Applicants must submit narrative evidence of each of the following components as part of the application. This information will not be scored but will be provided to districts and schools to support decision-making in the selection and implementation of materials.

Professional Development Information	
Name of Materials: **Submission ID:**	**Forms of Professional Development Available:** ☐ Virtual ☐ In-Person ☐ Embedded Coaching ☐ Other (please specify: _____)
Summary of Professional Development *Provide a brief summary of the professional development available for the materials for each of the components below, to not exceed 2 pages in total for the appendix.*	
Clear scope and sequence for professional development, including objectives and intended outcomes for educators	
Clear description of how demonstration of learning is provided for educators	
Opportunities for participants to apply learning through practice of identified skills and opportunities for reflection	
Ongoing access to support and resources related to implementation for educators	

Appendix B: K-5 Review Application

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Kindergarten-Grade 5 Review Application</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Submission ID:</td></tr>
<tr><td>Name of Applicant:</td><td>Product Title and Edition (publication year):</td></tr>
<tr><td>Contact Person for the Review Submission:</td><td>Email:</td></tr>
<tr><td>Telephone:</td><td>Mailing Address:</td></tr>
<tr><td>Applicant Webpage:</td><td>Product Webpage(s):
Provide the webpage that is specifically related to the program materials being requested for approval.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Grade Level Submission:
☐ Kindergarten
☐ Grade 1
☐ Grade 2
☐ Grade 3
☐ Grade 4
☐ Grade 5</td><td>EdReports Rating
☐ Meets Expectations
☐ Partially Meets Expectations
☐ Does Not Meet Expectations
☐ Not Reviewed
Link to EdReports Review (if applicable):</td></tr>
<tr><td>Professional Development Materials Available
☐ Yes
☐ No
If yes, submit Appendix A: Professional Development Information (Optional)</td><td>Reviewer Access to Program Instructional Materials (select all that apply):
☐ PDF Copy of Materials
☐ Online Access to Materials
Link:
Login Username:
Login Password:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Completion Verification and Acknowledgment:
To be considered for review, all required submission components must be completed. Check each box and sign below to indicate each required application component noted below has been included and is complete.
☐ Completed Professional Development Information (Appendix A)
☐ Completed K-5 Review Application (Appendix B)
☐ Completed K-5 Program Summary (Appendix C)
☐ Completed Ohio Learning Standards for Mathematics K-5 Crosswalk (Appendix D)
☐ Completed Public Records Exemption Justification Form (Appendix E) (As applicable)
☐ Reviewer Access to Program Materials
☐ Signature of Authorized Representative - Confirming all parts above are included</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Signature of Authorized Representative:</td></tr>
</table>

Kindergarten-Grade 5 Review Application		
Acknowledgment of Ohio's Approved Textbook Pricing and Accessibility Compliant Policies: All applicants must submit verification of understanding that Ohio public school districts must adopt, or purchase printed or electronic textbooks from publishers approved by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce that have agreed to sell textbooks to school districts and community schools in Ohio at a price no more than the lowest list wholesale price available to school districts in any other state. Publishers also must meet accessibility requirements outlined in law. Publishers of programs with textbooks submitted for review are expected to meet this requirement no later than the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year. Provide the date, printed name and signature of the authorized representative to verify understanding of Ohio's Approved Textbook Pricing and Accessibility Compliant Policies.		
Signature of Authorized Representative:		
Printed Name:	**Signature of Authorized Representative:**	**Date:**

Certification of Understanding of Requirements:

By submitting a response to this Request for Applications, the Applicant certifies the following:

- The Applicant has reviewed the contents of this Request for Applications and agrees to abide by all requirements stated therein.
- The Applicant has marked any material they wish to designate as confidential in accordance with the procedures laid out in the Request for Applications.
- The information detailed in the application submitted in response to the Request for Applications is true and accurate.
- Applicants acknowledge that a response to this Request for Applications must be submitted timely and comply with all requirements stated in the Request for Applications to be eligible for consideration.
- Applicants acknowledge that a quality review of their submission is not guaranteed if the technical review indicates lack of adherence to submission requirements.

The undersigned hereby certifies that I am an individual authorized to act on behalf of the entity in submitting this application and verifications, acknowledgments, and attestations, as applicable. I certify that if information provided herein is found to have been deliberately misrepresented, that may constitute grounds for denying the applicant's request for approval to be placed on the list or for removal from that same list.

Provide the date, printed name and electronic signature of the authorized representative to verify understanding of the submission criteria for review.

Printed Name:	**Signature of Authorized Representative:**	**Date:**

Kindergarten-Grade 5 Review Application		
Electronic Submission: **Verification that all application documents and program materials must be submitted digitally.** Only electronic versions of the completed application and program materials will be accepted. The electronic submission must be submitted in PDF form. Any program materials submitted for review must be either available for reviewers to access via online login or submitted as a PDF. Hard copies of materials cannot be accepted and will not, under any circumstances, be reviewed.		
Printed Name:	**Signature of Authorized Representative:**	**Date:**

Appendix C: K-5 Program Summary

Instructions: Provide a brief description of each item below to summarize the key features of the materials not to exceed **3 pages** total for the appendix.

K-5 Program Summary	
Submission ID:	
Name of Applicant:	**Program Title and Edition (publication year):**
Describe the materials, the instructional focus, and target audience.	
Describe how the materials support grade-level, standards-aligned instruction in the following mathematics domains: • Counting and Cardinality (applicable to kindergarten only) • Number and Operations in Base Ten • Numbers and Operations – Fractions (applicable to grade 3 only) • Operations and Algebraic Thinking • Geometry • Measurement and Data	
Describe how the program is designed to be implemented with students.	
Describe the features of the materials, including assessments, scope and sequence, and teacher and student materials.	
If an online or computer-based delivery method, describe how the program's delivery method is used, including instruction, practice, and assessment.	
List the essential program components, or program materials, that are necessary for implementation. (All listed components must be provided for review.)	

Appendix D: Ohio's Learning Standards and Mathematics K-5 Crosswalk

Ohio Learning Standards for Mathematics K-5 Crosswalk

Appendix E: Public Records Exemption Justification Form (As Applicable)

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce solicits information through this Request for Applications (RFA) in a transparent manner and in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio. It is the policy of the Department to strictly adhere to the Ohio Public Records Act, R.C. 149.43. All information, responses, and documents provided to the Department in response to this RFA become records of the Department and as such, will be open to inspection by the public pursuant to R.C. 149.43, unless exempt from disclosure under the Ohio Revised Code or other applicable law. Please use this form to identify any information which the applicant believes to be exempt from release or disclosure under the Ohio Public Records Act as well as identify the applicable legal basis and public records exemption for such redactions in the chart below. Please attach additional pages as necessary. For more information on public records, please see Ohio Sunshine Laws Manual- Ohio Attorney General.

Vendor Information	
Name	
Contact Name	
Email Address	
Phone Number	
Product Information	
Product Title and Edition	
Submission ID	
Grade Band	

Document Title and Page Number	**Legal Basis for Each Exemption and Summary of Specific Facts Supporting the Legal Basis for Each Redaction Requested**