



# READ/San Diego Fact Sheet

## What is READ/San Diego?

READ/San Diego is a free literacy instruction service provided by the San Diego Public Library for adults 18 years of age and older. The program is one of more than 100 literacy programs offered by the public libraries throughout California. In addition to literacy instruction, READ/San Diego sponsors family literacy and workforce literacy programs.

READ/San Diego is supported by the City of San Diego with assistance from the Friends of READ/San Diego Literacy Programs and the State of California. It also relies on contributions from local businesses, civic and service organizations, and individuals.

## Who needs literacy training?

In San Diego, approximately 450,000 adults cannot read and write well enough to meet everyday needs and pursue professional goals.

In California, approximately 5.9 million functionally illiterate adults must compensate for their lack of reading skills by developing effective listening and memorization techniques and relying on a network of trusted helpers.

## Hours:

Monday	9:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday	9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Thursday	9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday	9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.



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## How does the program work?

READ/San Diego is staffed by literacy professionals who coordinate the efforts of volunteer reading tutors and cooperate with local adult schools, community colleges and other literacy education providers in making and receiving student referrals.

An integral part of READ/San Diego is the in-house Computer Reading Lab. Equipped with mobile devices, computer workstations and comprehensive software systems, the lab offers a wide selection of programs aimed at helping learners improve language skills, reading, writing, spelling, math, typing, GED and job preparation skills.

Training and support are provided by a lab coordinator and trained volunteer assistants. Tutors, after receiving comprehensive training, including intensive training in learning disabilities, are matched with a learner. Then, they generally meet with their learner(s) twice a week for a total of three hours at one of the City's libraries, learning centers, or at a mutually convenient public facility such as a church, school, business office or community center.

Tutors are supported with training resources provided by the City of San Diego, the California State Library, the Friends of the READ/San Diego Literacy Programs and the San Diego Council on Literacy.



## What can YOU do?

There are many ways to support READ/San Diego:

- Contribute funds that will enhance on-going literacy efforts.
- Volunteer as a tutor or a volunteer to assist with other programs operations.
- Offer-in-kind services such as: video production, graphic design, printing or copying.
- Donate gently used books or supplies.