



All third-grade students will be required to demonstrate sufficient reading skills for promotion to fourth grade.

Alabama Literacy Act

The Alabama Literacy Act was created to help improve the reading proficiency of kindergarten through third grade students and to ensure that students are able to read at or above grade level by the end of third grade.

Impact on Teachers and Students

- ❖ Students will be administered the iReady assessment at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year.
- ❖ Schools will identify students who have a reading deficiency in letter naming, letter sound fluency, nonsense word fluency, sight words, oral reading fluency, vocabulary, or comprehension.
- ❖ Parents/Guardians of any K-3 student who shows a consistent deficiency at any time during the school year will be notified in writing within 15 days of identifying the deficiency.
- ❖ A Student Reading Improvement Plan or SRIP will be created for all students showing deficiencies and will include an appropriate reading intervention program and strategies to address deficiencies.
- ❖ After School tutoring will be available to the students identified as having a consistent reading deficiency.
- ❖ Summer School Reading Camps will be offered to kindergarten through 3rd grade students identified with a consistent reading deficiency.

Promotion will depend upon the following:

- ❖ Earning a reading score of 444 or above on the end of year state mandated ACAP Summative test (Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program).
- ❖ Attaining an acceptable score on an alternative standardized reading assessment as approved by the ALSDE (ACAP Supplemental).
- ❖ Demonstrating mastery of third grade minimum essential state standards as evidenced by a student reading portfolio.

If a student does not demonstrate adequate reading skills on one of the three options above and does not qualify for a good cause exemption, the student will be retained in third grade.

Good Cause Exemptions (updated):

- ❖ IEP indicates that participation in the statewide program is not appropriate, consistent with state law.
- ❖ English Language Learners who have had less than three years of instruction in English as a second language.
- ❖ Students with an IEP or 504 plan who have received intensive reading intervention for more than two years or have been previously retained in K, 1, 2, or 3.
- ❖ Students who have been previously retained in K, 1, 2, or 3 for a total of two years and have had two or more years of intensive reading intervention.
- ❖ No student shall be retained more than once in third grade.