

Quick Guide for the Reading Sufficiency Act

Third-Grade Graduation Requirements

This document reflects the changes made by HB2625 and HB2497

The Reading Sufficiency Act now provides third-grade students four ways to satisfy the proficiency requirements for promotion to fourth grade.

- 1. Proficiency Demonstrated through a Reading Screener**
- 2. Score of Limited Knowledge (or higher) on the Reading OCCT**
- 3. Good-Cause Exemption**
- 4. Conference- Based Promotion**

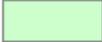
Specific details for each of these requirements are provided in the following sections.

1. Proficiency Demonstrated through a Reading Screener

Any student who demonstrates proficiency in reading at the third-grade level through a screening instrument approved by SDE is qualified for promotion. The screening instrument used in OKCPS is easyCBM.

A student whose composite risk level is low (white) for the Fall, Winter, or Spring Benchmark has satisfied the requirements of the Reading Sufficiency Act for promotion to fourth grade.

Individual Measures

	= 76 - 100 Percentile
	= 40 - 75 Percentile
	= 11 - 39 Percentile
	= 0 - 10 Percentile

2. Score of Limited Knowledge (or higher) on the Reading OCCT

A student who scores at the “limited knowledge” level on the Reading OCCT may qualify for promotion to the fourth grade.

Prior to promotion the parent(s) of the child will be provided:

- notice that the child is not reading at grade level
- the option for retention in third grade
- the student’s most recent grade level of reading proficiency
- Information regarding summer reading programs, school and/or community based reading tutoring.

A student who is promoted with a score of limited knowledge will receive intensive remediation in reading until the student is able to demonstrate proficiency in reading at their current grade level.

The student’s intensive remediation plan will be developed by the student’s Academic Team.

The Academic Team is composed of:

- (1) the student’s parent(s) and/or guardian(s)
- (2) the student’s primary reading teacher
- (3) a teacher in reading who teaches in the subsequent grade level
- (4) the school principal
- (5) a certified reading specialist, if one is available.

3. Good-Cause Exemption

Some third graders who score Unsatisfactory on the Reading OCCT will be exempted from the retention requirement and promoted to fourth grade. This is called a good-cause exemption. Good-Cause exemptions are only given to the following students:

- 1) Students who are **identified as English Language Learners (ELL)**, have a **Language Instructional Educational Plan in place** prior to the OCCT, and have **less than two years of instruction** in an ELL program
- 2) Students **with disabilities whose Individualized Education Plan (IEP) must state that the student is to be assessed with alternate achievement standards through OAAP**
- 3) Students who demonstrate an acceptable level of performance (minimum of 45th percentile) on an **alternative standardized reading assessment** approved by the State Department of Education
- 4) Students who demonstrate through a **student portfolio**, mastery (beyond the retention level) of the third grade state standards for reading and evidence of reading on grade level or higher
- 5) Students **with disabilities** who take the OCCT and **who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)**; who have received **intensive remediation in reading for more than two years**; and **were previously retained or in a transitional grade** during pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, first, second, or third grade
- 6) Students who have received **intensive remediation in reading** through a program of reading instruction **for two or more years** and **who were previously retained or in a transitional class** during pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, first, second, or third grade **for a total of two years**
- 7) Students who have been granted an **exemption for medical emergencies** by the State Department of Education.

4. Conference- Based Promotion

A student not otherwise qualified for promotion may be evaluated for "probationary promotion" by the Academic Team.

The student's Academic Team is composed of:

- (1) the student's parent(s) and/or guardian(s)
- (2) the student's primary reading teacher
- (3) a teacher in reading who teaches in the subsequent grade level
- (4) the school principal
- (5) a certified reading specialist

The student will be promoted to the fourth grade if the Academic Team members unanimously recommend "probationary promotion."

The recommendation for conference-based promotion will be made to the school district superintendent.

If a student is approved for "probationary promotion," the team will continue to review the reading performance of the student and determine grade-level placement each academic year until the student demonstrates grade-level reading proficiency for their current grade.

The complete law and requirements are available at <http://www.ok.gov/sde/reading-sufficiency>