



# Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act

*Newport City Schools/ Newport Grammar School  
March 13, 2025*

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**This information is up to date as of 3/13/2025.**

# TN Legislation



- **Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act requires students to demonstrate proficiency on the third grade ELA TCAP**
- **Goal is to ensure students are prepared to move forward in their academic careers**
- **The goal is NOT to retain students**



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# Preparation in Pre-K through 2nd Grade



- Phonics instruction multiple times a week
- Reading 360/Rainbow Words
- Standards based reading activities
- Journal writing
- Nightly reading with discussion
- STAR Reading/Accelerated Reader
- Aimsweb/RTI2/Project on Track
- Science and Social Studies selections
- Summer Learning Camps



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# NGS Third Grade



**In addition to the previous activities:**

- **Standards-based activities daily in ELA**
- **Cross-curricular activities that emphasize reading fluency, comprehension, and writing**
- **Test prep activities for ELA and other subjects**
- **Test taking strategies are being shared with students**



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# Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP)



- All students in grades 3 through 8 will take the TCAP in a few weeks
- This multi-part assessment gives us valuable information about your child's progress towards mastery of the state standards
- This new law is based on your child's performance on the ELA portion of the TCAP



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# Components of ELA TCAP



- Four subparts taken over the course of several days
- The ELA assessment will assess the Tennessee Academic Standards through literary and informational texts requiring students to demonstrate the ability to read closely, analyze text, answer text-dependent questions, provide a written response to a prompt, and demonstrate command of the English language.
- There are four levels of student performance:

**Below, Approaching, Meets, Exceeds Expectations**



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# Benchmark Testing



- **Mastery Connect benchmarks are aligned with TCAP and give us a prediction of your child's performance on the test**
- **Benchmarks are administered three times throughout the year**
- **Results are used to guide instruction**
- **Third Benchmark results will be available in a few weeks (being completed this week)**
  - **Letters will be sent home after results are analyzed**





# Student Participation in TCAP



- **Students who do not participate in the ELA portion of the TCAP will be treated as if they are not proficient in ELA**
- **The process for students who move to TN after third grade or are homeschooled for third grade are still being developed**



# TCAP Scoring



- The TDOE sets the cut scores for the different performance levels
- Students who “Meet” or “Exceed” Expectations on TCAP will be promoted to 4th grade
- Students who score “Approaching” or “Below” Expectations will be offered the following academic supports:



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# Interventions to Support Student Learning



- **Retake of the ELA section of the Third-Grade TCAP in late May**
  - **If student scores “Meets” or Exceeds”, automatically promoted to 4th grade**
- **Summer Bridge Camp**
  - **Attend 90% of summer lessons**
  - **Make adequate growth\***
- **High-dosage, low-ratio tutoring**
  - **Takes place during 4th grade**
  - **Make adequate growth\***

\*As determined by TDOE



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# Tennessee's Pathways to Promotion for 3rd & 4th Graders

ELA TCAP Score **"EXCEEDS"** or **"MEETS"** Expectations

ELA TCAP Score **"APPROACHING"** or **"BELOW"** Expectations *may be promoted if...*

GRADE 3

APPROACHING

OR



Student scores at or above the 50th percentile on the spring administration of the TN-URS (*aimsWeb*)

AND



Student receives free TN ALL Corps tutoring for the entirety of 4th grade

OR



Student retests and scores proficient on ELA TCAP retake

OR



Student maintains a 90% attendance at Summer Camp (*Schools can provide make-up days for Summer Camp*) and demonstrates adequate growth on summer camp post test

OR



Student receives free TN ALL Corps tutoring during 4th grade

AND

OR



Parent (or authorized school personnel) appeals retention decision, documenting a score at or above the 40th percentile on TN-URS AND an academic remediation plan AND unanimous recommendation for promotion from ELA teacher and principal, AND receives free TN ALL Corps tutoring during 4th grade

OR



Parent (or authorized school personnel) appeals the retention decision, documenting a catastrophic event on or within 60 days of the test date that impacts the student's ability to perform on the TCAP

BELOW

OR



Student retests and scores proficient on ELA TCAP retake

OR



Student maintains a 90% attendance at Summer Camp (*Schools can provide make-up days for Summer Camp*)

AND



Student receives free TN ALL Corps tutoring during 4th grade

AND

GRADE 4

GRADE 5

Student demonstrates adequate growth on the 4th grade ELA TCAP

OR Student does not demonstrate adequate growth, conference convened to determine promotion with free tutoring

Student demonstrates adequate growth on the 4th grade ELA TCAP

OR Student does not demonstrate adequate growth, conference convened to determine promotion with free tutoring

The following students are exempt from 3rd grade retention:



English learners with <2 years ELA instruction



Previously retained in grades K-3



Disability that impacts reading



Suspected disability that impacts reading

# Promotion Criteria for Students Identified for Retention



Students identified for retention may be promoted if:

- The student is an English Language Learner and has received less than two years of ELA instruction, **OR**
- The student has a disability or suspected disability that impacts reading, **OR**
- The student was previously retained prior to their current third-grade year



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# Promotion Criteria for Students Identified for Retention



Students scoring “**Approaching Expectations**” may be promoted if the following interventions are provided:

- The student scores at or above the 50th %ile on Spring Aimsweb **AND** the student receives high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring in fourth grade **OR**
- The student attends a summer learning camp and meets the requirements **OR**
- The student receives high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring in fourth grade **AND** shows adequate growth on 4th grade ELA TCAP (for promotion to 5th grade)



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# Promotion Criteria for Students Identified for Retention



Students scoring “**Approaching Expectations**” may be promoted via the Appeal process:

- Ground 1 Appeal filed by school personnel if the student scores at or above the 40th %ile on Spring Aimsweb **AND** Parent agrees to an Academic Remediation Plan **AND** The 3rd grade ELA teacher and Principal agree to promotion **AND** The student receives high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring in fourth grade



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# Promotion Criteria for Students Identified for Retention



Students scoring “**Approaching Expectations**” may be promoted via the Appeal process:

- Ground 2 Appeal : Documentation of a catastrophic situation occurred on the test date or within sixty (60) calendar days leading up to the third grade ELA TCAP test administration (and any makeup opportunities) that impacted the student and impeded the student’s ability to demonstrate the current level of knowledge on the test.



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# Promotion Criteria for Students Identified for Retention



Students scoring "**Below Expectations**" on the TCAP may be promoted if the following interventions are provided:

- The student attends a learning loss bridge camp, maintains a 90% attendance rate at the camp, **AND** the student receives high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring the entirety of fourth grade.
  - The student may be promoted from fourth grade to fifth grade if the student demonstrates adequate growth on their fourth-grade ELA TCAP. A student may only be retained in fourth grade one time.



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# Family Support - How you can help!



- **Attendance is key!**
- **Encourage your child to try their best on all assessments**
- **Practice Reading at least 20 minutes a day**
- **Continue communicating with teachers**
- **Look for information on testing and this law**
- **Stay positive. Students feed off of adult emotions.**



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## More About the Act

The retention and promotion requirements outlined in the law apply to all students. The law also contains specific provisions related to students with disabilities. The state “retention law” does not supersede federal requirements of IDEA and Section 504, and students may not be retained based solely on their disability or suspected disability.



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# Be on the Lookout - 3rd Grade Families



- Letters will be coming home once TCAP scores are released outlining next steps for you student
- Please be sure to read them and don't hesitate to reach out with questions
- There may also be appeal forms that need to be signed and returned



# QUESTIONS?



**Stay Up-to-Date and find  
out more on our website!**

[www.newportgrammar.org/thirdgraderetention](http://www.newportgrammar.org/thirdgraderetention)