



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Instructional Leaders
Read to Succeed Liaisons

FROM: Abbey Duggins, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Early Learning and Literacy

DATE: February 13, 2024

RE: Summer Reading Camp Assessments

Pursuant to SECTION 59-155-160, a student must be retained in the third grade if the student fails to demonstrate reading proficiency at the end of the third grade as indicated by scoring at the lowest achievement level on the state summative reading assessment that equates to Not Met 1. Successful completion of Summer Reading Camp is one Good Cause Exemption available to third-grade students to avoid mandatory retention. Successful completion includes scoring at least a level above the lowest level on the state reading assessment selected from a list of norm-referenced, alternative assessments approved by the Office of Early Learning and Literacy for use in the summer reading camps. To align with updated state requirements for formative assessments, districts may select from one of the approved assessments listed [here](#) for use during summer reading camps.

Proviso 1A.73 asks districts, in their annual Reading Proficiency Plans, to document how the reading curriculum, instruction, and assessment for all PK-5 students are aligned with the science of reading, structured literacy, and foundational skills. Using scientifically-based approaches to teaching, curriculum, and assessment ensures core (Tier I) instruction is aligned with the science of reading and that Tier II and III interventions are aligned with core instruction so students experience a consistent approach to learning to read.

If you have questions, please contact Marie Gibbons, Read to Succeed Team Lead, at mgibbons@ed.sc.gov.