

Summer Reading Camp Considerations and FAQs

Considerations from the Read to Succeed Act

Eligibility: When it comes to collecting data and notifying “eligible” third grade students, there are two important distinctions to make.

- “Eligible for retention” comes directly from the Read to Succeed Act. This refers to all students who substantially fail to demonstrate third grade proficiency, regardless of the possible Good Cause Exemption (GCE). We are required by the law to report on all third grade students who are considered eligible for retention.
- “Eligible for/invited to Summer Reading Camp” refers to students who are invited to participate to camps AFTER the GCEs have been applied. Invited students could also include students from other grade levels and students who have a GCE but you feel would still benefit from the instruction offered at camp.
- Examples:
 - Example 1: A third grade student who is significantly behind grade level would be considered eligible for retention, but is not required to be invited to camp because they have a 504 plan that qualifies them for a GCE.
 - Example 2: A third grade student who is significantly behind grade level and who does not meet any GCE must be invited to the camp.
 - Example 3: A second grade student who is substantially behind grade level will not be reported as “eligible for retention” under this specific law, as the retention reporting section only covers third grade students. However, if the district decides to invite that student to a SRC, that student would be considered “eligible for/invited to SRC.”

Student Identification and Invitation

Question: *Do third grade students who qualify for a Good Cause Exemption (GCE) and are at least a year behind have to be invited to Summer Reading Camp?*

Answer: Students who have met one of the Good Cause Exemptions prior to Summer Reading camp are not required to be invited. Students who have not met one of the GCE and who are substantially failing to demonstrate proficiency must be invited.

Assessment and Data

Question: *What tests can I use for my pre- and post-assessment during SRC?*

Answer: For the 2019 SRC, you may use Dominie, DRA2+, Fountas and Pinnell, MAP, or STAR.

- If your district/school chooses MAP or STAR as your pre- and post- assessment, you may also use that assessment as your alternate for the GCE.
- If your district/school chooses to use Dominie, DRA2+, or Fountas and Pinnell, you must still offer an administration of MAP or STAR as an alternate assessment for the GCE for students who require it.

Question: *When it says the district has the option to use the spring MAP administration as the pre-assessment, I interpret that to mean we can use the score of spring MAP as the pre-assessment and the admin at the end of SRC would be the one after SC Ready.*

Answer: You may use the spring administration of MAP or STAR as your pre-assessment score for SRC, and then give MAP or STAR as the post-assessment at the end of camp. That post-assessment administration of MAP or STAR may also count toward the alternative assessment GCE for third graders. If a district chooses to administer MAP or STAR after SCReady but before camps start as an alternative assessment, they must still administer the post-assessment to that student if the student still attends SRC.

Important note on using MAP or STAR as your SRC pre- and post-assessment: The SCDE will only pay for one administration of MAP or STAR, and will only pay for the third graders who require it as their alternative assessment for the GCE.

Question: *If a district or school chooses MAP or STAR as the pre- and post-assessment, how will we analyze the post-test data in regards to growth, regression, etc.?*

Answer: When looking at the post-assessment score at the end of the camp, you will determine growth the same way as previous years. If a student's score stays the same as the pre-assessment, they have maintained. If the student's score is lower, they have regressed. If a student's score is higher, they have grown/gained.

Question: *Can you use the winter MAP assessment to identify students for the camp?*

Answer: Our office recommends using the Spring administration of MAP to identify which students should be invited to camps, as significant student learning can occur between the Winter and Spring administrations. If your school or district has a different testing window for Winter or Spring MAP and you have questions about how this fits within the Read to Succeed timeline, please contact Teresa Broughton.

Question: *The post-camp data survey is due August 1, 2019. What if a school has their camp leading up to the first day of school? What is the last possible date for schools to hold a camp?*

Answer: If you anticipate that your school or district SRC will run until the last week of July or later, please contact our office and we will discuss a data submission plan for your specific case.

Other Questions

Question: *Will the SCDE provide a parent letter or may we use the one from last year?*

Answer: Districts may create or reuse parent letters from prior years; sample parent letters can be found on pages 14-26 of the Third Grade Retention document.

Question: *Will the SCDE provide the retention document in languages other than English?*

Answer: The retention document and sample letters may be used, edited, and translated by districts to meet their specific needs.

Question: *Does the time for field trips need to be above and beyond the 96 instructional hour requirement?*

Answer: The SCDE highly encourages districts to plan field trips outside of the 96 instructional hours requirement. If field trips must fall within those hours, they must be instructionally aligned. Our office will release more guidelines around planning field trips in April.

Question: *Can you provide clarification on due dates between now and camps?*

Answer:

- February: Pre-Camp Survey distributed to districts
- April 5: Pre-Camp Survey is due
- Early April (after surveys come in):
 - OELL sends out the updated monitoring tool and field trip guidelines.
 - Districts should distribute and collect opt-out letters from parents around this time.
- May:
 - OELL will hold a technical webinar explaining the data submission process (date TBD).
 - OELL will resend your pre-camp survey responses for you to update them if necessary.
 - OELL will send a form for you to complete with a summary of your field trip plans and instructional goals.