



Read to Succeed Third Grade Retention

*Legislation Overview and District Implementation Plan
2021-2022*

History of Read to Succeed

- Act 284, Read to Succeed, was ratified and signed into legislation by Governor Nikki Haley on June 11, 2014.
- Read to Succeed is South Carolina's comprehensive reading reform policy intended to increase reading proficiency from pre-kindergarten through high school.
- South Carolina is one of 11 states with similar policy but the only state which addresses students in pre-kindergarten through high school.

SCDE Read to Succeed Web Page

Access SCDE Read to Succeed
Legislation and Information at the
SCDE Website Using This Link:

[SCDE Read to Succeed Web Page](#)

SCDE Read to Succeed Information

- [Video](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [State Reading Plan](#)

Components of the Legislation

What are the components of the legislation?

Components of the Legislation

- State, District, and School Reading Plans
- School-Based Reading Coaches
- 4K and 5K Readiness Assessments
- Third Grade Retention
- Summer Reading Camp
- Pre-Service Teacher Preparation Programs
- Literacy Endorsements (In-Service)
- Parent/Family and School/Community Partnerships

Read to Succeed- 3rd Grade Retention

Section 59-155-160 addresses 3rd Grade Retention

What does the legislation say....

Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, 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 on the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS).

3rd Grade State Summative Reading Assessment

- When 3rd graders take the SC Ready ELA assessment in the spring, they receive an overall ELA score and a separate reading score
- The reading score pertains only to the items on the assessment that pertain to reading proficiency
- R2S legislation requires that students scoring at the lowest achievement level on the reading subtest must be retained

Good Cause Exemptions

The law states....

In the process of determining whether a student is promoted or retained, schools need to examine closely whether a student is exempt from retention. Districts, schools, teachers, parents, and families have a responsibility to communicate the strengths and needs of students while working as a team to ensure students continue to make progress towards becoming life-long, proficient readers.

Good Cause Exemptions

The law provides seven good cause exemptions for students:

- 1) with limited English proficiency & less than two years of instruction in English as a Second Language program;
- 2) with disabilities whose individual education plan indicates the use of alternative assessments or alternative reading interventions
- 3) with disabilities whose Individual Education Plan or Section 504 Plan reflects that the student has received intensive remediation in reading for more than two years but still does not substantially demonstrate reading proficiency;
- 4) who demonstrate 3rd grade reading proficiency on an alternative assessment approved by the board and which teachers may administer following the administration of the state assessment of reading;

Good Cause Exemptions, continued

The law provides seven good cause exemptions for students:

- 5) who have received 2 years of reading intervention and were previously retained;
- 6) who through reading portfolio documents the mastery of the state standards in reading is equal to at least a level above the lowest achievement level on the state reading assessment; and/or
- 7) who successfully participate in a summer reading camp at the conclusion of the third grade year and demonstrate through either a reading portfolio or through a norm-referenced, alternative assessment, that their mastery of the state standards in reading is equal to at least a level above the lowest level on the state reading assessment.

Good Cause Exemptions

The law states...

If a student meets one of the exemptions mentioned above, the student may be considered for promotion to fourth grade. The explanations and resources included in the SCDE Third Grade Retention Guidance Document are intended to provide guidance, support, and examples to support districts and schools as they fully implement this section of Act 284.

Read to Succeed- 3rd Grade Retention

Access the SCDE Read to Succeed
3rd Grade Retention Guidance Document
Using This Link:

[SCDE 3rd Grade Retention Web Page](#)

3rd Grade Promotion/Retention Flowchart ([ENGLISH](#); [SPANISH](#))*

* *Provides an overview of the process*

3rd Grade Retention Guidance Document

The guidance document includes...

- Introduction & Overview
- Student Documentation Requirements
- List of Norm-Referenced Alternative Assessments
- Intervention Requirements
- Summer Reading Camp Information
- Additional Resources (sample documentation templates, parent communication forms, etc.)

3rd Grade Retention - District Implementation Plan

CCSD developed a step-by-step implementation plan that outlines the specific actions of the district and schools during each quarter of the school year.

The district's 2021-2022 full implementation plan can be accessed using this link:

[CCSD 3rd Grade Retention Implementation Plan 2021-2022](#)

**The entire 2020-2021 implementation plan will be shared shortly with district and school personnel.*

Overview of the 2021-2022 3rd Grade Retention Plan

Timeline	Student Identification	Parent Notification
Quarter 1	Students At Risk of Retention Identified for Intervention Services	General R2S Information Brochure Sent Home to the Parents of ALL 2nd & 3rd Grade Students
Quarter 2	Possible Candidates for Retention Identified	Face-to-Face Parent Conference
Quarter 3	Students Considered for Retention Identified	Face-to-Face Parent Conference
Quarter 4	Students Eligible for Retention Identified and Invited to SRC (Exempt Students Still Invited to SRC)	Parent Conference or Letter Home to Notify Parents of Promotion, Exemption, or Retention Pending Successful Completion of SRC
Summer 2021	Attends SRC	Post-camp - Notice of Promotion/Retention
Fall 2021	Continued Intervention Support	Letter Home

Parent Support

- [CCSD Literacy/ELA Webpage](#)
- [Family-friendly Guides to SC Academic Standards](#)