

OKCPS Quick Guide for the Reading Sufficiency Act

Third-Grade Graduation Requirements

This document reflects the changes made by SB 630 for the 2015-2016 school year

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 screener used by OKCPS is STAR 360. **A first or second grade student who scores at the third grade level (grade-level equivalency 3.0) or a third grade student who scores at or above the 40th percentile on the third grade STAR Reading screener has satisfied the requirements of the Reading Sufficiency Act for promotion to fourth grade.**

2. Score of Limited Knowledge (or higher) on the Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary portion of the OCCT

A student who scores at the "limited knowledge" level or higher on the Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary portion of the OCCT qualify for promotion to the fourth grade.

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) states 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. Probationary Conference- Based Promotion

A student who does not otherwise qualify 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."

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>