

# 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 40<sup>th</sup> 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 45<sup>th</sup> 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>