

What is the Third Grade Reading Guarantee?

The Ohio law requires that school districts shall not promote any student to the fourth grade who does not attain the required level of achievement on specified assessment tests in English language arts at the end of third grade.

Simply put, third grade students must achieve a high enough score on one of several state approved tests in order to move to fourth grade the next year.

Are there any students to whom this law does not apply?

There are some very narrowly defined exemptions that would be documented in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or their English as a second language program. If you have not been notified about an exception and believe your child qualifies, please contact your child's teacher and/or principal.

Does my student have more than one chance to pass the test?

Students will be offered four opportunities to take a state-approved assessment in the 2016-2017 school year:

- Ohio's State Test Gr 3 ELA – Fall administration which begins on Wednesday, November 9 (There will also be testing on November 10 and make-ups will be on November 11, 14 and 15)
- Ohio's Alternative ELA Gr 3 Assessment - TPS will be administering MAP for the 2016-17 school year the week of Dec. 5-9; testing day(s) to be determined at the building level
- Ohio's State Test Gr 3 ELA - Spring administration (March 13-31; testing day(s) to be determined by the building)
- Ohio's Alternative ELA Gr 3 - MAP (Testing April 3 and April 4, Make-ups: April 5-7) - if your student met the cut score on the Fall administration of MAP, they would not take the April MAP

I don't believe in high stakes testing, can I have my child excused from the testing?

If a child does not take the test he or she does NOT move on to 4th grade, per the Ohio Department of Education.

How can I help my child with these tests?

Encourage him or her not to worry and to simply try their best at test time. Make sure they have plenty of rest the night before tests are administered, and that they eat breakfast each morning. And encourage reading for fun outside of school. Visit your local library for age appropriate book suggestions.

How is Toledo Public Schools helping my child pass this test?

Beginning in Kindergarten, students are assessed via the STAR Assessment. Based on those results, teachers begin to design intervention plans for any student who is not reading at a level that suggests they will pass the tests in third grade. Parents are sent a letter informing them if their child does not appear to be on track and that intervention plans are being designed for their child.

Where can I learn more about the Third Grade Reading Guarantee?

For information about Ohio's requirements and to view a student roadmap, go to:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee-Family-Resources>

<http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Early-Learning/Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee/TGRG-Roadmap.pdf.aspx>

<https://youtu.be/v2GEJJAXWEE>

To learn more about supporting your student to be academically successful:

<http://www.pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>