



Learning Loss

Overview of Legislation

for Charter Schools

Public Chapter Number	Chapter 1
Familiar Name	Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act
Purpose	To provide summer programming and other supports to address the learning loss of students due to COVID-19 related school closures.

What are the key provisions of this legislation?

Summer Programming

- Starting in the summer of 2021, all LEAs are required to offer in-person learning loss remediation and student acceleration programs, including summer learning camps, after-school learning mini-camps, and learning loss bridge camps. LEAs and public charter schools may partner with each other to jointly establish the programs, and they may also seek assistance from public or non-profit community partners.
- Each year, a charter school that enrolls the applicable grade bands may elect to provide these summer camps for its students in lieu of their participation in the LEA's programming. If a charter school elects to provide its own summer programming, the charter school must provide all camps for which its students are eligible. Students at charter schools that choose not to provide their own summer programming may attend the LEA's summer camps in which they are geographically located.
- While the bill requires all LEAs to provide summer programming, student participation is optional, unless the LEA or charter school adopts a policy that requires student participation.
- Subject to available funding, LEAs must first offer enrollment in the summer programming to all priority students, including those who attend charter schools within the LEA. Any remaining seats are available to students who are not priority students, including those who attend charter schools within the LEA, subject to the availability of funding. Priority students include students who:
 - (1) score below proficient in math or reading on their most recent state test or state-approved screener,



- (2) attend a school where less than 50% of students are proficient in math or reading, or
- (3) are eligible for TANF benefits.
- The three (3) summer programs include:
 - (1) Summer Learning Camps (Summer 2021 and Summer 2022 ONLY)
 - For students entering grades 1 through 5
 - Held 5 days per week for 6 weeks with 6 hours of daily programming
 - [Summer Learning Camps Programming Requirements](#)
 - (2) After-School Summer Learning Mini-Camps (Summer 2021 and Summer 2022)
 - Additional programming for students attending the Summer Learning Camps
 - Known as STREAM (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math)
 - Held 4 days per week for six weeks with one additional hour of programming immediately following the end of the summer learning camp
 - (3) Learning Loss Bridge Camps (Summer 2021 and Summer 2022)
 - For students entering grades 6 through 8
 - Held 5 days per week for 4 weeks with 6 hours of daily programming
 - [Bridge Camps Programming Requirements](#)
- Learning Loss Bridge Camps (Summer 2023 and each year thereafter)
 - For students entering grades 4 through 8
 - Held 5 days per week for 4 weeks with 6 hours of daily programming
 - [Bridge Camps Programming Requirements](#)
- LEAs and charter schools can apply to the Commissioner for a waiver of the hours, weeks, or days of in-person instruction, intervention, supplemental supports, and physical activity mandated for the camps.
- Progress of participating students will be measured using state-adopted benchmark assessments established by the department under a pilot program. The Tennessee universal math screener, the Tennessee universal reading screener or a universal reading screener approved by the State Board of Education may also be used as the benchmark assessment for conducting pre- and post-tests and for identifying priority students. LEAs and participating charter schools must report the results of all pre- and post-tests to the department by September 1 of each year, but the results of the tests will not be used for school or LEA accountability designations.
- The department must provide a training course and certification for unlicensed individuals who will be providing instruction at the camps, as well as professional development for ELA teachers.
- All teachers for the summer programs will receive stipends, with classroom teachers in the Learning loss bridge camps or summer learning camps receiving a stipend of no less than \$1,000 per week and no more than 25% above the weekly



compensation rate of the highest salary step for teachers in the school's salary schedule.

Additional Supporting Documentation: [District & School Board Summary](#); [District & School FAQs](#); [Learning Loss Program Eligibility and Priority Students](#); [Learning Loss Summer Feeding and Summer Learning Camps](#); [Parents & Families Summary](#)

Student Retention and Additional Student Supports

- Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, a student in the third grade cannot be promoted to the next grade level unless the student is determined to be proficient in ELA based on the student's achieving a performance level rating of "on track" or "mastered" on the ELA portion of the student's most recent TCAP test.
- A student who is not proficient but earns a performance level rating of "approaching" on the ELA portion of the student's most recent TCAP test may be promoted if:
 - (1) The student is an English language learner and has received less than two (2) years of ELA instruction;
 - (2) The student was previously retained in any of the grades K-3;
 - (3) The student is retested before the beginning of the next school year and scores proficient in ELA;
 - (4) The student attends a learning loss bridge camp before the beginning of the upcoming school year, maintains a ninety percent (90%) attendance rate at the camp, and the student's performance on the post-test administered to the student at the end of the learning loss bridge camp demonstrates adequate growth, as determined by the department; or
 - (5) The student is assigned a tutor through TN ALL Corps to provide the student with tutoring services for the entirety of the upcoming school year based on tutoring requirements established by the department.
- A student who is not proficient in ELA, as determined by the student's achieving a performance level rating of "below" on the ELA portion of the student's most recent TCAP test may be promoted if:
 - (1) The student is an English language learner and has received less than two (2) years of ELA instruction;
 - (2) The student was previously retained in any of the grades K-3;
 - (3) The student retested before the beginning of the next school year and scores proficient in ELA; or



- (4) The student attends a learning loss bridge camp before the beginning of the upcoming school year, maintains a ninety percent (90%) attendance rate at the camp, and is assigned a tutor through TN ALL Corps to provide the student with tutoring services for the entirety of the upcoming school year based on tutoring requirements established by the department.
- A student who is promoted to the fourth grade based on the assignment of a TN ALL Corps tutor must show adequate growth on the fourth grade ELA portion of the TCAP test, as determined by the department, before the student may be promoted to the fifth grade. A student cannot be retained in the fourth grade more than once.
- Charter schools may use temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) program funds to cover up to fifty percent (50%) of the costs associated with providing tutoring services for students identified above.

Other

- Starting in the 2021-2022 school year, LEAs and charter schools may also authorize PK-2 teachers to use the results of the Tennessee universal math screener, Tennessee universal reading screener or another universal reading screener approved by the State Board of Education as an alternative growth model to generate individual growth scores for teacher evaluations.
- The new law also creates the Tennessee Accelerated Literacy and Learning Corps (TN ALL Corps), a network of high-quality tutors to assist school LEAs, schools, partner organizations, and parents in remediating learning loss.

What does this legislation require charter schools to do?

1. Decide whether to host their own summer learning camps in accordance with the bill. In the absence of any additional action, a charter school will be deemed to have not elected to provide its own programming.
2. Determine whether to adopt a policy requiring all of the charter school's grade-eligible students to attend summer learning camps.
3. Update the school's systems, policies and procedures to reflect the 3rd grade reading retention policy outlined in the bill.
4. Determine for each applicable student which additional supports and services to employ. Include the student's teachers and family in the consideration of appropriate pathways.
5. Determine whether to use the results of one of the universal screeners as an alternative growth model for evaluating PK-2 teachers.



What does this legislation require of a charter school that elects to host its own summer programming in 2021?

1. Notify its LEA in writing of its election, with a copy to charter.schools@tn.gov, by **February 26, 2021**. In the absence of any written notification, a charter school will be deemed to have not elected to provide its own programming.
2. Determine whether to apply for a waiver of one or more of the minimum requirements outlined in the law related to the hours, weeks, and days of in-person instruction, intervention, supplemental supports, and physical activity mandated for the camps.
3. Determine whether to seek approval of a local benchmark assessment for identifying priority students and conducting pre- and post-tests by submitting a waiver.
4. Develop and implement all camps and related services for which the school's students are eligible based on applicable grade bands.
5. Pay teachers who are providing instruction during the learning loss bridge camps or summer learning camps no less than \$1,000 per week and no more than 25% above the weekly compensation rate of the highest salary step for teachers in the school's salary schedule.
6. Administer benchmark assessments to participating students and report the results of all pre- and post-tests to the department by **September 1** of each year.

For more information, visit the [2020-21 Special Session Legislation Webpage](#).

For questions, please email charter.schools@tn.gov.