

Determination of Adequate Growth in Third Grade Summer Camp

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-3115(a), a third grade student scoring “approaching” on the English Language Arts (ELA) portion of the spring Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) test or the TCAP retake opportunity may be promoted to fourth grade if the student attends summer learning camp, achieving a 90% participation rate and demonstrating adequate growth on the post-test as determined by the Tennessee Department of Education. **Note:** This document does not apply to third grade students who meet [certain exceptions](#) outlined in the law.

Achieving adequate growth in summer camp is a key requirement for students who earned an “approaching” score to successfully promote to fourth grade and allows students to demonstrate that their performance was responsive to interventions and acceleration opportunities designed to help them improve. Both families and educators need a clear understanding of how a student may achieve adequate growth so they can best support the student in learning and improving.

Defining Third Grade Summer Camp Adequate Growth

Adequate growth compares a student’s baseline score to their score on a post-test given at the end of summer camp. The baseline is the 3rd grade TCAP ELA assessment (not including writing items), unless a student moves into the “approaching” performance level as a result of the 3rd grade ELA TCAP retake, in which case the baseline assessment for that student is the retake score. The score is determined by calculating the percentage of possible raw score points earned.

Adequate growth is achieved when a student increases their score from the baseline to the post-test by at least 5 percentage points.

Baseline Score	Post-Test Score
Points Earned / Points Possible = X%	Points Earned / Points Possible = Y%

Adequate Growth Calculation

$$(Y\% - X\%) = Z\%$$

If $Z\% \geq 5\%$, then adequate growth has been met.

Measuring Improvement while Maximizing Instruction Time

The TCAP assessment, which is aligned to Tennessee’s academic standards for reading in third grade, determines a student’s proficiency level, and the post-test administered at the end of summer camp is aligned to the TCAP assessment. As such, measuring sufficient improvement between the TCAP baseline score and post-test score ensures the student has demonstrated reasonable improvement as a result of intervention and acceleration strategies, to set the student on a path to success in fourth grade.

Utilizing a previous recent assessment to generate the baseline score, and strategically designing a targeted post-test to generate an adequate growth determination allows students to receive the maximum

instruction time from the baseline assessment through the end of the school year and summer learning camps.

Post-test results are able to be returned immediately because they exclude a writing component which takes more time to score. To ensure comparability between the baseline and the post-test, the writing portion of the 3rd grade ELA TCAP, though used in the identification of proficiency, will not be used in determining adequate growth.

Adequate growth calculations will be returned within five business days of the administration of the post-test.