

Universal Reading Screeners

2024–25 Calculation of 3rd Grade

Composite Score for Promotion Pathways and Appeals

Background

The administration of a universal reading screener (URS) serves many purposes and is a required assessment in 3rd grade as result of state law and State Board of Education rule. See [T.C.A. § 49-1-905\(c\)\(1\)](#); [State Board of Education Rule 0520-01-03-.15\(2\)](#). This document addresses the URS composite score required as a component of the Pathways to Promotion for students in 3rd grade. See [T.C.A. § 49-6-3115\(a\)\(2\)\(A\)\(vi\)](#). Pursuant to [State Board of Education Rule 0520-01-03-.16\(7\)\(b\)\(1\)\(vi\)](#), only composite scores from the Tennessee Universal Reading Screener (TN-URS), aimswebPlus provided by Pearson, will be utilized in promotion pathways and appeals decisions.

Composite Scores

A composite score is a single score that represents a student's overall performance. The TN-URS determines the composite score based on subtests required as part of the suite of assessments administered to students. The composite score is reported as a national percentile.

The following subtests comprise the 3rd grade composite score for the TN-URS: oral reading fluency, reading comprehension, and vocabulary. These scores can be found within the Pearson platform in the Benchmark Summary Report and the Score Export. Composite scores are identified as “composite.”

Reporting of Composite Scores

Only composite scores reported to the Tennessee Department of Education (department) by the vendor are considered for Pathways to Promotion. Districts must have an active data sharing agreement to allow the TN-URS vendor to submit these data on their behalf. If no signed data sharing agreement is in place, the vendor is unable to submit data on behalf of the district and no scores, including composite scores, would be reported to the department for the district.

Pathways to Promotion and Appeals

The results of the spring administration of the TN-URS for students in 3rd grade are utilized along with other requirements as a Pathway to Promotion when the student scores at the 50th percentile or above on the TN-URS (aimswebPlus). See [T.C.A. § 49-6-3115\(a\)\(2\)\(A\)\(vi\)](#).

The results of the spring administration of the TN-URS for students in 3rd grade are utilized along with other requirements as a Ground 1 Appeal when the student scores at the 40th percentile or above in accordance with [State Board of Education Rule 0520-01-03-.16\(7\)\(f\)\(4\)](#), which is available on the State Board's website at www.tn.gov/sbe/rules--policies-and-guidance.html.