

What are additional considerations for promotion from 3rd to 4th grade?

Good cause exemptions allow students who are reading below grade level to be promoted to the 4th grade but still receive interventions and other supports.

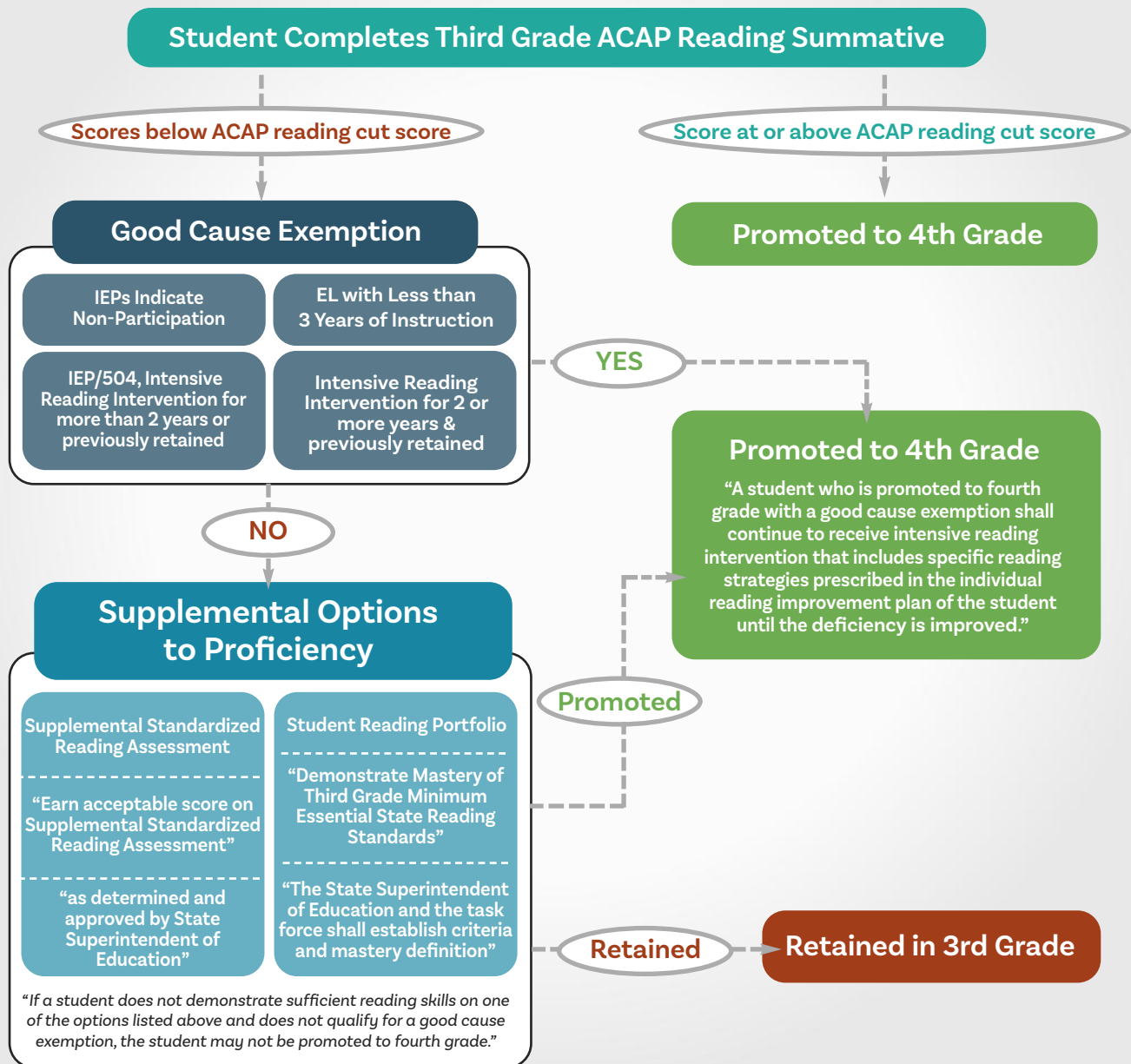
Third grade students who demonstrate an acceptable level of reading proficiency on an ALSDE-approved supplemental standardized assessment or reading portfolio may be promoted to 4th grade.

Good cause exemptions apply to:

- Students identifying as English language learners who have had less than three years of instruction in English as a second language.
- Students with disabilities who participate in the statewide English Language Arts reading assessment and who have an “Individual Education Plan” (IEP, aka Individualized Education Program) or a Section 504 plan that reflects that the student has received intensive reading intervention for more than two years and who still demonstrates a deficiency in reading or was previously retained in kindergarten, first grade, second grade, or third grade.
- Students who have received intensive reading intervention for two or more years and who still demonstrate a deficiency in reading and who were previously retained in kindergarten, first grade, or second grade for a total of two years. **No student shall be retained more than once in the third grade.**
- **No student shall be retained more than twice in kindergarten through third grade.**

ALSDE Literacy-Based Promotion Flow Chart

“Commencing with the 2023-2024 school year, third grade students shall demonstrate sufficient reading skills for promotion to fourth grade. Students shall be provided all of the following options to demonstrate sufficient reading skills for promotion to fourth grade.”



How can families and guardians help?

Families are the backbone of student learning. Families should talk regularly with teachers and ask questions about their children’s progress. For specific tips about how to help children at home, visit:

- <https://www.alabamaachieves.org/alabama-reading-initiative/>
- <https://alabamafamilycentral.org/programs>
- <https://parents.aplusala.org/supporting-learning-from-home/lessons-from-home>
- <https://alabamapartnershipforchildren.org/resources>

