



Reading to Ensure Academic Development (READ) Act Screening: School Year 2025-26 Parent/Guardian Participation Guide and Refusal Information for Grades 4-12

Your student's participation in READ Act literacy skills screening plays an important role in supporting their learning and academic growth. This required screening helps teachers understand each student's literacy development and identify who may benefit from additional instruction or targeted interventions. In the past, some students—such as those with disabilities or English learners—were often excluded from this process. Now, by including all students, schools gain a clearer picture of how every student is progressing in reading. This inclusive approach allows educators to provide the right support at the right time, strengthen literacy instruction for all learners, and continually improve the quality of education across classrooms, grades, and subjects.

READ Act Screening in Grades 4-12

READ Act screening is required for students in grades 4 and above who do not demonstrate mastery of foundational reading skills including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language. These students must be screened for characteristics of dyslexia, and must continue to receive evidence-based instruction, interventions and progress monitoring until the student achieves grade-level proficiency.

Minnesota Department of
Education (MDE) Grades 4-12
Approved Screener

- Capti ReadBasix

READ Act Screeners Help Families and Students

Participating in READ Act screening helps families see a snapshot of their student's literacy skills so they can advocate for their success in school. Parent/guardian refusal of READ Act screening does not deny the student access to progress monitoring and literacy intervention.

Completing READ Act Screening Helps Your Student's School

READ Act screening provides information to your school and district on students' reading ability levels and growth in reading skills. This information helps:

- Schools and districts identify inequities between groups, explore root causes and implement support.
- School and district leaders make decisions on how to use money and resources to support all students.

Student Participation in READ Act Screening

Student participation in state and locally required assessments is a parent/guardian choice. If you choose to have your student not participate in READ Act screening, please provide a reason for your decision on the form below. Contact your student's school to learn more about locally required assessments.

Concerns for Not Participating in READ Act Screening

- 1) The student will not receive an individual score, and the teacher may need additional information to best serve the student.
- 2) School and district assessment results will be incomplete, making it more difficult to have an accurate picture of student learning.

Explore the [READ Act Grades 4-12 Screening page](#) for more information.

Check with your local school or district to see if there are any additional consequences for not participating.

Additional Information

- 1) On average, students spend less than 1% of instructional time taking statewide assessments each year.
- 2) Minnesota statutes limit the total amount of time students can spend taking other district- or school-wide assessments to 11 hours or less each school year, depending on the grade.
- 3) School districts and charter schools are required to publish an assessment calendar on their website by the beginning of each school year. Refer to your district or charter school's website for more information on assessments.

READ Act Screening: Parent/Guardian Decision Not to Participate School Year 2025-26

By completing this form, you are confirming that, following consultation with your student's teacher(s), it has been determined that continued participation in READ Act screening is not beneficial for your 4th to 12th grade student. As a result, your student will not participate in the READ Act screener, will not receive individual assessment results, and you will not be notified of your student's reading proficiency as measured by the screener.

Student's First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Current Grade: _____ Student ID Number (if known): _____

School: _____ District: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Reason for Refusal: _____

Contact your school or district for more information on how to opt out of local assessments.