

State K-3 Policies

Beyond the federally required third-grade assessments, what other assessments are required in grades K-3?

September 2020

At least 37 states plus the District of Columbia require assessments outside of federally required third-grade assessments. States require a range of assessments across grades K-3, including screeners, diagnostic assessments, formative assessments and summative assessments.

The following information was gathered from state statutes and regulations only.

To view other data points, click here.

STATE ▲	BEYOND THE FEDERALLY REQUIRED THIRD-GRADE ASSESSMENTS, WHAT OTHER ASSESSMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR GRADES K-3?	CITATION
Alabama	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Alaska	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Arizona	Screening and formative assessments in reading are required in grades K-3.	Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-704
Arkansas	Literacy and mathematics assessments are required in grades K-2.	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15- 2907

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California	No additional assessments are required. However, districts can receive support from the state department of education to provide K-2 English language arts and mathematics formative assessments.	Cal. Educ. Code § 60640
Colorado	Assessments in reading are required to be given by teachers in grades K-3. Summative reading assessments may be administered in grades K-2.	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-7-1205
Connecticut	Assessments in reading are required to be administered to students in grades K-3.	Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-14t
Delaware	Assessments on student progress on state standards must be given to students in grades K-2.	Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 151
District of Columbia	Reading assessments are required in reading and mathematics in grades K-3	D.C. Code Ann. § 38- 755.03
Florida	Screening, diagnostic, progress monitoring assessments can be administered to identify reading deficiencies.	Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1008.25
Georgia	Assessments in reading and mathematics are required in grades 1 and 2.	Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 160-3-107
Hawaii	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Idaho	Assessments in literacy are required twice per year in grades K-3.	Idaho Code Ann. §33- 1614 through 1616
Illinois	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Indiana	Formative and summative assessments in reading for grades K-2 must be included in a district's reading plan.	511 Ind. Admin. Code 6.2-3.1-3
lowa	Locally determined or statewide assessments in reading or reading readiness are required in grades K-3.	Iowa Code Ann. § 279.68

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Kansas	State or diagnostic assessments that meet state standards in math and reading are required in grades K-3	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72- 3567
Kentucky	Diagnostic assessments in reading must be provided by school districts for grades K-3.	Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 158.791
Louisiana	Screening in literacy must be administered to all students in grades K-3.	28 La. Admin. Code Pt CXV, 2307
Maine	Assessments in reading, mathematics, science and social studies are required in grades K-12.	Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 6209
Maryland	Screening in reading must be administered by a district to students entering a school in kindergarten or first grade.	Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 4-136
Massachusetts	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Michigan	Screening, formative, and diagnostic assessments in reading must be administered at least three times per year to K-3 students.	Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 380.1280f
Minnesota	Locally determined reading assessments are required in grades K-2.	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120B.12
Mississippi	Screening assessments are required in literacy and numeracy in grades K-3	Miss. Code. Ann. § 37- 23-16
Missouri	Reading assessments must be administered by a district at the beginning of the school year to all third-grade students.	Mo. Ann. Stat. § 167.645
Montana	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Nebraska	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Nevada	Reading assessments are required in grades K-3.	Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 388.157

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New Hampshire	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
New Jersey	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
New Mexico	Screening and progress monitoring in reading, language arts and mathematics are required for grades kindergarten and one. Diagnostic tests in reading and language arts are required in grades two and three.	N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-13- 1
New York	Diagnostic screening in reading, mathematics, problem solving, motor development, articulation skills, and cognitive development are required of all new entrants to school and those with low test scores.	N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 8, § 117.3
North Carolina	Formative and diagnostic assessments in reading are required in grades K-3.	N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 115C-83.6
North Dakota	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Ohio	Diagnostic assessments in reading, writing and mathematics are required in grades K-2. Diagnostic assessments in reading and writing must be administered in grade three.	Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3301.079
Oklahoma	Screening instruments in reading are required in grades K-3.	Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 1210.508C
Oregon	Ongoing screening, progress monitoring and assessments can be administered to students in grades K-3.	Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 329.834
Pennsylvania	Each school must design an assessment system for all students to determine the degree to which students are achieving academic standards.	22 Pa. Code § 4.52
Rhode Island	Districts must develop an assessment plan to monitor and assess all students' progress.	16 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-97.1-1
South Carolina	Formative assessments in English language arts and mathematics are required in grades K-3.	S.C. Code Ann. § 59-18- 310

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South Dakota	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Tennessee	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Texas	Reading assessments are required in grades K-2.	Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 28.006
Utah	Benchmark assessments in reading are required in grades 1-3.	Utah Code Ann. § 53E- 4-307
Vermont	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	
Virginia	Standards of Learning or diagnostic assessments in reading must be administered in grades K-3.	Va. Code Ann. § 22.1- 253.13:1
Washington	Reading assessments are required in grade 2.	Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.300.310
West Virginia	Assessments beyond federally required third grade assessments are not specified in state statute.	W. Va. Code R. 126-14- 4
Wisconsin	Reading assessments are required in grades K-2.	Wis. Stat. Ann. § 118.016
Wyoming	Reading assessments are required in grades K-3.	Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3- 401