



# Learning Loss

## Summary of Tennessee Learning Loss and Student Acceleration Act

### *for Districts and School Board Members*

On January 22, 2021, the Tennessee General Assembly enacted the Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act (SB 7002/HB 7004) to address the learning loss of students due to COVID-19 related school closures. Through this new law, all school districts in Tennessee will be required to offer learning loss remediation summer programs for students in grades K-8, starting in summer 2021.

### Programming

Starting this summer, all school districts in Tennessee are required to offer in-person learning loss remediation and student acceleration programs, **including summer learning camps, after-school learning mini-camps, and learning loss bridge camps**. School districts and public charter schools may partner with each other to jointly establish the programs, and they may also seek assistance from public or non-profit community partners.

#### **Summer Learning Camps (Summer 2021 and Summer 2022 ONLY)**

- 6 hours of daily programming
- Daily programming must include 4 hours of reading and math instruction (with at least one hour of this block dedicated to math and at least one hour for reading), one hour of intervention, and one hour of physical activity or “play.”
- Students entering grades 1 through 5
- 5 days per week for 6 weeks

#### **Learning Loss Bridge Camps (Summer 2021 and Summer 2022)**

- 6 hours of daily programming
- Daily programming must include 4 hours of reading and math instruction (with at least one hour of this block dedicated to math and at least one hour for reading), one hour of intervention, and one hour of physical activity or “play.”
- Students who are entering grades 6-8
- 5 days per week for 4 weeks



### **After School Summer Learning Mini Camps (Summer 2021 and Summer 2022)**

- These are also known as “STREAM” Mini Camps. (STREAM is “Science Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math)
- One hour of programming focused on a STREAM educational approach
- Students entering grades 1 through 5
- 4 days per week for six weeks provided by a licensed teacher or TN ALL Corps member

### **Learning Loss Bridge Camps (Summer 2023 and Each Year Thereafter)**

- 6 hours of daily programming
- Daily programming must include 4 hours of reading and math instruction (with at least one hour of this block dedicated to math and at least one hour for reading), one hour of intervention, and one hour of physical activity or “play.”
- Students who are entering grade 4-8
- 5 days per week for 4 weeks

### **Student Eligibility and Participation**

Priority students include students who score below proficient in math or reading on their most recent state test or state-approved screener, students who attend a school where less than 50% of students are proficient in math or reading, or students eligible for TANF benefits. Student participation is optional, unless the district chooses to adopt a policy that requires participation.

The state will fully fund the learning loss remediation and student acceleration programs for all priority students who enroll. School districts may offer additional seats to non-priority students if there are additional seats available, or if a school district decides to pay for additional seats.

### **Staffing and Support**

All staff for the learning loss remediation programs will receive stipends, with classroom teachers receiving a stipend of no less than \$1,000 per week and no more than 25% above the weekly compensation rate for the highest salary step for teachers.

Additionally, instructional staff of the camps will have the opportunity to participate in a preparation course and professional development program developed by Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE).

The new law also creates the Tennessee Accelerated Literacy and Learning Corps (TN ALL Corps), a network of high-quality tutors to assist school districts, schools, partner organizations, and parents in remediating learning loss. The TDOE will provide structures, materials and resources for the tutoring corps that districts may opt to use, but there is no requirement to participate until the 2023 school year, although it is highly encouraged that districts provide significant supports before that time.



### Measuring Student Progress

To assess the impact of the programs, TDOE will establish an innovative benchmark assessment pilot program, through the development of Tennessee Universal Math and Universal Reading Screeners. Participating students will complete a pre- and post-test using the screeners to measure student progress.

School districts must report the results of all pre- and post-tests to TDOE by September 1 of each year, but the results of the tests will not be used for school or district accountability designations.

Starting in the 2021-2022 school year, school districts may also authorize K-2 teachers to use the results of the Tennessee Universal Math and Universal Reading Screeners as an alternative growth model to generate individual growth scores for teacher evaluations.

### Additional Student Supports

Starting in the 2022-23 school year, any 3rd grade student scoring at “approaching” or “below” grade level on the ELA TCAP assessment must receive additional supports and services. This involves the choice of multiple pathways, including summer programming, TN ALL Corps participating, retesting, and/or retention. While a pathway must be selected, the decision on which is the best match for each student will be made at the local level. A Commissioner Appeal Process will be developed to address those students who may not require additional supports.