

Summary of Tennessee Learning Loss and Student Acceleration Act

for Legislative and Advocacy Partners

On January 22, 2021, the Tennessee General Assembly enacted the <u>Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation</u> <u>and Student Acceleration Act</u> (SB 7002/HB 7004) to address the learning loss of students due to COVID-19 related school closures.

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**. LEAs and 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

<u>Learning Loss Bridge Camps (Summer 2021 and Summer 2022)</u>

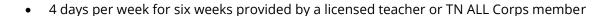
- 6 hours of daily programming
- Daily programming must include 4 hours of reading and math instruction (with at least one hour
 of this block dedicated to math and at least one hour for reading), one hour of intervention, and
 one hour of physical activity or "play."
- Students who are entering grades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



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<u>Learning Loss Bridge Camps (Summer 2023 and Each Year Thereafter)</u>

- 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

The programs are targeted toward students who score below proficient in math or ELA, students who attend a school where less than 50% of students are proficient in math or ELA, students eligible for TANF benefits, or students who score below proficient on a department developed or state board approved screener.

All LEAs must offer a learning loss remediation and student acceleration program, but student participation is optional, unless the LEA adopts a policy that requires participation.

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 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.

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.

Retention

Starting in the 2022-23 school year, any 3rd grade nonproficient student in reading will be retained unless the student demonstrates proficiency by retesting, participates in the learning loss bridge camp, or is provided a tutor through the TN ALL Corps for the entirety of 4th grade. The State Board will establish and the TDOE will administer an appeals process for certain students approaching proficiency.

