

Oklahoma State Department of Education

Reading Sufficiency Act

House Bill (HB) 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program

(70 O.S. § 1210.508B and 508E)

Frequently Asked Questions

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Section A. Summer Academy Reading Program – Student Identification, Instructional Time, and Reading Curriculum Requirements

A.1. What are school districts required to offer in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

An HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program shall be a program that incorporates the content of a reading program administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation or a scientifically based reading program administered by the State Board of Education and is taught by teachers who have successfully completed professional development in the reading program. School districts may approve an option for students who are unable to attend an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program. The optional program may include, but is not limited to, an approved private provider of instruction or an approved program of reading instruction monitored by the parent or guardian. School districts shall not be required to pay for the optional program but shall clearly communicate to the parent or guardian the expectations of the program and any cost that may be involved. (70 O.S. § 1210.508E)

Districts may offer the program for eligible students or approve optional programs for parents and/or guardians to select for student participation.

A.2. What students are eligible to attend an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

Students determined not to be reading at third-grade level based on an approved Reading Sufficiency Act assessment (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills - DIBELS, Literacy First Assessment Battery, and Basic Early Assessment of Reading - BEAR) during the third quarter of a school year shall be eligible to attend an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program. (OAC 210:15-27-1)

A.3. What are the requirements for the content of an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

The program content for an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program shall incorporate the state standards (Oklahoma C3 Standards) in reading and the content of a reading program administered by the Oklahoma Commission of Teacher Preparation or a scientifically based reading program administered by the State Board of Education. (70 O.S. § 1210.508E)

A.4. What is the required time for an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

An HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program for students shall be courses that provide at least four weeks of tutoring a half day each day for four days. (70 O.S. § 1210.508D) (OAC 210:15-27-1)

A.5. What options may be provided for students who are unable to attend an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

School districts may approve an option for students who are unable to attend an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program which may include:

1. An approved private provider of instruction;
 2. An approved computer- or Internet-based instruction; or
 3. An approved program of reading instruction monitored by the parent or guardian.
- (70 O.S. § 1210.508E)

School districts shall not be required to pay for the optional program but shall clearly communicate to the parent or guardian the expectations of the program and any costs that may be involved. (70 O.S. § 1210.508D)

A.6. What students shall not be included in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

Students who shall not be included are those who have individualized education programs pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and who satisfy the annual goals of the individualized education program for that student and students who are English language learners who have been determined not to be proficient in English as defined by a state-designated English proficiency assessment. (70 O.S. § 1210.508E)

Section B. Summer Academy Reading Program – Teacher Qualifications

B.1. Who shall teach in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

An HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program shall be taught by individuals who are certified as reading specialists or who have successfully completed professional development in the approved reading programs. This excludes individuals who are noncertified from teaching in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program.

Section C. Summer Academy Reading Program – Parent Notification

C.1. When does a parent need to be notified of the potential need for a third-grade student to participate in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

If a teacher determines that a third-grade student is not reading at grade level by the end of the second quarter of the school year, the parent or guardian of the student shall be notified of:

1. The reading level of the student;
2. The program of reading instruction for the student as required pursuant to the Reading Sufficiency Act; and
3. The potential need for the student to participate in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program or other program designed to assist the student in attaining grade-level reading skills.

(70 O.S. § 1210.508E)

C.2. What notification is provided to the parent regarding the recommendation for placement in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program or other program?

A teacher who determines a third-grade student is unable to meet competencies required for reading for the completion of third grade and promotion to fourth grade may have the authority, after consultation with the parent or guardian of the student, to recommend that the promotion of the student to the fourth grade is contingent upon the participation in and successful completion of the required competencies for reading by the student at an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program or other program. If the student does not successfully complete the competencies in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program or other program, the student may be retained in the third grade.

C.3. What should districts communicate to parents about the optional program(s) offered in lieu of the HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

School districts shall not be required to pay for the optional program but shall clearly communicate to the parent or guardian the expectations of the program and any costs that may be involved. (70 O.S. § 1210.508D)

Section D. Summer Academy Reading Program – Expenditures

D.1. What is the per pupil allocation for an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

Contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds, the State Department of Education will award up to \$400 to public school districts for each eligible currently enrolled student who is found not to be reading at grade level and who subsequently participates in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program as defined in the Reading Sufficiency Act.

(70 O.S. § 1210.508D)

D.2. What are the uses for funds provided for an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

Reading Sufficiency Act funds allocated from the student count must be used for expenses relating to an approved HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program for participating eligible students. (OAC 210:15-27-1)

D.3. Who shall be required to pay for an optional HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

School districts shall not be required to pay for the optional program but shall clearly communicate to the parent or guardian the expectations of the program and any costs that may be involved. (70 O.S. § 1210.508D)

D.4. What is the Project Reporting Code for HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program claims?

The OCAS Project Reporting Code for Summer Academy Reading Program claims is Project Code 366.

D.5. When are HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program claims due?

HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program claims are due to the State Department of Education, Office of Instruction, by the middle of August of each year. Refer to the Timeline for specific dates.

Section E. Summer Academy Reading Program – Reporting Requirements

E.1. What is the reporting requirement for an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program that needs to be submitted by districts?

Each district will submit:

1. The number of eligible students who may participate in an approved HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program based on results from an approved assessment as outlined in the Reading Sufficiency Act (OAC 210:15-27-1);
2. The date and hours of operation for the program; and
3. Teachers who will be instructors of the HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program along with completion of training or certification.

E.2. When do districts submit the number of eligible students who may participate in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

Districts submit the number of third-grade students identified to participate in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program to the State Department of Education by the last Friday in April of each year. Refer to the Timeline for specific dates. (OAC 210:15-27-1)

E.3. What are the assessments to be used to determine if students are eligible to participate in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

The assessments to be used to determine if students are eligible to participate in an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program are: Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS); the Literacy First Battery of Assessments; and the Basic Early Assessment of Reading (BEAR). (OAC 210:15-27-1)

E.4. What assurance is required of the district superintendent for an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program?

Superintendents of districts offering an HB 1621 Summer Academy Reading Program will complete an online assurance statement stating that their program has met the requirements as defined in Oklahoma Administrative Code 210:15-27-1 and 70 O.S. Section 1210.508.

Section F. Summer Academy Reading Program – Contact Information

Office of Instruction

Teri Brecheen, Executive Director of Literacy
(405) 521-2537
Teri.Brecheen@sde.ok.gov

The “Answers to Frequently Asked Questions” document is a work in progress. It will be updated periodically as needed on the State Department of Education’s Web site, <www.sde.state.ok.us> to respond to questions asked. This document is specific to the Summer Academy Reading Program as outlined in House Bill 1621. It does not apply to summer school sessions being offered as part of Senate Bill 966 or any other summer school program funded by local, state, or federal funds.