
**Universal Student Screeners and State Adopted Benchmark Assessments
Rule 0520-01-03-.15**

The Background:

Pursuant to Chapters 1 and 3 of the Public Acts of 2021 (1st Extraordinary Session), the State Board of Education is authorized to promulgate rules to implement the Tennessee Literacy Success Act and the Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act.

The Literacy Success Act of 2021 requires LEAs and public charter schools to annually administer a universal reading screener to each student in Kindergarten through grade three (K-3) during each of the three (3) administration windows established by the Department. In July 2021, the State Board approved Policy 3.302 containing the list of state-approved universal screeners based on recommendations from the Department. In order to be recommended for approval, these screeners had to be included in an LEA's or public charter school's foundational literacy skills plan and were required to meet specific requirements set forth in this rule.

This item proposes additions to this rule to specify the process to remove a universal reading screener from the list of state approved screeners contained in Policy 3.302. If a universal reading screener does not continue to comply with the requirements set forth in this rule and as a result, places LEAs or public charter schools that utilize the screener out of compliance with the Literacy Success Act or this rule, the State Board may recommend removal of the screener from the approved list contained in Policy 3.302.

State Board staff will hold a rulemaking hearing on this rule to collect public feedback before final reading.

The Recommendation:

State Board staff recommends acceptance of this item on first reading.