

Transitional 9th Grade (T9) FAQs

Transitional 9th grade allows placement of students who are unable to meet the standard of proficiency in grade 8. Students are placed in Transitional 9th grade to improve the likelihood of high school graduation by providing the necessary remediation in a high school setting.

CAN A STUDENT STILL BE PROMOTED TO HIGH SCHOOL IF HE OR SHE DOES NOT PASS THE LEAP?

- Yes, those students who do not meet the promotion standard after taking the eighth-grade state assessments may be placed on a high school campus in Transitional 9th grade.
 - A student who does not earn a score of “Basic” or above on both the math and English portions of the 8th-grade state assessments.
- The initial decision to place a student in the transitional ninth grade or to retain a student in the eighth grade shall be made by the school in which the student is enrolled in the eighth grade, in consultation with the guardians of the student.

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT T9?

- T9 students shall receive appropriate academic support in any subject in which they did not score at or above proficient.
- A plan outlining such academic support shall be included in the student’s individual graduation plan (IGP).
- T9 students can take part in high school activities (band, sports, etc).
- T9 students receive extra academic support and class time in the subject area(s) in which they struggled on the 8th-grade LEAP.
- T9 students can enroll in high school-level classes, including career education courses, which parents and schools deem appropriate (i.e., the student is capable of successfully passing the course).
- T9 students should receive dropout prevention and mentoring services.
- After one full year of T9, students shall be included in the ninth-grade graduation cohort for accountability purposes.
- T9 students will be eligible to graduate when all graduation requirements are met, regardless of the number of years they have been enrolled in high school.

WHY ARE STUDENTS PLACED IN T9?

The School Building Level Committee (SBLC), a committee that includes the parent and/ or legal guardian, at the middle school reviews data such as standardized test scores, past coursework, attendance data, and student behavioral data to determine whether T9 placement is appropriate.

IS REMEDIATION REQUIRED TO BE PROMOTED TO HIGH SCHOOL?

Although 8th grade students are not required to attend remediation to be promoted to high school, such students shall be offered, at no cost, extended, on grade level instruction through summer remediation to students who, based on a preponderance of evidence of student learning, are considered to be academically struggling, did not take the spring LEAP tests, and failed to meet grade level expectations. Transportation shall be provided to and from the assigned remediation summer site(s) from, at a minimum, a common pick-up point.

WHEN ARE SUMMER PROMOTION DECISIONS MADE?

This will vary by local school systems. Reach out directly to the local school system for the timeframe.