



Reading Improvement Course Placement Criteria

Overview

High school students are expected to read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently. However, many students enter ninth grade unable to read closely to determine what the text says explicitly, to make logical inferences from it and cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text. Reading below grade level affects students' ability to access content area knowledge across academic disciplines. Improving students' reading abilities enables the students to learn and succeed. College and career readiness requires reading proficiency.

The El Dorado Union High School District provides a Reading Improvement course. The Board of Trustees adopted Read 180, considered the most effective high school reading program in America, to ensure our students receive the support needed for college and career readiness.

Students enrolled in the Reading Improvement course will also be enrolled in a ninth grade English course. The program is designed to accelerate reading proficiency and is not designed to replace English 1.

Criteria for Placement

- Students who scored Standard Not Met on the English Language Arts SBAC exams in sixth and seventh grade should be recommended for placement in the Reading Improvement course. Eighth grade English Language Arts SBAC results do not arrive until August, after the registration deadline.
- In some instances, the SBAC results may not reflect a student's actual reading ability. Eighth grade English teachers should only refer students who are reading below grade level.
- By March 1, eighth grade English teachers should notify the El Dorado Union High School District counseling staff of students who scored Standard Not Met on the English Language Arts SBAC exams in sixth and seventh grade and are identified as below eighth grade reading level.
- Students with disabilities high school course selection shall be determined by the student's IEP Team. Not every student with a disability who meets the criteria shall be placed in the Reading Improvement course. Students with disabilities may choose to take a Learning Center course, that provides support services, and other courses aligned to meet students' IEP goals.

Appeals/Misplacements

- Changing students' schedules after the start of school is problematic. Care should be taken to ensure students are properly placed in June. If a parent/guardian feels a student should or should not have been placed in the Reading Improvement course, they may appeal the placement with the high school Principal. After speaking with the parent/guardian, the Principal will determine the appropriate placement.
- Students will take a reading diagnostic test the first week of school in the Read 180 program. Any student reading at grade level will be provided the opportunity to drop the program and take another course.