Students
PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION

The County Superintendent and County Board expect students to progress through each grade level within one school year. Toward this end, instruction shall be designed to accommodate the variety of ways that students learn and provide strategies for addressing academic deficiencies as needed.

Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement.

When high academic achievement is evident, the teacher may recommend a student for acceleration to a higher grade level. The student’s maturity level shall be taken into consideration in making a determination to accelerate a student. (Education Code 48070)

Teachers shall identify students who should be retained or who are at risk of being retained at their current grade level as early as possible in the school year and as early in their school careers as practicable. Students shall specifically be assessed at the following grade levels: (Education Code 48070.5)

1. Between grades 2 and 3
2. Between grades 3 and 4
3. Between grades 4 and 5
4. Between the end of the intermediate grades and the beginning of the middle school grades
5. Between the end of the middle school grades and the beginning of the high school grades

Students shall be identified for retention on the basis of failure to meet minimum levels of proficiency, as indicated by the results of state assessments administered pursuant to Education Code 60640-60649 and the minimum levels of proficiency recommended by the State Board of Education pursuant to Education Code 60648.

Students between grades 2 and 3 and grades 3 and 4 shall be identified primarily on the basis of their level of proficiency in reading. Proficiency in reading, English language arts, and mathematics shall be the basis for identifying students between grades 4 and 5, between intermediate and middle school grades, and between middle school grades and high school grades. (Education Code 48070.5)

If a student does not have a single regular classroom teacher, the County Superintendent or designee shall specify the teacher(s) responsible for the decision to promote or retain the student. (Education Code 48070.5)
The teacher’s decision to promote or retain a student may be appealed in accordance with County Superintendent Administrative Regulation 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention.

When any student in grades 2-9 is recommended for retention or is identified as being at risk for retention, the County Superintendent or designee shall offer an appropriate program of remedial instruction to assist the student in meeting grade-level expectations. (Education Code 48070.5)

Adopted: undated
Amended: 10/15/2020

Legal Reference

Education Code
46300Method of computing average daily attendance
48010Admittance to first grade
48011Promotion/retention following one year of kindergarten
48070-48070.5Promotion and retention
56345Elements of individualized education program
60640-60649California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

Code of Regulations, Title 5
200-202Admission and exclusion of students

Management Resources

California Department of Education Publications
FAQs Promotion, Retention, and Grading (students with disabilities)
FAQs Pupil Promotion and Retention
Kindergarten Continuance Form

Websites
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov