

To interpret screening results, schools often use benchmarks and cut scores. These scores help educators identify which students require some form of intervention to accelerate growth and move toward proficiency.

This table offers benchmarks and cut scores for the three typical screening periods.

**Benchmarks** are the minimum performance levels students are expected to reach by certain points of the year in order to meet end-of-year performance goals. The end-of-year benchmark typically represents the minimum level of performance required by state or local standards. Benchmarks are always grade specific, e.g., the 4th grade benchmark. In the chart below, the 40th and 50th percentile represent two benchmark options. Schools should select one based on their state recommendations or local guidelines.

A **cut score** is used to determine which students may need additional assistance to move toward the end of year benchmark. In the chart below, the 10th, 20th, and 25th percentile represent three cut scores options. Schools should select one based on their state recommendations or local guidelines.

Please note: cut scores do not replace educator judgment; they inform it. Proper determination of cut scores is key to successful implementation of Response to Intervention and other data-based decision making processes.

Grade	Percentile	Fall September		Winter January		Spring May	
		Scaled Score	Est. ORF <sup>a</sup>	Scaled Score	Est. ORF <sup>a</sup>	Scaled Score	Est. ORF <sup>a</sup>
1	10	59	5	70	14	81	22
	20	64	9	76	18	92	27
	25	66	11	78	19	102	30
	40	72	15	88	25	150	41
	50	78	19	99	29	181	49
2	10	84	24	106	31	174	45
	20	100	30	161	42	227	58
	25	110	32	181	47	247	63
	40	166	43	232	60	299	78
	50	197	51	263	68	334	87
3	10	184	49	222	55	260	62
	20	236	57	274	66	315	74
	25	257	62	294	70	337	79
	40	310	73	352	82	394	95
	50	344	80	384	92	436	105
4	10	266	61	291	67	319	73
	20	321	73	351	81	377	88
	25	344	79	372	87	403	94
	40	402	94	441	102	470	108
	50	445	103	475	110	515	119

<sup>a</sup> Est. ORF: Estimated Oral Reading Fluency is only reported for grades 1-4.

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Grade	Percentile	Fall	Winter	Spring
		September	January	May
		Scaled Score	Scaled Score	Scaled Score
5	10	326	356	382
	20	386	422	457 <sup>a</sup>
	25	414	452	483
	40	479	520	563
	50	524	569	619
6	10	391	422	453
	20	464	496	531
	25	492	527	566
	40	573	619	670
	50	631	684	757
7	10	456	469	486
	20	537	559	580
	25	571	595	621
	40	677	713	763
	50	773	817	861
8	10	492	515	540
	20	587	618	650
	25	629	664	703
	40	777	830	879
	50	876	911	959
9	10	551	583	621
	20	659	700	753
	25	714	771	819
	40	888	913	949
	50	967	1010	1068
10	10	622	627	632
	20	757	772	782
	25	822	836	848
	40	952	967	978
	50	1075	1103	1126
11	10	636	650	667
	20	787	806	829
	25	851	869	888
	40	982	1011	1043
	50	1132	1156	1173
12	10	669	677	685
	20	833	848	860
	25	891	903	911
	40	1050	1084	1113
	50	1178	1202	1220

<sup>a</sup> Est. ORF: Estimated Oral Reading Fluency is only reported for grades 1-4.