



Frequently Asked Questions

What is Tristar Reads?

Tristar Reads is an annual reading program designed to encourage children across Tennessee to read for at least 20 minutes per day during their summer break. The program runs from May 28th through August 4th, 2024 and is open to all Kindergarten-12th grade students in Tennessee. To participate, students must register with their parent or caregiver at www.tristarreads.com and log their reading minutes throughout the summer.

Why is reading during the summer so important?

Reading 20 minutes per day can introduce children to 1.8 million words per year. Reading is important for all subjects in school, and summer reading helps students keep their comprehension skills sharp for the next school year. It doesn't matter what type of book your student likes to read – reading is the most important part, whether it is books about a sport, graphic novels, science fiction, or other favorite genres, it is all beneficial!

How are winners recognized?

Four \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to the students who read the most over the course of the summer. Tristar Reads will award a scholarship to the student who reads the most overall minutes, and to one elementary school student (K-4th grade), one middle school student (5th-8th grade), and one high school student (9th-12th grade). Students who have previously won scholarship awards through Tristar Reads may participate and are eligible for raffle prizes throughout the summer but will not be eligible for scholarship awards in any previously won category. Scholarship awards will be deposited directly into each student's 529 college savings account; no cash will be awarded. Tristar Reads will assist families in setting up a 529 plan for winning students if needed.

How do students sign up to participate in Tristar Reads?

Students must register to participate at www.tristarreads.com. Students under the age of 13 must have a parent or caregiver's permission to participate in the program and agree to the terms and conditions.

How do students log their reading?

After registering for the program by filling out the signup form on www.tristarreads.com, students will log their hours by printing reading logs from the site and filling them out, or by logging them electronically using a library reading log or other reading tool. Students must record the date, book title, and number of minutes read regardless of reading log used. Completed reading logs can be emailed as scanned or electronic copies to info@tnsuccess.org (preferred), or can be mailed to Tristar Reads, P.O. Box 680231, Franklin, TN 37068.

Are there any other prizes for participating?

Yes! Students can submit photos or videos of themselves reading throughout the summer to be entered into weekly drawings for Barnes & Noble gift cards. Please see the photo and video guidelines at www.tristarreads.com. Students may send photos each week to be entered in that week's drawing. Photos must be received by 5pm Friday evening, and winners will be announced the following Monday each week. You can also stay connected with Tristar Reads by reading our email updates and checking out Tennesseans for Student Success's social media @tnstudent or @TristarReads!

Where can I find more information?

Visit www.tristarreads.com for all of our resources and information. You can also email Vanessa Helgeland at info@tnsuccess.org. We can't wait to have you read with us this summer!