

Chapter 14 - Preview of 2006 and Beyond

This chapter provides information about future plans for the alternative education accountability (AEA) procedures to the extent known at the time this *Manual* is published. The purpose of this chapter is to inform educators in advance so that districts and campuses can prepare for changes that will occur in 2006 and beyond. Additions, deletions, and modifications are possible due to state legislative action.

AEC Registration Process for 2006

The 2006 alternative education campus (AEC) registration process begins on August 5, 2005. An e-mail notification will be sent to all superintendents stating that AECs registered in 2004-05 will be re-registered automatically in 2005-06 subject to the at-risk registration criterion described below. A rescission letter will be required from AECs not wishing to remain registered for AEA. A *2005-06 Alternative Education Accountability Campus Registration Form* will be required from each AEC that wishes to be evaluated under 2005-06 AEA procedures that is not already on the list of registered AECs. A sample rescission letter and the registration form will be available on the AEA website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/aea>. The 2006 registration process closes on August 31, 2005. When finalized, the list of 2006 registered AECs will be available on the AEA website.

At-Risk Registration Criterion for 2006 and Beyond

An at-risk registration criterion will be phased in beginning in 2006. Each registered AEC must have a minimum percentage of at-risk students enrolled on the AEC verified through current year Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) fall enrollment data in order to be evaluated under AEA procedures. The at-risk criterion will begin at 65% in 2006 and increase by five percentage points each year until it reaches 75% in 2008 where it is expected to remain as described below.

- 2006 – 65% or higher at-risk student enrollment at the AEC
- 2007 – 70% or higher at-risk student enrollment at the AEC
- 2008 – 75% or higher at-risk student enrollment at the AEC

A safeguard will be incorporated for those campuses that are below the at-risk requirement such as averaging the rate over multiple years.

Attribution of AEC Data

2006 Accountability. Campus accountability subset determines attribution of AEC test data. 2004-05 leaver data are attributed according to the 85-day rule for AECs that were registered for evaluation under AEA procedures in 2005. 2004-05 leaver data are attributed to the last campus of attendance for AECs that were not registered for evaluation under AEA procedures in 2005, but are registered in 2006.

2007 Accountability. Campus accountability subset determines attribution of AEC test data. All 2005-06 leavers are attributed to the last campus attended.

Accountability Standards

2006 and Beyond. AEA base indicator standards will be reviewed annually and are subject to change.

2007. Completion Rate II and Annual Dropout Rate standards will be reviewed to determine the impact of discontinuing the 85-day rule and implementing the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) dropout definition.

Student Passing Standard

In 2006, the student passing standard will move to *Panel Recommendation (PR)* for the grade 11 Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test. All other grades have been at PR since 2005.

Required Improvement

Required Improvement for State-Developed Alternative Assessment II (SDAA II) will be developed in 2006 when two years of data are available.

AECs Rated AEA: Academically Unacceptable

In 2005, registered AECs rated *AEA: Academically Unacceptable* do not prevent a district from achieving a rating of *Exemplary* or *Recognized*. This policy will be reviewed and is subject to change in 2006.