

September 11, 2006

TO THE SUPERINTENDENT ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: Alternative Education Accountability Campus Registration for 2007 Accountability Ratings

The 2006-07 alternative education accountability (AEA) campus registration process is open September 11 – 22, 2006. Detailed information on the AEA procedures for 2007 and beyond, attribution of alternative education campus (AEC) data, the AEA website, the 2006-07 AEA campus registration process, and the at-risk registration criterion follows.

### **AEA Procedures for 2007 and Beyond**

AEA procedures are described in *Part 2* of the *Accountability Manual* and are based on the following guidelines:

- The AEA indicators are based on data submitted through standard data submission processes such as the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) or by the state testing contractor.
- The AEA measures are appropriate for alternative education programs offered on AECs rather than just setting lower standards on the same measures used in the standard accountability procedures. Furthermore, these measures ensure that all students demonstrate proficiency on the state assessments in order to graduate.
- The Texas Growth Index (TGI) and other improvement indicators are evaluated as base indicators for AEA ratings.
- An at-risk registration criterion restricts use of AEA procedures to AECs that serve large populations of at-risk students and enhances at-risk data quality.

### **Attribution of AEC Data**

For 2007 accountability, campus accountability subset determines attribution of AEC test data. The 2005-06 leaver data are attributed to the last campus of attendance. The 85-day rule is phased-out completely for accountability in 2007 and beyond.

### **The AEA Website**

The AEA web address is <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/aea/>. Along with *Part 2* of the *Accountability Manual*, this site contains information necessary to complete the 2006-07 AEC registration process: the list of campuses that are pre-registered for AEA in 2006-07, an example of an acceptable rescission letter, the 2006-07 AEA Campus Registration Form, and the 2006-07 AEA Campus Type Change Form.

### **The 2006-07 AEA Campus Registration Process**

AECs that were rated under 2006 AEA procedures will be re-registered automatically in 2007 subject to the at-risk registration criterion. Campus registration changes made will not affect the 2006 list of registered AECs.

- For AECs that are already on the list and wish to remain registered, no action is necessary. However, please **verify the AEA campus type** for your registered AECs to ensure that each campus on the 2007 list of pre-registered AECs is accurately identified as an AEC of Choice or Residential Facility. (Accurate identification of AECs of Choice and Residential Facilities is necessary to ensure proper evaluation of registered AECs. For example, Residential Facilities are not evaluated on Completion Rate II.) If the AEA campus type is incorrect, then an **AEA Campus Type Change Form is required**. An AEA Campus Type Change Form must be completed for each campus with an incorrect AEA campus type. The change form must include the county-district-campus number for each AEC. The change form must be completed, signed by the superintendent, and sent to Nancy Rinehart in the Division of

Performance Reporting at the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The change form and 2007 list of pre-registered AECs are available at the web address above.

- For AECs that do not wish to continue AEA registration, a **rescission letter is required**. TEA must receive written notification on official district stationery and signed by the superintendent requesting that registration be rescinded for 2006-07. The letter must include the county-district-campus number for each AEC. Mail this letter to Nancy Rinehart in the Division of Performance Reporting at TEA. A sample rescission letter is available at the web address above.
- For each AEC that is not already on the list but wishes to be evaluated under 2007 AEA procedures, a **2006-07 AEA Campus Registration Form is required**. An AEA Campus Registration Form must be completed for each campus requesting AEA registration. The registration form must include the county-district-campus number for each AEC. The registration form must be completed, signed by the superintendent, and sent to Nancy Rinehart in the Division of Performance Reporting at TEA. The registration form is available at the web address above.

**The 2006-07 AEA campus registration process closes on September 22, 2006. Rescission letters, registration forms, and campus type change forms postmarked after September 22, 2006 will not be processed.** Faxes will be accepted at (512) 936-6431; however, the original rescission letter(s), AEA Campus Registration Form(s), and/or AEA Campus Type Change Form(s) signed by the superintendent still must be sent to:

Texas Education Agency  
Division of Performance Reporting  
Attention: Nancy Rinehart  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78701-1494

#### **At-Risk Registration Criterion**

An at-risk registration criterion was phased in beginning in 2006. In order to be evaluated under 2007 AEA procedures, each registered AEC must have at least 70% at-risk students enrolled on the AEC verified through 2006-07 PEIMS fall enrollment data. **This criterion could result in registered AECs being removed from the list for 2007.** You will be notified in April 2007 if you do not meet the AEA at-risk registration criterion and, as a result, will be evaluated under standard accountability procedures in 2007.

If you have any questions regarding the process for registration of campuses for evaluation under 2007 AEA procedures, please contact the Division of Performance Reporting by telephone at (512) 463-9704 or by e-mail at [Performance.Reporting@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:Performance.Reporting@tea.state.tx.us).

#### Contact Information

Texas Education Agency  
Office of Accountability and Data Quality, Criss Cloudt, Associate Commissioner  
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