

Title I Committee of Practitioners

November 10, 2009

**Federal Accountability Update:
2010 Texas AYP Workbook Amendments**

The proposed amendments will provide information on Texas' Graduation Rate, specifically:

- The state's definition of graduation rate,
- A description of the state's reporting plans,
- The state's goal and targets, and
- Possible use of the Extended-Year Graduation Rate.

The amendments are limited to the AYP calculations for the 2009-2010 school year. The End of Course assessment program will require major changes in the way AYP is determined in 2011-2012 and beyond. A proposed transition plan for 2010-2011 through 2013-2014 will be submitted for the 2011 Texas AYP Workbook that will include long term goals and targets for the graduation rate calculations.

2010 AYP WORKBOOK REQUIRED ELEMENTS

Topic	Decision to be made	Summary/Information
Graduation Rates:	Texas will use a 4-year rate alone, or Texas will use a 4-year and 5-year rate	A four-year rate is required for the AYP 2010 calculations; An extended-year (5 or 6 year) rate is optional
Use in AYP:	Districts and campuses must meet either: annual target for the 4-year rate or annual target for the 5-year rate	This method is one of examples for use of 5-year rates found in US Department of Education, <i>NCLB High School Graduation Rate, Non-Regulatory Guidance</i> , December 22, 2008.
Goal:	80% / 85% / 90%	Other state graduation rate goals: 100% (Georgia) 90% (Alabama, Maine, Rhode Island, New Mexico, Tennessee) 88.3% (South Carolina) 80% (Michigan)
Calculation for 4-year rate ("target"):	Absolute standard: 70.0% or Improvement standard: safe harbor (10.0% decline in the difference between the prior year rate and the goal) or 1.0 percentage point increase in rate.	Examples found in <i>NCLB High School Graduation Rate, Non-Regulatory Guidance</i> show a safe harbor calculation as an acceptable "target," not an absolute standard.
Calculation for 5-year rate ("target"):	Absolute standard: 75.0%	Federal regulatory requirement: if an extended-year rate is used, the target must be higher than the target for the 4-year rate.
Targets for 2011 and beyond:	Absolute standards for 2011 and beyond are not included in this proposal, although the improvement standard would apply to 2011 and beyond.	Justification: Submission of proposed amendments to the 2011 Texas AYP Workbook will include a transition plan for new End of Course assessments with annual graduation rate targets submitted as part of the transition plan.
Student group definition changes:	Possibilities exist to change the definition of the LEP student group. The current definition of LEP student group is defined as students in the LEP program during their final (4 th) year in the longitudinal cohort.	Federal regulations allow states to develop business rules for the definition of student groups used for AYP.