



TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

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Robert Scott
Commissioner

December 21, 2010

Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana, Ph.D.
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
United States Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20202-6100

Dear Dr. Meléndez de Santa Ana:

Enclosed are proposed amendments to the Texas Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook (Texas AYP Workbook). Texas is implementing a new state assessment program that will require major changes in the way Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is determined in 2013 and beyond. This proposal includes proposed amendments for the 2011 AYP determinations and a proposed transition plan for 2012 AYP determinations. The requested amendments were reviewed and approved by the state's Title I Committee of Practitioners on November 15, 2010.

The 2011 AYP determinations will be the last evaluations of districts and campuses under the current AYP system. The proposal for 2011 is to continue to implement the current Texas AYP Workbook with the scheduled phase-in of the Texas Projection Measure (TPM). In addition, last year states were asked to limit amendments related to the annual graduation rate to 2010 AYP determinations. This year approval of graduation rate annual targets for 2011 and 2012 is requested.

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR), which will be implemented in 2011-2012, includes new end-of-grade assessments for students in Grades 3-8 and twelve end-of-course (EOC) assessments to replace end-of-grade assessments for high school students. The new assessment program will include modified and alternate assessments for students with disabilities and linguistically accommodated assessments for English language learners. Development of a new AYP system for 2013 and beyond will take place during the 2011-12 school year as a new state-defined accountability system is developed. Proposed amendments for 2012 AYP determinations are requested for the transition to a new state assessment program and new accountability system. Those amendments are included in this proposal so that Texas school districts and campuses will have notice of the changes before the 2011 AYP determinations are issued because the transition plan includes additional interventions for the 2011-2012 school year for campuses that miss AYP in 2011.

In summary, the enclosed proposed amendments include the following requests.

2011 AYP Determinations

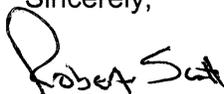
- Scheduled Phase-In of TPM
- Graduation Rate Annual Targets

2012 AYP Determinations

- AYP Transition Plan for 2012
 - Carry forward 2011 AYP Status
 - Maintain SIP Intervention Stage
 - Address Deficit Areas Identified in 2011 AYP
 - Consecutive Years of Performance

The Texas AYP Workbook will be amended to reflect changes described in this proposal upon approval by USDE. If you need additional information or have questions about the proposal, please contact Criss Cloudt, Associate Commissioner for Assessment, Accountability, and Data Quality, by telephone at (512) 463-9701 or by e-mail at criss.cloudt@tea.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,



Robert Scott
Commissioner of Education

Enclosures

cc: Lizzette Reynolds, Deputy Commissioner, Statewide Policy and Programs
Criss Cloudt, Associate Commissioner for Assessment, Accountability, and Data Quality
Ann Smisko, Associate Commissioner for School Improvement and Support
Cory Green, Director, NCLB Program Coordination Division
Shannon Housson, Director, Performance Reporting Division

RS/sh