

FINAL DECISIONS ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE 2010 TEXAS AYP WORKBOOK

Topic	Requested Amendment	Summary/Information
Graduation Rates:	Texas requests the use of both the 4-year and 5-year graduation rates	<p>The Class of 2009 four-year graduation rate is required for the AYP 2010 calculations.</p> <p>Texas will request the use of the Class of 2008 five-year graduation rate as an alternative for meeting the AYP standard.</p>
Use in AYP:	<p>Texas requests that districts and campuses meet either:</p> <p>annual target for the 4-year rate or annual target for the 5-year rate</p>	<p>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.</p>
Goal:	Texas identifies the long term statewide goal of 90% graduation rate.	<p>Other state graduation rate goals:</p> <p>100% (Georgia) 90% (Alabama, Maine, Rhode Island, New Mexico, Tennessee) 88.3% (South Carolina) 80% (Michigan)</p>
Calculation for 4-year rate ("target"):	<p>Absolute standard for 4-year rate: 75.0% (current standard is 70%) 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.</p>	<p>Examples found in <i>NCLB High School Graduation Rate, Non-Regulatory Guidance</i> show a safe harbor calculation as an acceptable "target," as an alternative to the absolute standard.</p>
Calculation for 5-year rate ("target"):	Absolute standard for 5-year rate: 80.0%	Federal regulatory requirements state that 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 the 2010 AYP Amendment requests, 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:	Texas will identify students in the limited English proficient (LEP) graduation rate student group as students served by the LEP program during any of their years in Texas public schools.	<p>Federal regulations allow states to develop business rules for the definition of student groups used for AYP.</p> <p>The current definition of the LEP student group is defined as students in the LEP program during their final (4th) year in the longitudinal cohort.</p>