

Proposed Rulemaking

Title

Promulgated by:
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Title 6. Education

Chapter I. Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Subchapter C. Educational Quality, Standards, and Assessment

Part 64. Rules Governing the Public School Rating System on Annual School Performance Reports and the School Recognition Program

Subpart 1. Generally

6 CAR § 64-101. Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to:

- (1) Establish the school rating system and designate school performance category levels or ratings pursuant to Arkansas Code §§ 6-15-2105 and 6-15-2106; and
- (2) Provide financial awards to public schools that experience high student performance and those with high student academic growth in accordance with Arkansas Code § 6-15-2107.

6 CAR § 64-102. School rating system.

(a) Each public school will receive a performance category level designation or rating, hereafter collectively referred to as "rating", of "A", "B", "C", "D", or "F" as described in Appendix A.

(b) The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall assign the annual public school rating under this section using the following indicators for each designated grade span based on the grade configurations of the school:

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(1) In elementary and middle schools, the following indicators shall be used; without limitation:

(A) The percent of students meeting proficiency or exceeding proficiency on state summative exams in ELA, math and science;

(B) The percent of students meeting or exceeding individual growth score in ELA, math, and science; and

(C) The percent of students meeting or exceeding his or her individual growth in the lowest 25% of achievement on the previous state summative exams in ELA, math, and science.

(2) In high schools, the following indicators shall be used; without limitation:

(A) The percent of students meeting or exceeding proficiency on state summative exams in ELA, math and science;

(B) The percent of students meeting or exceeding his or her individual growth score in ELA, math, and science;

(C) The percent of students meeting individual growth in the lowest 25% of achievement on the previous state summative exams in ELA, math, and science combined;

(D) The four year graduation rate; and

(E) The number of students earning a diploma of merit or distinction that lead to enrollment, enlistment, or employment.

(c) For a school that does not have a complete data set due to grade configuration or the number of students per grade, the use of feeder school data, pairing, or proportional cuts, may be used to assign a school rating.

(d) The Division shall publish the annual Public School Rating Business Rules used to assign school ratings on the Division's website.

(e)(1) The Division shall recommend cut scores for each rating to the State Board of Education.

(2) The Division shall implement an "Automatic Grading Scale Increase" in any year in which 65 percent or more of the school statewide aggregate earn a grade of A or B, and raise the scale required to earn a school grade by five percent until the

scale reaches 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, and 0-59 = F.

(f) ~~The Department of Education Division will~~ shall engage stakeholder groups in the school rating process and utilize feedback from the stakeholder groups to make a final recommendation to the State Board of Education for the total score range for each rating.

~~(e)(g)~~ If a school district has an alternative learning environment (ALE) or an alternative education (AE) program and the ALE or AE has a local education agency (LEA) number, the school district shall, for purposes of a rating pursuant to this part only, include the ALE or AE students in their respective area schools.

(d) ~~(h)~~ Each school's rating shall be included in the annual school performance report, which shall be posted on the ~~department's Division's~~ and school districts' websites.

~~(e)(i) For purposes of this part only, t~~ The following entities shall be exempt from ~~the designation of receiving~~ a school rating:

(1) An open-enrollment public charter school whose mission and enrollment are primarily focused on students who:

(A) Have dropped out of high school; or

(B) Are identified as at risk of dropping out of school;

(2) A conversion public charter school whose mission and enrollment are primarily focused on students who:

(A) Have dropped out of high school; or

(B) Are identified as at risk of dropping out of school;

(3) An adult charter school serving students aged nineteen (19) or older;

(4) The Arkansas School for the Deaf and Blind; and

(5) ~~The Arkansas School for the Deaf; and~~

~~(6)~~ The Division of Youth Services' system of education.

6 CAR § 64-103. Arkansas School Recognition Program.

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(a) Pursuant to Arkansas Code § 6-15-2107, public schools that experience high student performance and those with high student academic growth, ~~which includes high school graduation rate comparisons for secondary schools,~~ shall be eligible for the Arkansas School Recognition Program.

— ~~(b)(1)(A)~~ For purposes of the Arkansas School Recognition Program, student performance in overall achievement will be calculated using weighted percent of students meeting proficiency in ELA, math and science as describe in the annual Public School Rating Business Rules ~~achievement as described in Appendix A.~~

(B) Schools recognized for overall achievement shall have a school-wide value-added score that meets or exceeds expected growth to qualify for the Arkansas School Recognition Program.

(2) Recognition will be determined based on the ranking of ~~all schools~~ by grade span and ~~of the total score for the weighted achievement indicator.~~

~~(c)(1)~~ (3) Student academic growth shall be determined by using school value-added scores that will be calculated using the state's value-added formula as described in the annual Public School Rating Business Rules.

(4) Recognition for high student academic growth will be determined based on the ranking of the school value-added score of all schools by grade span.

(5) For a school without a complete data set, recognition will be based on the rank of the school value-added score of the school with the tested grade levels that is paired with the feeder school within a district.

~~For purposes of the Arkansas School Recognition Program, student academic growth and school value-added scores will be calculated as described in Appendix A.~~

~~(2) Recognition for high student academic growth, which includes high school graduation rate comparisons for secondary schools, will be determined based on the ranking of all schools using the following criteria:~~

~~— (A) For public schools that include at least one (1) of the tested grade levels of grades three through ten (3—10) but do not include a terminal grade level of grade twelve (12), recognition will be determined based on the rank of the school~~

value-added score;

_____ (B) For public schools that only include grade levels lower than grades three through ten (3—10) (feeder schools), recognition will be determined based on the rank of the school value-added score of the school with tested grade levels that is paired with the feeder school within a district; and

_____ (C)(i) For public schools that include at least one (1) of the tested grade levels of grades three through ten (3—10) and a terminal grade level of grade twelve (12), recognition will be determined based on the rank of the sum of the school value-added score (thirty-five percent (35%) weight) and the adjusted cohort graduation rate score (fifteen percent (15%) weight), multiplied by two (2).

_____ (ii) For public schools that only include grade levels higher than grades three through ten (3—10) that have a terminal grade level of twelve (12), recognition will be determined based on the rank of the sum of the school value-added score (thirty-five percent (35%) weight) of the school paired with it and the adjusted cohort graduation rate score (fifteen percent (15%) weight), multiplied by two (2).

~~Appendix A. School Rating System~~

~~Link:~~

~~<https://CodeOfARRules.arkansas.gov/docs/CARCodeAppendices/Appendices/314/6CARpt.64AppendixA.pdf>~~