



Accountability Updates & ESSA Compliance

State Board of Education Workshop

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BEST FOR ALL

We will set all students on a path to success.

ACADEMICS

ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE

STUDENT READINESS

TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS IN THEIR CAREER PATHWAYS

EDUCATORS

TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH FOR THE EDUCATION PROFESSION AND BE THE TOP STATE IN WHICH TO BECOME AND REMAIN A TEACHER AND LEADER FOR ALL



Objectives

- Overview of Legal Requirements
- SBE Intersections with Accountability
- Proposed Revisions in Response to ESSA Compliance Report Findings
- Public Feedback Received
- Next Steps

Disclaimer: This presentation was prepared for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Please contact your board attorney for specific legal guidance.





Overview of Legal Requirements

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Relevant Federal Requirements (Title IA)

- Assessments
 - Technically sound, standards-aligned, administered to all students
 - Math & ELA: Each year 3-8 and at least once 9-12
 - Science: At least once 3-5, 6-9, AND 10-12
 - Alternative assessments (1% of students with disabilities)
 - English Language Proficiency Assessment for non-native English speakers
- Accountability
 - Establish long-term goals
 - System of ***meaningful differentiation*** of schools
 - Specifications for indicators (calculation of achievement)
 - School designations

State Law

- School Letter Grades (system of meaningful differentiation)
- Use of achievement and growth
- State board approvals for goals and designations



SBE Intersections with Accountability

- T.C.A. § 49-1-602, the State Board of Education is required to establish “appropriate performance goals and measures for schools and local education agencies (LEAs).”
- T.C.A. § 49-1-619 requires the Commissioner of Education to obtain approval from the State Board for “changes to the formula used to calculate school or LEA performance goals and measures.”
- Annual approval of Annual Measurable Objectives (performance targets incorporated into school and district accountability)
- Annual approval school and district designations



U.S. Ed ESSA Compliance Findings

Summary of Accountability
Findings & Engagement



Federal Compliance: Required Actions

1. TDOE **must** constrain the high school achievement indicator to a single math and ELA course, for a cohort of students.
2. TDOE **must** discontinue the substitutions of ACT results in the calculation of the math achievement indicator.
3. TDOE **must** determine all permissible options for off-grade testing.
4. TDOE **must** change its federal graduation rate reporting by removing students with disabilities, receiving a traditional diploma, without completing Algebra II or Integrated III from the numerator (graduates).





Engagement on U.S. Ed Compliance Findings

- [U.S. Department of Education: Tennessee Monitoring Report](#)
 - Findings documentation
 - Communication from U.S. Ed
- **October/November 2022:** The department held 8 regional meetings with superintendents.
- **December 16, 2022:** The department convened the State Advisory Plan Group to share high-level feedback with the group.
- **December 19, 2022 - January 9, 2023:** Public comment was open on the amendment

1. Constraining high school achievement indicator to a single math & ELA course, for a cohort of students

- Achievement indicator must be a single, standards-aligned assessment of ELA and math administered to all students within the same cohort year (acceleration excepted).
- **Proposed:**
 - TDOE will constrain the achievement indicator to English II and '9th Grade Math'.
 - 2022-23 9th grade math means either Algebra I or Integrated I scale scores
 - 2023-24 the department is developing a solution to bring Algebra I and Integrated I onto the same scale through an augmented standard setting process.
 - TDOE will 'cohort results' during the 10th grade.
 - Any students taking Algebra I, Integrated I, or any other more advanced math EOC in the 9th grade will have those results 'banked' and reported the following year.
 - All students taking Algebra IB or Integrated IB in the 10th grade will have their results reported in that year.
 - Students taking the alternative assessment will still be able to test in 11th grade.
- This change is required; **Tennessee has no discretion on this monitoring finding.** Adjustment goes into effect for the 2022-23 accountability cycle.



2. Removal of ACT substitutions for achievement indicator



- 11th grade students having already completed Algebra II or Integrated III will no longer be able to contribute an ACT score to the achievement indicator calculation.
 - Assessments incorporated into achievement indicators must be shown to measure the depth and breadth of Tennessee state standards.
 - Adjustment will be accounted for in the production of AMOs.
- This change is required; **Tennessee has no discretion on this monitoring finding**. Adjustment goes into effect for the 2022-23 accountability cycle.

3. All permissible options for off-grade testing



- Tennessee has been directed to pursue a waiver stipulating all forms of acceptable off-grade testing.
 - Presently, the only permissible form of off-grade testing is Algebra I or Integrated I in 8th grade.
- **Proposed:**
 - Math
 - EoC acceleration can begin in 7th grade*
 - Grade-level acceleration is permissible for 6th grade (either 7th or 8th assessments)
 - ELA
 - EoC acceleration may begin in 8th grade*
 - Grade-level acceleration may begin in 7th grade (8th grade assessment)
- This change is required; **Tennessee has no discretion on this monitoring finding.** Adjustment goes into effect for the 2022-23 accountability cycle.

* Options presented here ensure existence of 'accountable assessment' in 9th grade

4. Graduation rate adjustment for students with disabilities receiving a traditional diploma without Algebra II or Integrated III

- For federal graduation rate reporting, U.S. Ed will only recognize students receiving a traditional diploma if they have completed the same required courses.
 - This change only applies to reporting and does not supersede State Board rule and policy governing the awarding of traditional diplomas to students with disabilities.
 - This change does not require any adjustments for student course placement.
 - This change will not impact and should not change what students experience in the classroom.
 - Graduation rate indicator is only weighted at 5% for high schools, only.
- This change is required; **Tennessee has no discretion on this monitoring finding**. Adjustment goes into effect for the 2022-23 accountability cycle.



Public Feedback Received



Feedback on constraining ELA and Math indicator

- If a school's achievement indicator could be the direct result of one math teacher and one English teacher, that would place a great amount of pressure on educators.
- This could potentially discourage districts from teaching Algebra in grade 8.

Feedback on removing ACT in achievement indicator

- Ensure that accelerated students' scores are included in accountability.
- Continue to promote advance coursework for students who are ready.

Feedback on Off-Grade Testing

- There should be a way for advanced students to take advanced classes and schools to receive credit in their accountability measures for these students.

Feedback on graduation rate adjustment

- Having different federal and state metrics could cause confusion.
- There are concerns with how the department will track this data.
- Determine if SBE could change the graduation requirements rule/policy to remove Algebra II from the requirements.



Next Steps

- Submitted preliminary amendment to the U.S. Ed late Jan. 2023.
- Present proposed amendment to State Board of Education on Feb. 10, 2023.
- Submit final amendment to U.S. Ed in February.
- Present amendment details in statewide webinar.
- Pending approval of the amendment from U.S. Ed, calculate 2022-23 AMOs and present to SBE for approval in March.



Thank You & Questions

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