



Illinois State Board of Education

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James T. Meeks
Chairman

Tony Smith, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Education

To: District Superintendents
Regional Superintendents of Schools

From: Libi Gil, Ph.D.
Chief Education Officer

Re: State Support and Accountability

Date: May 22, 2018

Illinois Support and Accountability Implementation Timelines

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is committed to providing support designations and generating accountability ratings based on the most accurate and reliable data in order to comply with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. ISBE will provide supports, designations, informational materials, and a webinar according to the schedule below to fulfill this commitment for the initial data collection cycle alignment and provide the maximum support, resources and time for schools to plan.

For further information, please join us in a webinar that will provide an overview and opportunity for questions and responses on Friday, May 25 at 11:30 a.m. Register for the webinar at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1343848791126291970>.

June 2018:

- Schools will receive initial notification of designations that determine eligibility for Comprehensive and Targeted Supports for the 2018-19 school year.
- Initial designations will be based on school year 2016-17 academic data to align with current data cycles. Data for the initial designations will include: English language arts proficiency (grades 3-12), math proficiency (grades 3-12), graduation rate (grades 9-12), English Learner proficiency (grades 3-12), and 9th grade on track.
- Schools will receive full credit and be held harmless for all other indicators that will become available later (e.g., chronic absenteeism, growth).
- Calculations for individual indicators and the accountability ratings will be based upon the finalized Technical Advisory Council recommendations. The State Board will take action on the recommendations at the June 2018 Board meeting.

July 2018:

- IL-EMPOWER funding will be available for eligible schools and districts before the beginning of the school year, pending appropriations.
- ISBE is currently modeling different funding scenarios to support the work that will occur in schools identified for Comprehensive and Targeted Supports in the 2018-19 school year.
- Modeling includes considering elements such as school enrollment; adequacy status on current financial capacity to meet expectations, based on the evidence-based funding formula; and how different base funding amounts will affect the amount of funding provided to comprehensive and targeted schools.
- Identified schools will have the option of using the first year as a planning year or beginning implementation immediately, if they have an approvable plan. Schools will have four years for school improvement work. A school may use all four years for implementation or one year for planning and three for implementation.
- All schools identified for comprehensive and targeted support may exit status when criteria are met.

October 2018:

- ISBE will finalize designations to ensure that notification for supports are based upon the most current available data.
- Data for finalized designations will integrate school year 2017-18 academic data, 9th grade on track, and chronic absenteeism. Specifically the 2017-18 academic data include: ELA proficiency (grades 3-12), math proficiency (grades 3-12), growth (grades 3-8), graduation rate (grades 9-12), and EL proficiency (grades 3-12).
- Schools will receive full credit and be held harmless for all other indicators that will become available later (e.g., P-2 indicator, 3-8 indicator, college and career readiness indicator, and student participation in the climate survey).
- The final designation based on the 2017-18 academic data, 9th grade on track, and chronic absenteeism will be included on the 2018 Illinois Report Card.
- Schools identified in October that were not already identified in June will be added to the eligibility list for funding and supports in fiscal year 2019. All schools identified by the initial designations in June will maintain support for the year even if they are no longer on the finalized October list.

Going Forward:

- ISBE will calculate grades for growth for inclusion on the 2020 Illinois Report Card. The 2021 Illinois Report Card will include all of the accountability indicators. ISBE is committed to working with practitioners to ensure effective implementation, support, and transitions.
- ISBE will provide informational and communications materials to support schools and districts in engaging local stakeholders around the designations.

The support and accountability system we are building together supports equity, excellence, and continuous improvement for all schools. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Jason Helfer at jhelfer@isbe.net or (217) 782-4123.