

Alabama: 2013 Accountability Profile

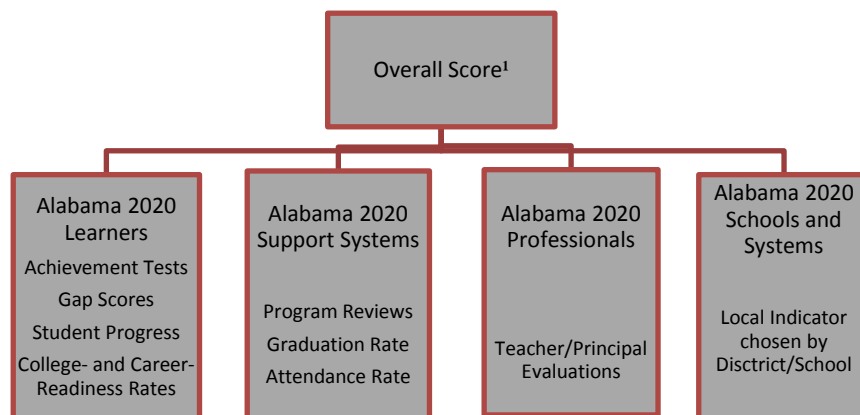
What new performance goal did Alabama adopt after receiving waivers to <i>No Child Left Behind</i> provisions?	
Performance Goal ➤	To reduce by half the percentage of non-proficient students by 2018 — among all students and in all student groups
Grade Level	Measures (Approved for 2013)
Elementary	State assessments: reading, mathematics Attendance rate
Middle Grades	State assessments: reading, mathematics College and career readiness: EXPLORE (grade 8 only) Attendance rate
High	End-of-course exams: English 10, Algebra I College and career readiness: ACT, Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) exams, dual enrollment transcripts, ACT WorkKeys, industry certification exams Graduation rate

How will Alabama measure school performance and student progress after receiving waivers?

Alabama will assign A-to-F letter grades to each school based on its Overall Score on the state's new school performance index. Overall Scores are based on four major categories: Alabama 2020 Learners includes achievement results and college- and career-readiness indicators; Alabama 2020 Support Systems includes program reviews, graduation rates and attendance rates; Alabama 2020 Professionals includes teacher and principal evaluations; and Alabama 2020 Schools and Systems includes an achievement indicator chosen by the local district. The performance index is projected for phase-in during the 2015-2016 school year.

Alabama also will evaluate student progress by measuring the percentage of students meeting annual targets. Annual targets are set for graduation rates and reading and mathematics performance. Performance targets increase in equal increments toward a goal of reducing by half the percentage of non-proficient students by 2018.

Alabama School Performance Index, 2013



Notes: ¹ The school performance index is projected for phase-in during the 2015-2016 school year. Overall Scores are used to assign schools an A-F letter grade.

Source: Alabama ESEA Flexibility Request — <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/eseaflex/approved-requests/alapprovalreq.pdf>.

How will Alabama identify schools in its school accountability system, using the *Reward, Focus and Priority School* labels?

Beginning in fall 2016, Alabama will use its school performance index to identify its Reward, Focus and Priority Schools. Currently, schools are identified based on achievement results and graduation rates. Only Title I schools¹ are included among the three categories. Keeping with the principles of flexibility, Alabama developed separate criteria for identifying schools and differentiated levels of state intervention.

Category	Entrance Criteria	Interventions	Exit Criteria
Reward ²	Title I schools with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at least 80 percent poverty rates high student performance on reading and math assessments, at least 95 percent of grade 12 students passing all required sections of state assessment, and 95 percent participation rates for all students and student groups 	Public recognition and financial rewards	Reward schools are identified annually.
Focus	10 percent of Title I schools with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> largest achievement gaps in graduation rates between student groups and all students (high schools), or largest gaps in reading and math performance between student groups and all students (elementary and middle grades schools) 	School Improvement Plan based on targeted interventions	To exit Focus status, a school must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> meet or exceed annual targets for two consecutive years for the student groups for which it was identified, and no longer rank among the top 10 percent of schools with the largest achievement gaps.
Priority	5 percent of Title I schools that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all Tier I and II SIG³ schools high schools with a graduation rate less than 60 percent, and schools in the bottom 5 percent of Title I schools based on overall achievement on state assessments 	Customized interventions aligned to turnaround principles	After three years, a school can exit Priority status when it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is no longer in the bottom 5 percent of low-performing schools for two consecutive years has a graduation rate of 70 percent or above for two consecutive years, and maintains a participation rate of 95 percent on administered assessments.

Notes: ¹ Title I schools are those that receive federal monies to serve a large population of students from low-income families. ² Priority and Focus schools are ineligible for Reward status. ³ Schools currently operating under a federal Student Improvement Grant (SIG).

Source: Alabama ESEA Flexibility Request — <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/eseaflex/approved-requests/alapprovalreq.pdf>

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- School/District Performance Index, pg. 49
- A-F School Grading System, pg. 50
- Performance Goal, pg. 70
- Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs), pg. 70
- Reward Schools, pg. 73
- Priority Schools, pg. 76
- Focus Schools, pg. 84