Tennessee Department of Education Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook Revised June 1, 2008

for State Grants under Title IX, Part C, Section 9302 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (Public Law 107-110)



U. S. Department of Education Office of Elementary and Secondary Education Washington, D.C. 20202

Instructions for Completing Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook

By January 31, 2003, States must complete and submit to the Department this Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook. We understand that some of the critical elements for the key principles may still be under consideration and may not yet be final State policy by the January 31 due date. States that do not have final approval for some of these elements or that have not finalized a decision on these elements by January 31 should, when completing the Workbook, indicate the status of each element which is not yet official State policy and provide the anticipated date by which the proposed policy will become effective. In each of these cases, States must include a timeline of steps to complete to ensure that such elements are in place by May 1, 2003, and implemented during the 2002-2003 school year. By no later than May 1, 2003, States must submit to the Department final information for all sections of the Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook.

Transmittal Instructions

To expedite the receipt of this Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook, please send your submission via the Internet as a .doc file, pdf file, rtf or .txt file or provide the URL for the site where your submission is posted on the Internet. Send electronic submissions to conapp@ed.gov.

A State that submits only a paper submission should mail the submission by express courier to:

Celia Sims U.S. Department of Education 450 Maryland Ave., SW Room 3W300 Washington, D.C. 20202-6450 (202) 451-0113

PART I: Summary of Required Elements for State Accountability Systems

Instructions

The following chart is an overview of States' implementation of the critical elements required for approval of their State accountability systems. States must provide detailed implementation information for each of these elements in Part II of this Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook.

For each of the elements listed in the following chart, States should indicate the current implementation status in their State using the following legend:

- F: State has a final policy, approved by all the required entities in the State (e.g., State Board of Education, State Legislature), for implementing this element in its accountability system.
- **P:** State has a proposed policy for implementing this element in its accountability system, but must still receive approval by required entities in the State (e.g., State Board of Education, State Legislature).
- **W:** State is still working on formulating a policy to implement this element in its accountability system.

	Status State Accountability System Element				
F	1.1	Accountability system includes all schools and districts in the state.			
F	1.2	Accountability system holds all schools to the same criteria.			
F	1.3	Accountability system incorporates the academic achievement standards.			
F	1.4	Accountability system provides information in a timely manner.			
F	1.5	Accountability system includes report cards.			
F	1.6	Accountability system includes rewards and sanctions.			
	nciple	2: All Students			
F	2.1	The accountability system includes all students			
F	2.2	The accountability system has a consistent definition of full academic year.			
F	2.3	The accountability system properly includes mobile students.			
Pri	nciple	3: Method of AYP Determinations			
F	-				
	3.1	Accountability system expects all student subgroups, public schools, and LEAs to reach proficiency by 2013-14.			
F	3.2	Accountability system has a method for determining whether student subgroups, public schools, and LEAs made adequate yearly progress.			
F	3.2a	Accountability system establishes a starting point.			
F	3.2b	Accountability system establishes statewide annual measurable objectives.			
F	3.2c	Accountability system establishes intermediate goals.			

Summary of Implementation Status for Required Elements of State Accountability Systems

4.1 The accountability system *determines annually the progress* of schools and districts.

STATUS Legend:

F – Final state policy
 P – Proposed policy, awaiting State approval
 W – Working to formulate policy

Principle 5: Subgroup Accountability

F

F

F

F

F

F

F

F

F

- 5.1 The accountability system *includes all the required student subgroups*.
- 5.2 The accountability system holds schools and LEAs accountable for the progress of student subgroups.
- F 5.3 The accountability system includes students with disabilities.
- F 5.4 The accountability system includes *limited English proficient students*.
 - 5.5 The State has determined the minimum number of students sufficient to yield statistically reliable information for each purpose for which disaggregated data are used.
 - 5.6 The State has strategies to protect the privacy of individual students in reporting achievement results and in determining whether schools and LEAs are making adequate yearly progress on the basis of disaggregated subgroups.

Principle 6: Based on Academic Assessments

6.1 Accountability system is based primarily on academic assessments.

Principle 7: Additional Indicators

- 7.1 Accountability system includes graduation rate for high schools.
- 7.2 Accountability system includes an *additional academic indicator for elementary and middle schools*.
- F 7.3 Additional indicators are valid and reliable.

Principle 8: Separate Decisions for Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics

8.1 Accountability system holds students, schools and districts separately accountable for *reading/language arts* and *mathematics*.

Principle 9: System Validity and Reliability

- 9.1 Accountability system produces *reliable decisions*.
- 9.2 Accountability system produces *valid decisions*.
- 9.3 State has a plan for addressing *changes in assessment and student population*.

Principle 10: Participation Rate

- 10.1 Accountability system has a means for calculating the *rate of participation* in the statewide assessment.
- 10.2 Accountability system has a means for applying the 95% assessment criteria to student subgroups and small schools.

STATUS Legend:

F – Final policy

P – Proposed Policy, awaiting State approval W– Working to formulate policy

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PART II: State Response and Activities for Meeting State Accountability System Requirements

Instructions

In Part II of this Workbook, States are to provide detailed information for each of the critical elements required for State accountability systems. States should answer the questions asked about each of the critical elements in the State's accountability system. States that do not have final approval for any of these elements or that have not finalized a decision on these elements by January 31, 2003, should, when completing this section of the Workbook, indicate the status of each element that is not yet official State policy and provide the anticipated date by which the proposed policy will become effective. In each of these cases, States must include a timeline of steps to complete to ensure that such elements are in place by May 1, 2003, and implemented during the 2002-2003 school year. By no later than May 1, 2003, States must submit to the Department final information for all sections of the Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
1.1 How does the State Accountability System include every public school and LEA in the State?	 Every public school and LEA is required to make adequate yearly progress and is included in the State Accountability System. State has a definition of "public school" and "LEA" for AYP accountability purposes. The State Accountability System produces AYP decisions for all public schools, including public schools with variant grade configurations (e.g., K-12), public schools that serve special populations (e.g., alternative public schools, juvenile institutions, state public schools for the blind) and public charter schools. It also holds accountable public schools with no grades assessed (e.g., K-2). 	A public school or LEA is not required to make adequate yearly progress and is not included in the State Accountability System. State policy systematically excludes certain public schools and/or LEAs.

PRINCIPLE 1. A single statewide Accountability System applied to all public schools and LEAs.

Tennessee will hold every public school and LEA in the state accountable, including charter schools. Only K-2 schools do not participate in the standardized state assessment system. These schools will be held accountable based on the performance of their receiving schools. T.C.A.49-1-602, enacted during the 2002 legislative session, amended the Education Improvement Act to form a single accountability system for all Tennessee public schools. All schools, Title I and non-Title I, will be held to the same Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) measures. The State will identify their progress in meeting those objectives by the required disaggregated subgroup populations on the State's report card.

In addition, during the 2002 legislative session, Tennessee enacted its first charter school legislation. This legislation specifically requires charter schools to meet adequate yearly progress measures or face the revocation of their charters.

T.C.A. 49-1-602 requires the Department of Education to present to the State Board of Education by September 1 the list of schools identified as not meeting AYP objectives and identified in a sanction category.

The State will assist LEAs to understand how the accountability system works by providing written guidance and holding special conferences and workshops. This information will include how the State calculates participation, attendance, and graduation rates.

Links to Supporting Evidence:

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
1.2 How are all public schools and LEAs held to the same criteria when making an AYP determination?	All public schools and LEAs are systematically judged on the basis of the same criteria when making an AYP determination.	Some public schools and LEAs are systematically judged on the basis of alternate criteria when making an AYP determination.
	If applicable, the AYP definition is integrated into the State Accountability System.	

All public schools, including charter schools, and LEAs are judged on the basis of the same AYP criteria for accountability purposes. Schools that contain grade configurations that cross both AYP levels (elementary/middle and secondary) will be held accountable for meeting AYP for both levels. Determination of the accountability status will be made for both levels in the school. The following types of schools will be held accountable in the manner described below:

K-2 Schools – The State will base their status on their receiving schools' AYP determination; *Alternative Schools* - Students in alternative schools will have their performance data assigned to the alternative schools they are attending, and the State will use the event dropout rate as the additional indicator for alternative schools with high school grades;

Local Special Schools – Students in special schools at the local level will have their performance data assigned to the schools they are attending;

Special Classrooms within Schools – Students in special classrooms within schools designed to meet special needs and serve students from other schools, such as specialized special education classes, will have their performance data assigned to the schools they are attending;

State Special Schools – Students in special schools at the state level, such as Tennessee School for the Blind, will have their performance data assigned to the state;

Small Schools – Schools with fewer than an N of 45 for all students for the most current year, which account for only about 3% of the schools in the state, will be defined as a small school and a 95% confidence band will be utilized to determine AYP for that year based on the school's "N" count. For schools with fewer than an N of 10 for all students for the most current year, the State will determine AYP by summing test results over 2 to 3 years, until an N of 10 is reached; and,

New Schools – Students in newly opened schools, including newly opened charter schools, will have their performance data assigned to the new school they are attending. The first year a new school is open, the State will only report the results of the assessments. The second year the State will make its initial adequate yearly progress (AYP) determination for the new school. The third year the new school is open will be the first year that the new school could potentially be identified for school improvement.

Schools with only grades 7-9 – Junior high schools with 7-9 grade configurations will base their status on elementary/middle AYP additional indicator standards.

High schools without a 12^{th} grade – The State will use the event dropout rate as the additional indicator for high schools that do not include 12^{th} grade.

In Tennessee, students in court-ordered facilities are by law the direct responsibility of the Department of Children's Services rather than the Department of Education and cannot be included in public school accountability determinations.

Please see Element 3.2 for a description of elementary/middle AYP determinations under the growth model pilot program.

Results from Tennessee's Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS) will be used to help schools and districts improve their educational programs for all students; to recognize schools and districts that meet adequate yearly progress and demonstrate high value-added effects; and to determine the level and kind of technical assistance provided to schools and districts that are identified in school improvement status.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
1.3 Does the State have, at a minimum, a definition of <i>basic, proficient</i> and <i>advanced</i> student achievement levels in reading/language arts and mathematics?	State has defined three levels of student achievement: <i>basic</i> , <i>proficient</i> and <i>advanced</i> . ¹ Student achievement levels of <i>proficient</i> and <i>advanced</i> determine how well students are mastering the materials in the State's academic content standards; and the <i>basic</i> level of achievement provides complete information about the progress of lower-achieving students toward mastering the <i>proficient</i> and <i>advanced</i> levels.	Standards do not meet the legislated requirements.

¹ System of State achievement standards will be reviewed by the Standards and Assessments Peer Review. The Accountability Peer Review will determine that achievement levels are used in determining AYP.

Tennessee's rigorous content and academic content standards describe three levels of performance: below proficient, proficient, and advanced. These standards were adopted by the State Board of Education in 2001. Standard setting for the high school Gateway mathematics, English, and science exams were determined in Summer 2002.

The following timeline delineates additional activities:

Spring 2003 – Implementation of State's standards-based assessments in reading/language arts and mathematics in grades 3, 5, and 8

Summer 2003 – Standard setting for standards-based assessments in reading/language arts and mathematics in grades 3, 5, and 8

Spring 2004 – Implementation of State's standards-based assessments in reading/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies in grades 3-8. Tennessee will use only the results of grades 3, 5, and 8 math and reading/language arts assessments in its AYP calculations until school year 2005-2006.

Summer 2004 – Standard setting for standards-based assessment in reading/language arts and mathematics in grades 4, 6, and 7, and standard setting for standards-based assessment in science and social studies grades 3-8.

Links to Supporting Evidence:

Curriculum Standards http://www.state.tn.us/education/ci/curriculum.shtml

TCAP Proficiency Levels – Elementary/Middle http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/tsach03nproflvl.shtml

TCAP Proficiency Levels – Secondary http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/tseocproflvl.shtml

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
1.4 How does the State provide accountability and adequate yearly progress decisions and information in a timely manner?	State provides decisions about adequate yearly progress in time for LEAs to implement the required provisions before the beginning of the next academic year. State allows enough time to notify parents about public school choice or supplemental educational service options, time for parents to make an informed decision, and time to implement public school choice and supplemental educational services.	Timeline does not provide sufficient time for LEAs to fulfill their responsibilities before the beginning of the next academic year.

The testing schedule for assessments included in the State's accountability system is as follows: February - Writing Assessments (grades 5, 8, and 11); April – Standards-based assessments - grades 3-8; and, May (and December for schools with block scheduling) – Gateway English and Math.

TCAP summary results and initial AYP determinations will be accomplished by August 1. The State and the affected district will notify parents of their options for public school choice and supplemental services for identified schools before the first day of school. This will be done by notifying the public through such mediums as the media and posting the information on the State and district web site. Identified schools will follow this initial public notification by sending letters home with students on the first day of school. All schools identified in any school improvement status will be notified by August 1 so that they may review their data and have an opportunity to appeal the decision for "statistical or other substantive reasons." The Department expects very few appeals and only those schools that 1) have indicated that they plan to appeal the decision for "statistical or other substantive reasons" and 2) would not have to offer public school choice and/or supplemental services if the appeal were successful would be allowed to inform parents that the implementation of these options would only occur if the school lost its appeal. This will happen by September 1, the date the Department is mandated to present its list of identified schools to the State Board of Education for approval as required by state law.

Schools that are identified will provide parents with the opportunity to enroll their child in another public school that is not identified for improvement. Schools in their second year of school improvement will also provide opportunities for supplemental services to the low-income lowest achieving students in the school.

Links to Supporting Data:

Accountability System produce an annual State Report Card?all the required data elements [see Appendix A for the list of required data elements].include all the required data elements.The State Report Card is not	CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
The State Report Card is available to the public at the beginning of the academic year. The State Report Card is accessible in languages of major populations in the State, to the extent available. Assessment results and other academic indicators (including graduation rates) are reported by student subgroups	Accountability System produce an annual State	all the required data elements [see Appendix A for the list of required data elements]. The State Report Card is available to the public at the beginning of the academic year. The State Report Card is accessible in languages of major populations in the State, to the extent available. Assessment results and other academic indicators (including graduation rates) are reported by	elements.

The Tennessee Annual Report Card includes all required data elements. In accordance with TCA 49-1-211, it is published online each year by November 1. NCLB results are also posted online at the beginning of the school year.

Under flexibility granted through the growth model pilot program, elementary/middle AYP determinations will include student projected scores on future assessments for all students and for each student subgroup. This data will be included on the Annual Report Card.

Links to Supporting Evidence:

http://www.state.tn.us/education/mdata.shtml

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
1.6 How does the State Accountability System include rewards and sanctions for public schools and LEAs? ²	 State uses one or more types of rewards and sanctions, where the criteria are: Set by the State; Based on adequate yearly progress decisions; and, Applied uniformly across public schools and LEAs. 	State does not implement rewards or sanctions for public schools and LEAs based on adequate yearly progress.

² The state must provide rewards and sanctions for all public schools and LEAs for making adequate yearly progress, except that the State is not required to hold schools and LEAs not receiving Title I funds to the requirements of section 1116 of NCLB [§200.12(b)(45)].

As a result of its unified single accountability system, the State recognizes two groups of schools: those that have exceeded their AYP for two or more years and those that significantly close the achievement gap between their subgroup student populations. Both groups of schools must also demonstrate strong value-added scores. These schools will be recognized on the State's report card site. The State will utilize the same recognition process for LEAs that significantly close the achievement gap and/or exceed their AYP for two or more consecutive years.

From the two groups of recognized schools, two Title I schools will be recognized to represent Tennessee nationally for having made the greatest gains in closing the achievement gap and/or exceeding their AYP for two or more consecutive years. These schools will be recognized at State Title I conferences and representatives from the schools will be sent to the National Title I conference to represent the State. Representatives from these schools will be utilized as part of the State's School Support System.

Because of its unified single accountability system, both Title I and non-Title I schools, and LEAs will face similar sanctions. All state schools enter the same sanction category in year 2 of school improvement (or "on notice" by state law). Title I schools face additional sanctions at each category of school improvement. These requirements are summarized in Attachment A.

Links to Supporting Evidence:

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
2.1 How does the State Accountability System include all students in the State?	All students in the State are included in the State Accountability System. The definitions of "public school" and "LEA" account for all students enrolled in the public school district, regardless of program or type of public school.	Public school students exist in the State for whom the State Accountability System makes no provision.

PRINCIPLE 2. All students are included in the State Accountability System.

All students enrolled in Tennessee public schools are required to participate in the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program. Only students who have significant medical emergencies may be exempted from participation. LEAs arrange for make up sessions when students are absent on the testing dates.

Beginning with Spring 2003, answer sheets for all students have been required to be returned to the State for processing. The answer sheet for all students, including those that did not participate, will be coded with the required demographic information so that the State may calculate the participation rate for all students and all required subgroups.

The State calculates the participation rate by dividing the number of attempted tests by the number of submitted test answer sheets. An attempted test is one in which the student attempted at least to answer some question on these required subtests of the TCAP: reading, language arts, writing, and/or math. The State clearly communicates to LEAs in written guidance as well as during conferences and workshops that every child must attempt the test. To check for the reliability of this system, the State randomly audits schools' submitted answer sheets against the schools' reported enrollment for the first day of testing.

Links to Supporting Evidence:

TCAP Administration Manual – Elementary/Middle http://state.tn.us/education/assessment/doc/ach_tam.pdf

TCAP Administration Manual – Secondary http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/doc/tsgweoctam.pdf

TCAP Administration Manual – Writing http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/doc/Writingtam_08.pdf

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
2.2 How does the State define "full academic year" for identifying students in AYP decisions?	The State has a definition of "full academic year" for determining which students are to be included in decisions about AYP. The definition of full academic year is consistent and applied statewide.	LEAs have varying definitions of "full academic year." The State's definition excludes students who must transfer from one district to another as they advance to the next grade. The definition of full academic year is not applied consistently.

A full academic year is defined as continuous enrollment in a school, district, or the state from at least one day of the first reporting period (consisting of the first 20 days of the school year and reported October 31) until test administration. This information is required to be coded on the students' test answer sheets. In cases in which students are absent because of suspension, the suspended students are still considered enrolled in the school.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
2.3 How does the State Accountability System determine which students have attended the same public school and/or LEA for a full academic year?	State holds public schools accountable for students who were enrolled at the same public school for a full academic year. State holds LEAs accountable for students who transfer during the full academic year from one public school within the district to another public school within the district.	State definition requires students to attend the same public school for more than a full academic year to be included in public school accountability. State definition requires students to attend school in the same district for more than a full academic year to be included in district accountability. State holds public schools accountable for students who have not attended the same public school for a full academic year.

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STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

The TCAP answer sheet identifies students who have been in the school, district, or state continuously for less than a full academic year. When the State analyzes test results for the purposes of accountability, only students who were in the school, district, or state for the full academic year are included in the appropriate category(s).

Please see the State's response to Critical Element 2.2 for the definition of a full academic year.

PRINCIPLE 3. State definition of AYP is based on expectations for growth in student achievement that is continuous and substantial, such that all students are proficient in reading/language arts and mathematics no later than 2013-2014.

3.1 How does the State's definition of adequate yearly progress require all students will meet or exceed the State's proficient in reading/language arts and mathematics by the 2013-2014. The State has a timeline for ensuring that all students will meet or exceed the State's proficient level of academic achievement in reading/language arts ³ and mathematics, not later than 2013-2014. State extends the timeline past the 2013-2014 academic year?	CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
	definition of adequate yearly progress require all students to be proficient in reading/language arts and mathematics by the 2013-	ensuring that all students will meet or exceed the State's proficient level of academic achievement in reading/language arts ³ and mathematics, not later	State definition does not require all students to achieve proficiency by 2013-2014. State extends the timeline past

³ If the state has separate assessments to cover its language arts standards (e.g., reading and writing), the State must create a method to include scores from all the relevant assessments.

Starting points, intermediate goals, and annual measurable objectives were set separately for reading/language arts and math in Summer 2003 such that they yield 100% proficiency for the State, LEAs, schools, and all required subgroups by 2013-14. Using the starting points for each content area and grade span, the amount of annual growth necessary to reach 100% within the 11 year period was calculated. Separate starting points, intermediate goals, and annual measurable objectives for math and reading/language arts were established for two levels: elementary-middle and high school levels. Reading/language arts were determined in the following manner: Grades 3 - 8 – Combining the results of the TCAP reading, language arts, and writing assessments (grades 5 and 8)

High School – Combining the results of the Gateway English and writing assessment (Grade 11)

The State has defined proficient on the Writing Assessments as scoring a 4 or above (out of 6) on the evaluation rubric.

Students who took the Gateway Math test in middle school will bank their scores until they reach high school. Those "banked" scores are included in the math AYP determination for the high school they attend.

All schools, Title I and non-Title I, which fail to meet annual measurable objectives in the same content area (math or reading/language arts) or the additional indicator (attendance rate or graduation rate) for two consecutive years are identified as in improvement status or moved to the next improvement category, according the Accountability Chart found in Attachment A. All districts which fail to meet annual measurable objectives in both their elementary/middle school and high school levels in a single content area (math or reading/language arts) or the additional indicator (attendance rate and graduation rate) for the first year are identified as LEA Target status. If the district misses the same, or another, single content area at both the elementary/middle school and the high school levels for the second year, the district is identified as in LEA Improvement status, or moved to the next improvement category, according to the Accountability Chart found in Attachment B. The State uses the "Same Subject, All Grade Spans" practice. Districts which contain only one grade span level, either elementary/middle or high school, and fail to meet annual measurable objectives in the same content area (math and reading/language arts) or the additional indicator for two consecutive years are identified in LEA Improvement or moved to the next improvement category, according to the Accountability Chart found in Attachment B.

The State rounds its AYP calculations to the nearest whole number.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
CRITICAL ELEMENT 3.2 How does the State Accountability System determine whether each student subgroup, public school and LEA makes AYP?		
	participation rate on the statewide assessment.	

CRITICAL ELEMENT

EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

In order for schools and LEAs to make AYP, each must meet or exceed:

- A 95% participation rate in the required TCAP accountability tests for all students and for each student subgroup;
- Annual measurable objectives in reading/language arts and math for all students and for each student subgroup with the application of a 95% confidence interval, and,
- Performance objectives for the additional indicator for all students or show improvement in meeting the objectives.

If a school or LEA fails to meet annual measurable objectives, a school or LEA may make AYP if the subgroup not making AYP reduces the percent of below proficient students by 10% from the previous year, 19% from two years previously, or 27% from three years previously – and makes progress on the additional indicator.

Under flexibility granted through the growth model pilot program, elementary/middle schools and the elementary/middle level for districts may also meet annual measurable objectives using students' projected scores on future assessments. In the growth model, the State will use all 4th grade students' projected scores on the 7th grade assessment, 5th grade students' projected scores on the 8th grade assessment, and $6^{th} - 8^{th}$ grade students' projected scores on the 8th grade students' projected scores for 3rd grade students, students new to the State testing system, and students assessed under alternative standards. To meet AYP through this option, schools and districts must meet the annual measurable objectives for each student subgroup without the application of a confidence interval. More details at:

http://www.state.tn.us/education/nclb/doc/NCLB%20GrowthModelProposal.pdf .

AYP status for schools that cross both levels, elementary-middle and high school, are determined at both levels. Sanctions and rewards are applied only to the level(s) affected.

The elementary/middle additional indicator is attendance rate and the high school additional indicator is graduation rate.

Schools and districts are able to meet AYP by using their most current year data; most current twoyear averages; or three-year rolling averages (when available).

In calculating AYP for student subgroups, 45 or more students must be included to assure high levels of reliability.

All students' scores are used as an aggregate to determine the AYP of schools as a whole. All schools' scores are used as an aggregate to determine the AYP of LEAs.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
3.2a What is the State's starti point for calculating Adequate Yearly Progress?	Ing Using data from the 2001-2002 school year, the State established separate starting points in reading/language arts and mathematics for measuring the percentage of students meeting or exceeding the State's proficient level of academic achievement.	The State Accountability System uses a different method for calculating the starting point (or baseline data).
	Each starting point is based, at a minimum, on the higher of the following percentages of students at the proficient level: (1) the percentage in the State of proficient students in the lowest- achieving student subgroup; or, (2) the percentage of proficient students in a public school at the 20 th percentile of the State's total enrollment among all schools ranked by the percentage of students at the proficient level.	
	A State may use these procedures to establish separate starting points by grade span; however, the starting point must be the same for all like schools (e.g., one same starting point for all elementary schools, one same starting point for all middle schools)	

AYP starting points were determined in Summer 2003 by the higher of the two calculations described below:

1. Average TCAP proficiency percentages were calculated for each school at each grade span in reading/language arts and math separately. Schools were sorted by the required grade span and ranked from highest to lowest based on performance. Beginning with the lowest performing school and moving up, enrollments were aggregated until 20 percent of the State's enrollment for that grade span level was captured. The score of the school at the 20th percentile of enrollment was the score that was used for the starting point; or 2. The percentage of the lowest performing subgroup.

These AYP starting points were determined by the test results from school year 2002-2003 for the standards-based assessments in reading/language arts, writing, and mathematics for grades 3, 5, and 8 for the elementary and middle school level.

These AYP starting points were determined by the test results from school year 2002-2003 for the Gateway English, mathematics, and 11th grade writing assessments for the high school level.

Two grade spans were determined: elementary/middle and high school.

These reading/language arts and math starting points were applied to determine whether AYP had been attained for all schools and districts for school year 2003-2004.

For grades 3-8, the reading/language arts score were determined by averaging the Reading/Language Arts Composite Proficiency Score with the Writing Proficiency score as follows:

- Grades 5 and 8 at the weight of 1 part Reading/Language Arts Composite Proficiency Score and .5 part Writing Proficiency Score; and,
- Grades 3, 4, 6, and 7 at the weight of 1 part Reading/Language Arts Composite Proficiency Score.

For high school, the reading/language arts scores were determined by averaging the Gateway English Proficiency Score at the weight of 1 part and the 11th Grade Writing Proficiency Score at .5 part.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
3.2b What are the State's annual measurable objectives for determining adequate yearly progress?	State has annual measurable objectives that are consistent with a state's intermediate goals and that identify for each year a minimum percentage of students who must meet or exceed the proficient level of academic achievement on the State's academic assessments. The State's annual measurable objectives ensure that all students meet or exceed the State's proficient level of academic achievement within the timeline. The State's annual measurable objectives are the same throughout the State for each public school, each LEA, and each subgroup of students.	The State Accountability System uses another method for calculating annual measurable objectives. The State Accountability System does not include annual measurable objectives.

CRITICAL	ELEMENT
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EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

Tennessee's accountability system has incorporated all AYP requirements including annual measurable objectives that are applied to all public schools in the State. Annual measurable objectives and goals are the same for the State, every LEA, every school, and all required subgroups of students. Intermediate goals and annual measurable objectives were determined in Fall 2003. These were established to ensure that all students are proficient in reading/language arts and math by 2013-2014.

The State Board of Education adopted annual measurable objectives as its August 22nd, 2003 meeting and adopted the rounded calculations listed below at its June 23, 2004 meeting.

Tennessee's Targets for Reading/Language Arts and Math at the Elementary/Middle School Level Determined by the Percent of Students at the Proficient or Above Levels

School Year	Reading/Language Arts Target	Math Target	Attendance Rate
2002-2003 through			
2003-2004	77%	72%	93%
2004-2005 through			
2006-2007	83%	79%	93%
2007-2008 through			
2009-2010	89%	86%	93%
2010-2011 through			
2012-2013	94%	93%	93%
2013-2014	100%	100%	93%

Tennessee's Targets for Reading/Language Arts and Math at the High School Level Determined by the Percent of Students at the Proficient or Above Levels

School Year	Reading/Language Arts Target	Math Target	Graduation Rate
2002-2003 through			
2003-2004	86%	65%	90%
2004-2005 through			
2006-2007	90%	75%	90%
2007-2008 through			
2009-2010	93%	83%	90%
2010-2011 through			
2012-2013	97%	91%	90%
2013-2014	100%	100%	90%

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
3.2c What are the State's intermediate goals for determining adequate yearly progress?	 State has established intermediate goals that increase in equal increments over the period covered by the State timeline. The first incremental increase takes effect not later than the 2004-2005 academic year. Each following incremental increase occurs within three years. 	The State uses another method for calculating intermediate goals. The State does not include intermediate goals in its definition of adequate yearly progress.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
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Intermediate AYP goals were determined in Fall 2003. As required by NCLB, the first incremental increase occurred during the 2004-05 school year. Subsequent increases will occur in not more than 3 years after that point. Refer to element 3.2b.

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PRINCIPLE 4. State makes annual decisions about the achievement of all public schools and LEAs.

	CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
4.1	How does the State Accountability System make an annual determination of whether each public school and LEA in the State made AYP?	AYP decisions for each public school and LEA are made annually. ⁴	AYP decisions for public schools and LEAs are not made annually.

 $^{^4}$ Decisions may be based upon several years of data and data may be averaged across grades within a public school [§1111(b)(2)(J)].

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS		
STATE RESPONSE AND STATE	ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQU	IREMENTS		
	As required by both state and federal legislative requirements, AYP determinations are made annually for each public school and school district in the State.			
Links to Supporting Document	ation:			
http://state.tn.us/education/nclb	p/ayp/			

PRINCIPLE 5. All public schools and LEAs are held accountable for the	
achievement of individual subgroups.	

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
5.1 How does the definition of adequate yearly progress include all the required student subgroups?	Identifies subgroups for defining adequate yearly progress: economically disadvantaged, major racial and ethnic groups, students with disabilities, and students with limited English proficiency. Provides definition and data source of subgroups for adequate yearly progress.	State does not disaggregate data by each required student subgroup.

CRITICAL ELEMENT

EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

The TCAP administration collects the required subgroup data for assessments. The State's Education Information System (EIS) collects average daily attendance, average daily membership, and demographic data for subgroup attendance rates. The State calculates graduation rates by race/ethnicity and in 2005-06 will implement a process to begin tracking individual student level data for calculating graduation rates for the other required subgroup populations. The subgroups are defined as follows:

- Race/ethnicity Asian/Pacific Islander, Black, Hispanic, Native American, White
- Economically disadvantaged Students eligible for free or reduced price lunch
- Students with disabilities Students with disabilities as defined by IDEA receiving special education services
- Limited English Proficient Students who are non-English language background and have not been reclassified as Fluent English proficient as defined by this definition in the State's plan for Title VI compliance to the Office for Civil Rights *Fluent English proficient*: non-English language background students who show no difficulty in regular classroom performance and meet one of the following criteria:
 - 1. upon initial enrollment in a Tennessee public school, scored Fluent English Proficient on all subsections of the state approved English Language Proficiency assessment; or,
 - 2. initially qualified as limited English proficient based on the state approved English Language Proficiency assessment, received English as a Second Language services, and has now scored proficient or above for two (2) consecutive years on the state approved English Language Proficiency assessment; or,
 - 3. demonstrated the ability to meet the State's proficient or above proficient level of achievement on State assessment described in section 1111(b)(3) for reading and language arts.

These data are being used for the subgroup accountability purposes.

Links to Supporting Documentation: TCAP Administration Manual – Elementary/Middle http://state.tn.us/education/assessment/doc/ach_tam.pdf

TCAP Administration Manual – Secondary http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/doc/tsgweoctam.pdf

TCAP Administration Manual – Writing http://state.tn.us/education/assessment/doc/Writingtam_08.pdf

Education Information System <u>http://tennessee.gov/education/eis/</u>

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
5.2 How are public schools and LEAs held accountable for the progress of student subgroups in the determination of adequate yearly progress?	Public schools and LEAs are held accountable for student subgroup achievement: economically disadvantaged, major ethnic and racial groups, students with disabilities, and limited English proficient students.	State does not include student subgroups in its State Accountability System.

CRITICAL ELEMENT

EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

State – All students aggregated across the state and all of the required subgroups must meet the annual performance objectives in reading/language arts and math with the application of a 95% confidence interval at the two levels, elementary-middle and high school to make AYP.

LEA – Each LEA as a whole and all of its required subgroups must reach annual performance objectives in reading/language arts and math with the application of a 95% confidence interval in order for the LEA to make AYP. Districts that cross both levels will be assessed for AYP status based on both levels.

School – Each school as a whole and all of its required subgroups must reach annual performance objectives in reading and math with the application of a 95% confidence interval in order for the school to make AYP. Schools that cross both levels will be assessed for AYP status based on both levels.

The State includes only scores from students who are continuously enrolled in the school or LEA for a full academic year. The State includes only subgroup populations in accountability and reporting decisions that have met the minimum number of students. The State ensures that 95% of all students and 95% of all subgroups (having met the minimum number of students) have participated in the assessment for a school or LEA as a requirement of AYP. The State applies the 1% flexibility provision at both the district and state level for the inclusion of proficient scores on alternative assessment for students with disabilities held to alternative standards.

Within a single school year AYP assessment cycle, in which students are "first time test takers" who retest subsequent to the official administration of an assessment, Tennessee will calculate AYP using the "best score" or results from subsequent test administrations. Tennessee's school year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30th which deems the AYP assessment cycle as including, in this order, the summer, fall and spring assessment administrations. This moves the State from the prior practice of calculating only "first time test takers" for AYP purposes into the use of a "best score" for students taking multiple test administrations during the same school year AYP assessment cycle.

The State determines whether or not the LEA or the school meets the "Safe Harbor" provision of NCLB when the State determines that a subgroup has failed AYP.

CRITICAL	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
5.3 How are students with disabilities included in the State's definition of adequate yearly progress?	All students with disabilities participate in statewide assessments: general assessments with or without accommodations or an alternate assessment based on grade level standards for the grade in which students are enrolled. State demonstrates that students with disabilities are fully included in the State Accountability System.	The State Accountability System or State policy excludes students with disabilities from participating in the statewide assessments. State cannot demonstrate that alternate assessments measure grade-level standards for the grade in which students are enrolled.

CRITICAL	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS	
CRITICAL	MEETING REQUIREMENTS	NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS	

All students with disabilities participate in the TCAP with appropriate accommodations or the TCAP –Alternate. All TCAP and TCAP-Alternate results for students with disabilities are included as part of the AYP equation.

Scores from the TCAP-Alternate are reported in the three levels used by the State: below proficient, proficient, and advanced.

The scores for students with disabilities who take the alternate assessment are included in the assessment data in the accountability system within the parameters defined by federal statute and regulations. The State applies the 1% flexibility provision at both the district and state level for the inclusion of proficient scores on the alternative assessment for students with disabilities held to alternative standards.

Tennessee has developed criteria that define most severely cognitively disabled. Only those students meeting the criteria will be eligible to participate in the alternative assessment. Tennessee will permit districts to exceed the 1% cap on the number of proficient and advanced scores based on the alternate achievement standards that can be included in AYP calculations if the LEA establishes that the incidence of students with the most significant disabilities, as defined by the State, exceeds the limit and if the LEA documents circumstances that explain the higher percentage. Without approval of the waiver requesting the extension of the 1% cap, proficient scores exceeding this cap must be changed to below proficient for accountability purposes.

Tennessee will develop modified achievement standards for an additional 2% of students based on final USEDE regulations and will apply interim flexibility to adjust students with disabilities proficiency rates in schools that fail to make AYP solely due to the performance of the students with disabilities subgroup. For data from school year 2006-07, the Department will calculate a proxy to determine the percentage of special education that is equivalent to 2% of all students assessed. The proxy of 13% will then be added to the percent of students with disabilities who are proficient or advanced, determined without the utilization of a confidence interval.

Links to Supporting Evidence:

http://state.tn.us/education/assessment/tsaccom.shtml

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
5.4 How are students with limited English proficiency included in the State's definition of adequate yearly progress?	All LEP students participate in statewide assessments: general assessments with or without accommodations or a native language version of the general assessment based on grade level standards. State demonstrates that LEP students are fully included in the State Accountability System.	LEP students are not fully included in the State Accountability System.

CRIT	ICAL	EL	EM	ENT

EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

To ensure compliance with NCLB, all limited English proficient (LEP) students are included in TCAP administration. The state has developed an inclusion policy and a list of approved accommodations for LEP students.

In addition, the Department will develop and implement an alternative assessment for LEP students to measure their content knowledge in reading/language arts and math. This alternative assessment will be aligned with the State's content standards. The State will continue to require all LEP students to participate in the regular TCAP program with allowable accommodations until the alternative reading/language arts and math assessments are implemented.

LEP students take the TCAP reading/language arts and math assessment and the English language proficiency test the first academic year they are in an American school. Their participation in the TCAP assessments is included in the participation rate but not in the AYP determination. Students who are identified as LEP and monitored for two years after they test proficient are not counted in the LEP subgroup to meet the minimum N, but their scores are counted in that subgroup when the minimum N count is achieved by a school or district.

Links to Supporting Documentation:

ELL Policy and Accommodations http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/tsaccom.shtml

	CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
5.5	What is the State's definition of the minimum number of students in a subgroup required for reporting purposes? For accountability purposes?	State defines the number of students required in a subgroup for reporting and accountability purposes, and applies this definition consistently across the State. ⁵ Definition of subgroup will result in data that are statistically reliable.	State does not define the required number of students in a subgroup for reporting and accountability purposes. Definition is not applied consistently across the State. Definition does not result in data that are statistically reliable.

 $^{^{5}}$ The minimum number is not required to be the same for reporting and accountability.

The minimum size of subgroups vary based on the purposes of the calculation. The purposes for adopting a minimum subgroup size are for reporting results and calculating accountability for results.

Reporting Results

The minimum number of students in a group required for TCAP reporting is an annual minimum n-count of 10.

Calculating Accountability for Results

For the purpose of reporting AYP, the minimum N count is 1% of the tested students or 45, whichever is greater. This value provides an acceptable balance between the requirement for statistical reliability in the AYP calculations and holding schools accountable for the maximum number of students. If a school or LEA meets or exceeds the minimum number of students in a required subgroup and meets the 95% participation rate requirement, then that school or LEA must meet annual performance objectives set by the State with the application of a 95% confidence interval.

Impact analyses conducted in Tennessee using subgroup population data indicate that the selection of a required minimum n-count of 45 does not adversely impact the percent of inclusion of any subgroup population. Tennessee uses n-counts generated from two grade spans; K - 8, and 9 - 12. Distribution of the total student population as well subgroups designated for reporting by NCLB indicate the following impact of 45 as a minimum n-count:

		Total	Average # of	# of schools	# of students
	Total #	Number of	students per	meeting n-	reported based
Classification	schools	Students	school	count	upon n-count
All students	1306	421,648	323	1273	420,951
White	1270	299,655	236	1122	297,441
Black	1129	107,747	95	498	99,769
Asian	735	5,005	7	17	977
Hispanic	997	8,025	8	17	1162
Native American	536	1,277	2	0	0
Low income	1306	184,431	141	1114	179,628
Special Needs	1309	51,827	40	426	31,418
Limited Eng. Prof.	452	2,614	6	6	342

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
5.6 How does the State Accountability System protect the privacy of students when reporting results and when determining AYP?	Definition does not reveal personally identifiable information. ⁶	Definition reveals personally identifiable information.

⁶ The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) prohibits an LEA that receives Federal funds from releasing, without the prior written consent of a student's parents, any personally identifiable information contained in a student's education record.

The minimum number of students in a LEA or school group required for <u>reporting results</u>, but not for determining AYP or participation rates, is 10. Regardless of the n-count, under no circumstances is the data reported result in the identification of individual student performance, i.e., the reporting of 0% proficient. Criteria established for necessary AYP and/or participation rate n-counts of 45 were determined based upon rationale presented in 5.5.

When all students in a subgroup perform at the same level (for example, all are not proficient or all are proficient), then Tennessee reports the data as <5% of the particular subgroup was not proficient on the particular measure or conversely that >95% of the students were proficient on the particular measure.

PRINCIPLE 6.	State definition of AYP is based primarily on the State's academic
assessments.	

CRITICAL ELEMENT MEETING REQUIREMENTS			EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
6.1 How is the St definition of a yearly progre primarily on a assessments	dequate decisions ss based assessm cademic ? Plan clea	arly identifies which ents are included in	Formula for AYP shows that decisions are based primarily on non-academic indicators or indicators other than the State assessments.

⁷ State Assessment System will be reviewed by the Standards and Assessments Peer Review Team.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
STATE RESPONSE AND STATE	ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQU	
	ludes primarily academic indicators:	
1.For grades 3-8: • Reading/language	e arts/writing and math results; and,	
 Attendance rate. 	and main results, and,	
2.For high school;		
• •	and Writing assessment results and C	Gateway Math; and,
• Graduation rate.		
Reading/language arts in grades 3 writing assessment.	-8 includes the standards-based asses	ssment and the performance-based
Reading/language arts in high school includes the standards-based Gateway English assessment and the 11 th grade performance based writing assessment.		

PRINCIPLE 7. State definition of AYP includes graduation rates for public High schools and an additional indicator selected by the State for public Middle and public Elementary schools (such as attendance rates).

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
7.1 What is the State definition for the public high school graduation rate?	 State definition of graduation rate: Calculates the percentage of students, measured from the beginning of the school year, who graduate from public high school with a regular diploma (not including a GED or any other diploma not fully aligned with the state's academic standards) in the standard number of years; or, Uses another more accurate definition that has been approved by the Secretary; and Must avoid counting a dropout as a transfer. Graduation rate is included (in the aggregated (as necessary) for use when applying the exception clause⁸ to make AYP. 	State definition of public high school graduation rate does not meet these criteria.

⁸ See USC 6311(b)(2)(I)(i), and 34 C.F.R. 200.20(b)

Tennessee's definition of graduation rate includes only those students who receive diplomas within the standard number of years including summer school terms. The standard number of years is defined as 4 years plus any summer school terms including the summer school term after 12th grade. Limited English proficient students and students with disabilities who have individualized educational plans that include a 5 year high school program are counted in the graduation rate when they receive regular diplomas in 5 years plus any summer school terms including the summer school term after 12th grade. Students who graduate from early college/middle college high schools that include an integrated high school/postsecondary program are counted in the graduation rate when they receive regular diplomas in 5 years plus any summer school terms including the summer school term after 12th grade. The Department does not count transfers as dropouts and includes specific information in the Attendance Manual to local educational agencies about this.

Tennessee's Education Information System (EIS) calculates average daily attendance and average daily membership for the state's district funding formula. It assigns each student a unique identifier and collects each student's enrollment, exiting, and completion information. The system is precise and monitored by state personnel as the per pupil expenditure follows the student from system to system. Each student is tracked from school to school and system to system with his identifying number for the entire state. This process guarantees that no student who has dropped out of school will be counted as a transfer.

The graduation rate numerator only includes students who receive a regular diploma in the standard number of years. The numerator does not include students who obtain a GED, a special education diploma, or certificate of attendance. The number of regular on-time graduates is divided by the sum of all graduates, completers, and dropouts over the previous 4 years.

The State has the capacity to disaggregate this information for race/ethnicity. For the other three required subgroups, the State will begin to track first-time 9th graders for school year 2005-2006 and annually adjust the cohort for transfers and exclusions. By 2009-10, the State will be able to calculate a graduation rate for those three groups. Until this time, the Department will use the event dropout rate for these groups for the safe harbor provision.

The State Board of Education adopted a graduation rate measurable objective as 90% or improvement at its June 23, 2004 meeting. A school or district may meet the 90% objective by using the current year data, the most recent two years' worth of data, or a three-year rolling average. Beginning in 2006, the Department will apply previous-year graduation rates to AYP.

If the 90% measurable objective is not met, a school or district may meet improvement based on the prescribed graduation rate improvement track. Beginning in 2009, a school or district may also meet improvement if the graduation rate did not decrease from the prior year, is within two percentage points of the prescribed graduation improvement track, and shows overall improvement on the event dropout rate

Links to Supporting Evidence: http://tennessee.gov/education/schapproval/attendancemanual/ http://www.state.tn.us/education/nclb/

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
7.2 What is the State's additional academic indicator for public elementary schools for the definition of AYP? For public middle schools for the definition of AYP?	State defines the additional academic indicators, e.g., additional State or locally administered assessments not included in the State assessment system, grade-to-grade retention rates or attendance rates. ⁹ An additional academic indicator is included (in the aggregate) for AYP, and disaggregated (as necessary) for use when applying the exception clause to make AYP.	State has not defined an additional academic indicator for elementary and middle schools.

⁹ NCLB only lists these indicators as examples.

	EXAMPLES FOR	EXAMPLES OF
CRITICAL ELEMENT	MEETING REQUIREMENTS	NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

The additional indicator at the elementary and middle school levels is attendance rate.

The State collects attendance rate at the elementary and middle school levels disaggregated by the required subgroups.

The State Board of Education adopted an attendance rate measurable objective of 93% or improvement at its June 23, 2004 meeting. A school or district may meet this objective by using the current year data, the most recent two years' worth of data, or a three-year rolling average.

		NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
indicators valid and reliable?	State has defined academic indicators that are valid and reliable. State has defined academic indicators that are consistent with nationally recognized standards, if any.	State has an academic indicator that is not valid and reliable. State has an academic indicator that is not consistent with nationally recognized standards. State has an academic indicator that is not consistent within grade levels.

	EXAMPLES FOR	EXAMPLES OF	
CRITICAL ELEMENT	MEETING REQUIREMENTS	NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS	

The State has collected and analyzed dropout and attendance data for many years with increased accuracy. As the State establishes its system for collecting and analyzing data for the graduation rate, it will ensure that the process will meet a strict test for reliability and validity. The other indicator for elementary/middle school, attendance, will meet the strict tests of reliability and validity required through our data collection system.

PRINCIPLE 8. AYP is based on reading/language arts and mathematics achievement objectives.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
8.1 Does the state measure achievement in reading/language arts and mathematics separately for determining AYP?	State AYP determination for student subgroups, public schools and LEAs separately measures reading/language arts and mathematics. ¹⁰ AYP is a separate calculation for reading/language arts and mathematics for each group, public school, and LEA.	State AYP determination for student subgroups, public schools and LEAs averages or combines achievement across reading/language arts and mathematics.

¹⁰ If the state has more than one assessment to cover its language arts standards, the State must create a method for including scores from all the relevant assessments.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

A separate determination is made annually in reading/language arts and math. An LEA or school must reach performance objectives in both content areas with the application of a 95% confidence interval in order to make AYP.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
9.1 How do AYP determinations meet the State's standard for acceptable reliability?	State has defined a method for determining an acceptable level of reliability (decision consistency) for AYP decisions. State provides evidence that decision consistency is (1) within the range deemed acceptable to the State, and (2) meets professional standards and practice. State publicly reports the estimate of decision consistency, and incorporates it appropriately into accountability decisions. State updates analysis and reporting of decision consistency at appropriate intervals.	State does not have an acceptable method for determining reliability (decision consistency) of accountability decisions, e.g., it reports only reliability coefficients for its assessments. State has parameters for acceptable reliability; however, the actual reliability (decision consistency) falls outside those parameters. State's evidence regarding accountability reliability (decision consistency) is not updated.

PRINCIPLE 9. State Accountability System is statistically valid and reliable.

CRITICAL	ELEMENT

EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

The criterion referenced assessments utilized to underpin the accountability process specified in NCLB have been developed specifically to measure student proficiency levels relative to the state curriculum framework. The alignment of the assessment items comprising the annual tests are subject to state approval before each administration. This process provides content validity.

Adequate Yearly Progress necessary to reach 100% by the 2013-2014 school year was computed utilizing the percentages of student subgroups in Tennessee whose participation rates equal or exceed 95% and was based upon success in the attainment of proficiency standards objectively established by the collective deliberation of experts and practitioners in the appropriate curricular areas. A scientifically based on going analysis of performance and progress will inform the state of the appropriateness of both the utilization of the assessment and the instruction relative to the approved curricular frameworks. These analyses should provide construct validity.

The State studies the decisions that have been made on AYP determinations on an annual basis. The State reviews the validity and reliability of those determinations and makes adjustments based on this review.

Because of the Department's review of the AYP determinations made for the first time on 2002-2003 data, the Department had proposed and subsequently received approval to make revisions to its original accountability plan. Because 47% of Tennessee schools and 92% of its districts were identified as not making AYP based on the 2002-2003 data, the State contended that its AYP model needed to include the application of a 95% confidence interval to improve the validity and reliability of its AYP decisions. When impact analysis was done, it was determined that identification of schools and districts as failing AYP based on 2002-2003 data would decrease substantially. Only 21.8% of elementary/middle schools would have been identified as failing instead of 46.5%. High schools failing AYP would decrease from 56% to 31.1%. Districts failing elementary/middle level would decrease from 88.3% to 77.4% while at the high school level the reduction would be 68.3% to 40.7%.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
9.2 What is the State's process for making valid AYP determinations?	State has established a process for public schools and LEAs to appeal an accountability decision.	State does not have a system for handling appeals of accountability decisions.

CRITICAL	ELEMENT

EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

EXAMPLES OF *NOT* MEETING REQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

Assessments are reviewed annually before administration to assure alignment with state content standards. Sample results are analyzed to determine that assessment scales validly reflect performance for students at each 5^{th} percentile level of performance (i.e., 5^{th} , 10^{th} , ... 80^{th} ...).

Any school may appeal to the district and districts to the state decisions made regarding AYP. In the case of AYP decisions regarding schools, the LEA must consider the appeal for transmission to the State. If the LEA agrees with the appeal and submits it to the State, the State considers the appeal. The decision is made and conveyed to the school within the 30 days timeframe. Under State law, the State is responsible for the final determination of schools in improvement categories.

Similarly, if a district appeals a decision regarding AYP, the State must make a final determination within 30 days of the date of the appeal.

The State provides technical assistance to schools and LEAs with the appeals process.

 9.3 How has the State planned for incorporating into its definition of AYP anticipated changes in assessments? 9.3 How has the State planned for incorporating into its definition of AYP anticipated changes in assessment? 9.3 State has a plan to maintain continuity in AYP decisions necessary for validity through planned assessment changes, and other changes necessary to comply fully with NCLB.¹¹ 9.3 State has a plan for including new public schools in the State Accountability System. 9.4 State has a plan for periodically reviewing its State Accountability System, so that unforeseen changes can be quickly addressed. 	CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
	for incorporating into its definition of AYP anticipated changes in	continuity in AYP decisions necessary for validity through planned assessment changes, and other changes necessary to comply fully with NCLB. ¹¹ State has a plan for including new public schools in the State Accountability System. State has a plan for periodically reviewing its State Accountability System, so that unforeseen changes can be quickly	annual determination of AYP. State does not have a plan for handling changes: e.g., to its assessment system, or the

¹¹ Several events may occur which necessitate such a plan. For example, (1) the State may need to include additional assessments in grades 3-8 by 2005-2006; (2) the State may revise content and/or academic achievement standards; (3) the State may need to recalculate the starting point with the addition of new assessments; or (4) the State may need to incorporate the graduation rate or other indicators into its State Accountability System. These events may require new calculations of validity and reliability.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPL NOT ME
		REQUIRE

EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING EQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

Tennessee has implemented a standards-based assessment system in grades 3-8 in reading/language arts, math, science, and social studies. The State has established starting points for reading/language arts and math for elementary/middle school level determined by the results of the grades 3, 5, and 8 in Summer 2003. The starting point for science was established in Summer 2004.

Tennessee annually reviews how AYP decisions are applied regarding validity and reliability to determine any revisions necessary in its accountability system

Link to Supporting Documentation: http://www.state.tn.us/education/assessment/

PRINCIPLE 10. In order for a public school or LEA to make AYP, the State ensures that it assessed at least 95% of the students enrolled in each subgroup.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
10.1 What is the State's method for calculating participation rates in the State assessments for use in AYP determinations?	State has a procedure to determine the number of absent or untested students (by subgroup and aggregate). State has a procedure to determine the denominator (total enrollment) for the 95% calculation (by subgroup and aggregate). Public schools and LEAs are held accountable for reaching the 95% assessed goal.	The state does not have a procedure for determining the rate of students participating in statewide assessments. Public schools and LEAs are not held accountable for testing at least 95% of their students.

CRITICAL ELEMENT

EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

Tennessee determined participation rates for the first time in Spring 2003. Only schools and LEAs that meet the 95% participation rate for all students and each subgroup meet AYP requirements unless the size of the subgroup does not meet the minimum number set for participation rate purposes (45). To meet this requirement, the State will use the most current year, the most current two years, or the most current three years participation rate data.

Schools are responsible for completing answer sheets for any student enrolled in grades and subjects included in the assessment program. The participation rate for all students and required subgroups are determined by the number of students participating in the assessment divided by the number of students enrolled (as indicated by the number of answer sheets). Only students who have a significant medical emergency may be exempted from testing and not counted in the participation rate calculation. Students with invalid assessment scores are counted only in the denominator of the participation rate calculation and are not counted in the numerator. These data are randomly audited for accuracy by the Division of Internal Audit.

CRITICAL ELEMENT	EXAMPLES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLES OF <i>NOT</i> MEETING REQUIREMENTS
10.2 What is the State's policy for determining when the 95% assessed requirement should be applied?	State has a policy that implements the regulation regarding the use of 95% allowance when the group is statistically significant according to State rules.	State does not have a procedure for making this determination.

	EXAMPLES FOR
CRITICAL ELEMENT	MEETING REQUIREMENTS

EXAMPLES OF NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS

STATE RESPONSE AND STATE ACTIVITIES FOR MEETING REQUIREMENTS

The State bases its 95% calculation upon the student membership documentation provided by each LEA and school during testing. Schools and LEAs in which fewer than 95% of any subgroup fails to participate in the state assessment fail AYP, unless the size of the subgroup does not meet the minimum number set for accountability purposes (i.e. 45). These data are randomly audited for accuracy by the Division of Internal Audit.

Appendix A

Required Data Elements for State Report Card

1111(h)(1)(C)

1. Information, in the aggregate, on student achievement at each proficiency level on the State academic assessments (disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, disability status, migrant status, English proficiency, and status as economically disadvantaged, except that such disaggregation shall not be required in a case in which the number of students in a category is insufficient to yield statistically reliable information or the results would reveal personally identifiable information about an individual student.

2. Information that provides a comparison between the actual achievement levels of each student subgroup and the State's annual measurable objectives for each such group of students on each of the academic assessments.

3. The percentage of students not tested (disaggregated by the student subgroups), except that such disaggregation shall not be required in a case in which the number of students in a category is insufficient to yield statistically reliable information or the results would reveal personally identifiable information about an individual student.

4. The most recent 2-year trend in student achievement in each subject area, and for each grade level, for the required assessments.

5. Aggregate information on any other indicators used by the State to determine the adequate yearly progress of students in achieving State academic achievement standards disaggregated by student subgroups.

6. Graduation rates for secondary school students disaggregated by student subgroups.

7. Information on the performance of local educational agencies in the State regarding making adequate yearly progress, including the number and names of each school identified for school improvement under section 1116.

8. The professional qualifications of teachers in the State, the percentage of such teachers teaching with emergency or provisional credentials, and the percentage of classes in the State not taught by highly qualified teachers, in the aggregate and disaggregated by high-poverty compared to low-poverty schools which (for this purpose) means schools in the top quartile of poverty and the bottom quartile of poverty in the State.

TENNESSEE CONSOLIDATED STATE APPLICATION ACCOUNTABILITY WORKBOOK

Attachment A Tennessee Accountability Chart for Schools

Tennessee Accountability Chart for <u>School Systems / LEAs</u>						
Target	LEA Improvement 1 (1 st Year Improvement Status)	LEA Improvement 2 (2 nd Year Improvement Status)	LEA Corrective Action (3 rd Year Improvement Status)	LEA Restructuring 1 (4 th Year Improvement Status)	LEA Restructuring 2 – Alternative Governance (5 th Year Improvement Status)	State/LEA Reconstitution Plan
After 1st Year Not Making	After 2nd Year Not Making	After 3rd Year Not Making AYP	After 4th Year Not Making AYP	After 5th Year Not Making AYP	After 6th Year Not Making AYP	After 7th Year Not Making AYP
AYP (Beginning Year 2)	AYP (Beginning of Year 3)	(Beginning of Year 4)	(Beginning of Year 5)	(Beginning of Year 6)	(Beginning of Year 7)	(Beginning of Year 8)
	TCA-49-1-602	TCA-49-1-602	TCA-49-1-602	TCA-49-1-602	TCA-49-1-602	NCLB
	 The commissioner of education shall: Publicly identify all LEAs that are placed in improvement status; and Study all LEAs placed in improvement status. NCLB Parent Notification and Dissemination Develop or Revise TCSPP within 3 months (including 10% of funding used for professional development each year system identified) Implement TCSPP expeditiously (but no later than beginning of next school year) Technical Assistance 	 The commissioner of education shall have the authority to: Approve the allocation of state discretionary grants to schools within the LEA; and Provide technical assistance to the LEA through an outside expert. The director of each LEA shall have responsibility for the following actions: Prompt Parent Notification; and Revision of TCSPP NCLB Parent Notification and Dissemination Develop or Revise TCSPP within 3 months (including 10% of funding used for professional development each year system identified) Implement TCSPP expeditiously (but no later than beginning of next school year) Technical Assistance 	 The commissioner of education shall have the authority to: Approve LEA allocation of financial resources to schools within LEA; Appoint a local community review committee to approve and monitor the TCSPP; and Implement at least one (1) of the following Corrective Actions: Replace LEA personnel relevant to failure to make adequate yearly progress; Mandate a new, research-based curriculum; Appoint outside management or instructional consultants; or Reorganize internal management structure The director of each LEA shall have responsibility for: Provide Remediation / Supplemental Services; and Revision of TCSPP NCLB Parent Notification and Dissemination Technical Assistance SDE shall take at least one of the following corrective actions: Deferring programmatic funds or reducing administrative funds New curriculum Replace LEA personnel relevant to failure Remove particular schools from LEA jurisdiction Appoint receiver / trustee Abolish / restructure LEA Public LEA Choice 	 The commissioner of education shall have the authority to: Approve LEA allocation of financial resources to schools within LEA; Approve LEA allocation of personnel resources to schools within LEA; Continue to Implement at least one (1) of the following Corrective Actions: Replace LEA personnel relevant to failure to make adequate progress; Mandate a new, research-based curriculum; Appoint outside management or instructional consultants; or Reorganize internal management structure The director of each LEA shall have responsibility for: Provide Remediation / Supplemental Services; and Revision of TCSPP NCLB Parent Notification and Dissemination Technical Assistance SDE shall take at least one of the following corrective actions: Deferring programmatic funds or reducing administrative funds New curriculum Replace LEA personnel relevant to failure Remove particular schools from LEA jurisdiction Appoint receiver / trustee Abolish / restructure LEA Public LEA Choice 	 The commissioner of education shall have the authority to: Assume any or all powers of governance for LEA; provided, however the LEA will continue to be accountable for the match required by the BEP funding formula for students served; Recommend to the state board that the director of the LEA be replaced; and Recommend to the state board that some or all of the local board of education members be replaced NCLB Parent Notification and Dissemination Technical Assistance SDE shall take at least one of the following corrective actions: Defer programmatic funds or reducing administrative funds New curriculum Replace LEA personnel relevant to failure Remove particular schools from LEA jurisdiction Appoint receiver / trustee Abolish / restructure LEA Public LEA Choice 	 Parent Notification and Dissemination Technical Assistance SDE shall take at least one of the following corrective actions: Defer programmatic funds or reducing administrative funds New curriculum Replace LEA personnel relevant to failure Remove particular schools from LEA jurisdiction Appoint receiver / trustee Abolish / restructure LEA Public LEA Choice

Attachment B Tennessee Accountability Chart for School Systems / LEAs

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