

**2021-2022 Addendum Template for the Consolidated  
State Plan due to COVID-19**  
under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
1965

*Tennessee*



**U.S. Department of Education**  
**Issued: December 2021**

OMB Number: 1810-0576  
Expiration Date: October 31, 2023

**Paperwork Burden Statement** According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1810-0576. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 249 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this collection, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4537. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this collection, write directly to: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20202-3118.

# Addendum to the ESEA Consolidated State Plan

## Introduction

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) requires each State to develop and implement a single, statewide accountability system to support all public elementary school and secondary school students in meeting the challenging State academic standards. These systems are an important tool in achieving the goal of improving outcomes for students and eliminating opportunity gaps in the State, local educational agencies (LEAs), and schools.

Due to the extraordinary circumstances created by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) invited state educational agencies (SEAs) to apply for a waiver from the accountability requirements of the ESEA for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years and the assessment requirements for the 2019-2020 school year. As a result, many SEAs have not implemented all aspects of their statewide accountability systems or identified schools for support and improvement since fall 2019. Upon receiving an accountability waiver for the 2020-2021 school year, each SEA agreed that it would resume identifying schools for comprehensive, targeted, and additional targeted support and improvement using data from the 2021-2022 school year in the fall of 2022 to ensure school identification resumes as quickly as possible.

The purpose of this document is to provide SEAs a streamlined process to modify approved ESEA consolidated state plans for the 2021-2022 school year as they implement accountability and school identification requirements under section 1111 of the ESEA in order to make accountability determinations and identify schools in fall 2022.

The department has also issued a “Frequently Asked Questions: Impact of COVID-19 on 2021-2022 Accountability Systems Required under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)” document that includes information on the general amendment process, accountability systems, school identification and exit, school support and improvement, and report card requirements. The document is available at <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-formula-grants/school-support-and-accountability/essa-consolidated-state-plans/>.

For any questions or additional information, please contact the U.S. Department of Education at [oese.titlei-a@ed.gov](mailto:oese.titlei-a@ed.gov).

## Submitting Amendments to ESEA Consolidated State Plans

### COVID-19 State Plan Addendum Process

To amend its ESEA consolidated State plan for the 2021-2022 school year *only* (i.e., amendments that will impact only accountability determinations based on data from the 2021-2022 school year and school identifications in fall 2022), an SEA may use this “2021-2022 Template for Addendum to the ESEA Consolidated State Plan due to the COVID-19 National Emergency” (COVID-19 State Plan Addendum).

In addition to requests limited to the 2021-2022 school year, an SEA may use the COVID-19 State Plan Addendum process to request to:

1. Shift timelines forward by one or two years for measurements of interim progress and long-term goals, and
2. Modify the exit criteria for schools identified in fall 2022, including the number of years such schools have to meet exit criteria in order to exit status.

If an SEA requests the two changes described above through the COVID-19 State Plan Addendum and the changes are approved, the SEA must submit an updated ESEA consolidated State plan that incorporates those changes at a later date. All other amendments submitted through the COVID-19 State Plan Addendum template and process (i.e., amendments that are limited to the 2021-2022 school year) do not require submission of an updated ESEA consolidated State plan.

If an SEA submits an amendment to its ESEA consolidated State plan using the streamlined COVID-19 State Plan Addendum template and process, it must submit the following:

1. The COVID-19 State Plan Addendum that reflects all proposed amendments;
2. The signature of the chief State school officer or authorized representative; and
3. A description of how the SEA provided the public with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the requested amendments to the ESEA consolidated State plan with a summary of changes made based on the public comments received. The Department recommends that the SEA seek public input through consultation that is broad and with stakeholders that represent the diversity of the community within the State (e.g., meeting with local superintendents and sharing through regular correspondence with LEAs, conducting targeted stakeholder outreach, holding focus groups, prominently listing the proposed amendments on the SEA's website, and providing a user-friendly, accessible means for the public to submit comments). (See question A-6)

Prior to submitting an amendment to the Department, including an amendment submitted through the COVID-19 State Plan Addendum template and process, an SEA must consult with the Governor, afford a reasonable opportunity for public comment, and consider such comments consistent with the consolidated assurances the State submitted in June 2017 under ESEA section 8304.

### **Regular ESEA Consolidated State Plan Process**

An SEA may request amendments to its ESEA consolidated State plan that will continue beyond the 2021-2022 school year or that the State intends to implement starting with the 2022-2023 school year using the regular State plan amendment process described in the Department's October 24, 2019, Dear Colleague Letter available at <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/02/esso-letter.pdf>.

### **Timeline**

An amendment may be submitted at any time. The department encourages SEAs to submit amendment requests, either using the regular State plan amendment process or the COVID-19 State Plan Addendum process, by **March 7, 2022** in order for the department to determine whether the requested amendments comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements in time for an SEA to implement amendments to its accountability system for determinations in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year (e.g., identification of schools for comprehensive, targeted, or additional targeted support and improvement for the 2022-2023 school year).

### **Transparency**

The department will post the approved addendum on our website, along with the current approved consolidated State plan, at <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-formula-grants/school-support-and-accountability/essa-consolidated-state-plans/>.

## Cover Page

<b>Authorized SEA Representative (Printed Name)</b> Dr. Penny Schwinn, Commissioner	
<b>Signature of Authorized SEA Representative</b>	Date:

## Title I, Part A: Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)

### **Statewide Accountability System and School Support and Improvement Activities** (ESEA section 1111(c) and (d)) (corresponds with A.4 in the revised State plan template):

- a. **Establishment of Long-Term Goals.** (ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(A)) (corresponds with A.4.iii in the revised State plan template) Due to COVID-19, the State is revising its long-term goal(s) and measurement(s) of interim progress by shifting the timeline forward by one or two years for:

1. **Academic Achievement.** If a State is proposing to shift the timeline forward by one or two years, check the appropriate box.

- One Year  
 Two Years

2. **Graduation Rate.** If a State is proposing to shift the timeline forward by one or two years, check the appropriate box.

- One Year  
 Two Years

3. **Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency (ELP).** If a State is proposing to shift the timeline forward by one or two years, check the appropriate box.

- One Year  
 Two Years

- b. **Indicators.** (ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(B)) (corresponds with A.4.iv in the revised State plan template) Due to COVID-19, the State is revising one or more of its indicators for the 2021-2022 school year to be used in accountability determinations in fall 2022.

1.  **Academic Achievement Indicator.** Describe the Academic Achievement indicator for the 2021-2022 school year.

Tennessee is adjusting the 95% TCAP participation rate as a gate rule for the Achievement indicator. That means schools and districts that did not meet the 95% TCAP participation rate will not automatically receive a 0 for the Achievement indicator; instead, they will receive a 0-4 score for the indicator based on their performance (see the updated protocol p 5). The penalty for not meeting the 95% TCAP participation rate will still apply—As per ESSA § 1111(c)(4)(E), if the number of valid tests represents less than the minimum participation rate of 95%, the denominator becomes the number of expected valid tests at the minimum participation rate (see protocol p. 37).

2.  **Indicator for Public Elementary and Secondary Schools that are Not High Schools (Other Academic Indicator).** Describe the Other Academic indicator for the 2021-2022 school year.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*

3.  **Graduation Rate.** Describe the Graduation Rate indicator for the 2021-2022 school year.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*

4.  Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency (ELP) Indicator. Describe the Progress in Achieving ELP indicator for the 2021-2022 school year.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*

5.  School Quality or Student Success Indicator(s). Describe each School Quality or Student Success indicator that is proposed to be added or modified for the 2021-2022 school year.

Tennessee is waiving the 95% ACT participation rate as a gate for the *Ready Graduate* indicator. Schools and districts that did not meet the 95% ACT participation rate will not automatically receive a 0 for the *Ready Graduate* indicator for school accountability or for the Graduation Rate indicator for district accountability. Instead, they will receive a 0-4 score for the relevant indicator based on their performance (see the updated protocol pg. 5). These adjustments will only be applied in 2021-22 accountability.

- c. Annual Meaningful Differentiation. (ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(C)) (corresponds with A.4.v in the revised State plan template) Due to COVID-19, the State is revising its system of annual meaningful differentiation in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year:

1. State's System of Annual Meaningful Differentiation. Describe the State's system of annual meaningful differentiation of all public schools in the State for accountability determinations in the fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year.

The department did not produce school letter grades in the 2021-22 accountability cycle considering the impact COVID-related disruptions had on learning and district evaluation results. Such change does not impact the State's current system of annual meaningful differentiation (AMD). That is, the State continues to provide the overall school score, ranging from 0 to 4, as a summative measure of school performance. Schools with a score of 3.1 or higher receive the Reward designation. Schools that meet the identification criteria described in Section d.2.a. receive the Priority designation; and schools that meet the identification criteria as described in Section e.2.B receive the Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) designation. The methodology for identifying the Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) designation remains unchanged—schools whose overall school score for a given student group are in the bottom five percent for that student group will be identified as TSI schools. In summary, the removal of reporting school letter grades in the 2021-22 accountability cycle has no impact on the State's system of AMD.

2.  Weighting of Indicators. Describe the weighting of each indicator in the State's system of annual meaningful differentiation in fall 2022 based on data from 2021-2022 school year.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*

3. **Different Methodology.** If the State is using a different methodology or methodologies for annual meaningful differentiation for schools for which an accountability determination otherwise cannot be made (e.g., P-2 schools), describe the methodology or methodologies in fall 2022 based on data from 2021-2022 school year.

As specified in b.1 and b.5, Tennessee is requesting making two adjustments to 2021-22 accountability methodology currently outlined in our approved ESSA state plan considering the impact COVID-related disruptions had on learning and district evaluation results. First, Tennessee is adjusting the 95% TCAP participation rate as a gate rule for the Achievement indicator. That means schools and districts that did not meet the 95% TCAP participation rate will not automatically receive a 0 for the Achievement indicator; instead, they will receive a 0-4 score for the indicator based on their performance (see the updated protocol p 5). The penalty for not meeting the 95% TCAP participation rate will still apply—As per ESSA § 1111(c)(4)(E), if the number of valid tests represents less than the minimum participation rate of 95%, the denominator becomes the number of expected valid tests at the minimum participation rate (see protocol p. 37). Second, Tennessee is waiving the 95% ACT participation rate as a gate for the *Ready Graduate* indicator. Schools and districts that did not meet the 95% ACT participation rate will not automatically receive a 0 for the *Ready Graduate* indicator for school accountability or for the Graduation Rate indicator for district accountability. Instead, they will receive a 0-4 score for the relevant indicator based on their performance (see the updated protocol pg. 5). These adjustments will only be applied in 2021-22 accountability.

- d. **Identification of Schools.** (ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(D)) (corresponds with A.4.vi in the revised State plan template) Due to COVID-19, the State is revising its timeline or methodologies for school identification:

1. **Timeline.** Each SEA must identify schools for CSI, ATSI, and targeted support and improvement (TSI) consistent with the assurance in its waiver of accountability requirements for the 2020-2021 school year (i.e., each SEA that received a waiver for the 2020-2021 school year assured it would identify schools in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year).

- i. After identifying schools in fall 2022 using its approved school identification methodologies as outlined in its approved ESEA consolidated State plan, the State is requesting a one-time change in frequency to identify schools in fall 2023 (based on data from the 2022-2023 school year). *If a State is proposing a one-time change in frequency to identify a category of schools in fall 2023, check the appropriate box.*

- Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools: Low Performing
- Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools: Low Graduation Rate
- Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools: Not Exiting Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Status
- Targeted Support and Improvement Schools: Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI)

*\* Targeted support and improvement: Consistently underperforming subgroups (TSI) schools must be identified annually. Therefore, a State must identify TSI schools in both fall 2022 and fall 2023.*

2. **Methodologies.** The State is revising its methodologies for identifying schools in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year for the following types of school identification:

A. **Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools: Low Performing.** Describe the State’s methodology for identifying not less than the lowest-performing five percent of all schools receiving Title I, Part A funds in the State for comprehensive support and improvement in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year.

According to the approved Tennessee ESSA plan, Priority/CSI identification should be based on three years of assessment data. However, due to COVID-19 (no assessment data in 2019-20) and the prohibited use of 2020-21 achievement data in Priority/CSI identification under the provision of [Chapter 2](#) of the Tennessee Public Acts of 2021, First Extraordinary Session, Tennessee needs to make adjustments to the identification process for the 2021-2022 Priority/CSI identification. Tennessee will identify Priority/CSI schools based on the [two-year](#) success rates using 2018-19 and 2021-22 achievement data.

Understanding the need to provide timely support for low performing schools while recognizing the limitation of data availability and data quality for Priority/CSI identification in 2021-22, Priority schools identified in 2021-22 will be a one-year identification that will receive Priority/CSI support in 2022-23. To exit this one-year designation, a school must meet one of the following:

- The school’s one-year success rate in 2022-23 for the All Students group is greater than the one-year success rate for the All Students group in 2021-22.
- The school earns a TVAAS Numeracy and Literacy Combined level of 4 or 5 in 2023.
- If the school was identified for graduating less than 67 percent of its students, the school can exit by graduating at least 67 percent of its students in 2023.

The one-year exit criteria are only applicable in 2022-23. In Fall 2023, the bottom five percent of schools will be identified as Priority/CSI schools using 2021-22 and 2022-23 achievement data. Schools identified as Priority/CSI designation in Fall 2023 will start their 3-year Priority Designation cycle in 2023-24. Priority/CSI schools that did not exit the 1-year designation in 2022-23 will continue to receive Priority/CSI designation for the next three years until they meet the Priority/CSI exit criteria specified in the state ESSA plan. This plan ensures that the schools that need the most support will receive timely support and experience an entire three-year cycle.

B.  **Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools: Low Graduation Rate.** Describe the State’s methodology for identifying all public high schools in the State failing to graduate one-third or more of their students for comprehensive support and improvement in fall 2022.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*



- C. Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools: Not Exiting Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Status. Describe the methodology by which the State identifies public schools in the State receiving Title I, Part A funds that have received additional targeted support under ESEA section 1111(d)(2)(C) (based on identification as a school in which any subgroup of students, on its own, would lead to identification under ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(D)(i)(I) using the State’s methodology under ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(D)) and that have not satisfied the statewide exit criteria for such schools within a State-determined number of years for school identifications in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year.

In 2022-23, a three-year ATSI identification will be generated using 2021-22 and 2022-23 achievement data. The department will submit an amendment in 2022-23 for approval. Schools that are identified as an ATSI school in the 2022-23 identification cycle and again in the 2025-26 ATSI identification cycle will earn Priority status, which will take effect in 2026-27.

- D.  Targeted Support and Improvement Schools: Consistently Underperforming Subgroup(s). Describe the State’s methodology for annually identifying any school with one or more “consistently underperforming” subgroups of students, based on all indicators in the statewide system of annual meaningful differentiation, including if the State is revising the definition the State uses to determine consistent underperformance for school identifications in fall 2022 based on data from at least the 2021-2022 school year.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*

- E. Targeted Support and Improvement Schools: Additional Targeted Support and Improvement. Describe the State’s methodology for identifying schools in which any subgroup of students, on its own, would lead to identification under ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(D)(i)(I) using the State’s methodology under ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(D) (i.e., schools with subgroups performing as poorly as low-performing schools identified for comprehensive support and improvement) for school identifications in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year.

- e. Continued Support for School and LEA Improvement (ESEA section 1111(d)(3)(A)) (corresponds with A.4.viii in the revised State plan template)

1. Exit Criteria for Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools. Due to COVID-19, the State is revising its statewide exit criteria for schools identified for comprehensive support and improvement using one or more of the options below.

A. Timeline

- i.  The State does not count the 2019-2020 school year toward the number of years (not to exceed four years) in which a school must meet the criteria in order to exit CSI status before it must take more rigorous State-determined action.

- ii.  The State does not count the 2020-2021 school year toward the number of years (not to exceed four years) in which a school must meet the criteria in order to exit before it must take more rigorous State-determined action.

B. Criteria

- i.  The State is revising the statewide exit criteria for schools identified for comprehensive support and improvement that would be eligible to exit status in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*

- ii.  The State is revising the statewide exit criteria for schools identified for comprehensive support and improvement in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*

- iii.  The State is revising the State-determined number of years a school identified for comprehensive support and improvement in fall 2022 has to meet the statewide exit criteria in order to exit status, which may not exceed four years, before it must take a State-determined more rigorous action.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*

2. Exit Criteria for Schools Receiving Additional Targeted Support. Due to COVID-19, the State is revising the statewide exit criteria for schools receiving additional targeted support under ESEA section 1111(d)(2)(C) using one or more of the options below:

A. Timeline

- i.  The State does not count the 2019-2020 school year toward the number of years in which a school must meet the criteria in order to exit before, for a school receiving Title I, Part A funds, it becomes a CSI school.
- ii.  The State does not count the 2020-2021 school year toward the number of years in which a school must meet the criteria in order to exit before, for a school receiving Title I, Part A funds, it becomes a CSI school.

B. Criteria

- i.  The State is revising the statewide exit criteria for schools receiving additional targeted support under ESEA section 1111(d)(2)(C) that would be eligible to exit status in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year.

ATSI schools were identified in Fall 2022 based on the two-year success rates (i.e., 2018-19 and 2021-22) among TSI schools (i.e., bottom five percent among student groups

based on the overall school rating). This is a one-year identification. To exit this one-year designation, a school must meet one of the following:

- The school's one-year success rate in 2022-23 for each student group for which it was identified is greater than the one-year success rate for the given student group in 2021-22.
- The school earns a TVAAS Numeracy and Literacy Combined level of 4 or 5 in 2023 for each student group for which it was identified.
- If the school was identified for graduating less than 67 percent of its students, the school can exit by graduating at least 67 percent of its students for each student group for which it was identified in 2023.

The one-year exit criteria are only applicable in 2022-23. In Fall 2023, additional ATSI schools will be identified based on the ATSI identification criteria using the two-year success rates (i.e., 2021-22 and 2022-23). This pool of ATSI schools will experience a full three-year cycle. ATSI schools that did not exit the 1-year designation in 2022-23 will continue to receive ATSI designation for the next three years until they meet the ATSI exit criteria specified in the state ESSA plan. Schools that are identified as ATSI schools in 2022-23 and never exit ATSI, and are identified again in 2025-26 will become Priority schools and start receiving Priority support the fall of 2026-27. This plan ensures that the consistently low-performing schools among student groups will experience an entire three-year support cycle

- ii.  The State is revising the statewide exit criteria for schools identified for additional targeted support and improvement under ESEA section 1111(d)(2)(C) in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-2022 school year.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*

- iii.  The State is revising the State-determined number of years a school identified for additional targeted support and improvement in fall 2022 has to meet the statewide exit criteria in order to exit status before, for a school receiving Title I, Part A funds, it becomes a CSI school.

*If a State is proposing revisions due to COVID-19, check the box and describe the revisions here.*