

Title I School Improvement Stage 4

Criteria

A Title I, Part A campus identified for Stage 3 School Improvement in the previous school year that subsequently misses AYP for the same indicator for the fifth consecutive year.

Restructuring requires major changes in a campus' operation. The LEA oversees the planning process to undertake major fundamental reforms, such as significant changes in the campus' staffing or governance. The LEA must increase its oversight and responsibility of the campus' reform efforts.

Stage 4 Requirements

If a Title I, Part A campus continues to not meet AYP after 1 year of corrective action, the campus enters Stage 4 of School Improvement.

The LEA serving the campus must continue to offer the School Choice option and transportation.

The LEA must continue to provide technical assistance to the campus.

The LEA must continue to offer Supplemental Educational Services to eligible students.

The LEA must prepare a plan and make necessary arrangements to carry out one of the following **restructuring** options if the school moves into Stage 5 in the following school year.

1. Reopen the school as a charter school, following the requirements described in the Texas Education Code.
2. Replace all or most of the school staff (which may include the principal) who are relevant to the failure to make AYP.
3. Contract for a private management company of demonstrated effectiveness to operate the public school.
4. Turn the operation of the school over to the State educational agency, to the extent allowed by the Texas Education Code.
5. Any other major restructuring of school governance arrangement that makes fundamental reforms.

This plan for alternative governance is to be implemented in a timely manner if the campus is identified in Stage 5 the following school year. Teachers and parents must be provided opportunities to comment and participate in developing this plan.

Additional Requirements for Campuses in Stage 4 Restructuring in Texas

The following are required for Stage 4 campuses that apply for and accept the Title I School Improvement Grant:

- The campus principal must attend the School Improvement Resource Center (SIRC) Transition Meeting. LEA administrators are strongly encouraged to attend with the campus principal.
- The campus principal and campus personnel must attend the Texas School Improvement (TSI) Conference provided by SIRC.
- An LEA with campuses in Stage 2 or above must implement the state required EZSES Management System.
- Campuses in Stage 2 or above must participate in TEA's required external technical assistance (TAP) program. TAP services are pre-paid by TEA through the School Improvement Resource Center (SIRC) at Region XIII Education Service Center. By completing the electronic signature and submitting the Title I School Improvement Grant application for funding in eGrants, the superintendent or designee is agreeing 1) that the principal will participate in the TAP program, and 2) that the TAP services will be pre-paid.
- Campuses in Stage 2 or above, that have less than 100% of core academic subject area classes taught by highly qualified teachers at the beginning of the school year, must submit the campus' Highly Qualified Teacher Continuous Improvement Plan to TEA by the designated deadline.
- A district with campuses in Stage 2 or above must participate in the Evaluation of Supplemental Educational Services.
- The campus, under the oversight of the LEA, will develop the campus' restructuring plan following the process and format provided by the TEA.
- The campus will submit the restructuring plan to the School Improvement Resource Center (SIRC) by the timeline provided by the TEA.
- The campus restructuring team will designate representatives to present the campus' restructuring plan to TEA staff from the divisions of Program Monitoring and Interventions and NCLB Program Coordination.
- Any Stage 4 campus that is also rated Academically Unacceptable (AU) in the state accountability system for two or more years should contact the Division of NCLB Program Coordination to discuss any flexibility that may be available to the campus in coordinating the state and federal requirements.
- TEA will approve pre-award costs for any SIP-related costs not requiring specific approval incurred by the campus as of July 1, 2009. Campuses accepting School Improvement Program funds must expend at least 75% of the current year SIP campus allocation. Failure to meet this requirement may cause the LEA's 2010 Initial Compliance Review (ICR) score in the 2010 NCLB desk audit process and subsequent Performance-Based Monitoring (PBM) interventions to be elevated.