

Priority School Identification

Priority schools are the lowest 5% of Title I served campuses based on performance in reading and mathematics and graduation rates. Priority schools include Tier I or Tier II TTIPS schools, campuses with graduation rates less than 60%, and lowest ranked campuses based on All Students reading/math performance.

Priority Ranking Calculation Steps

Based on page 46 of the waiver request, the following steps explain the data run used to determine the list of priority schools.

1. Determine the number of Title I served schools in Texas and multiply by 5%. The resulting value is the number of Title I schools in the state that are to be identified as Priority schools.
2. Place TTIPS campuses on the priority list and subtract this amount from the number of priority schools to be identified. The resulting value represents the number of schools to be identified based on graduation rate and achievement.
3. Identify Title I served high schools where the graduation rate is less than 60%, place these schools on the priority list, and subtract this amount from the number of schools to be identified based on graduation rate and achievement.
4. Using the 2013 Accountability System Campus Data Download, rank Title I served schools based on their achievement results on reading and math system safeguards at the All Students level from lowest achievement to highest achievement.
5. Starting with the lowest achieving campus, identify enough schools to make up the remainder of the number of priority schools needed.

The steps below demonstrate the priority staging process. This should be used to help illustrate the steps and processes for identifying schools on the priority list.

1. Determine if the campus is a Tier 1 or Tier 2 Texas Title 1 Priority School (TTIPS). If so, the campus is placed on the Priority School list. TTIPS Tier 3 campuses are not included on the federal Priority School list. If the campus is not a Tier 1 or Tier 2 TTIPS campus, proceed to Step 2.

Table A: Is Campus an active Tier 1 or Tier 2 TTIPS campus for the 2013-2014 school year?	
Yes	Priority School
No	Campus is not Priority based on TTIPS status. Continue to Step 2.

2. Graduation Rate Determinations

- a. Determine if the campus is a secondary campus with graduation rates to be evaluated.

Table B: If the campus is a secondary campus with graduation rates?	
Yes	Continue to Step 2b.
No	Graduation rates cannot be evaluated Continue to Step 3.

- b. The 2012 four-year and five-year completion rates are used to determine whether or not a campus' graduation rate meets the 60% graduation rate requirement. If the highest of the 2012 four-year and five-year completion is less than 60%, the campus will be staged as a Priority School. Additionally, a minimum size requirement of 10 students is used for the 4 and 5 year completion rate denominators. If either value is less than 10 then the graduation rate cannot be evaluated for that campus.

The table below provides example graduation rates to help clarify the graduation rate calculation. The scenarios below are an example only.

Table C: Sample Graduation Rate Scenarios			
Campus Name	2012 4-Year Completion Rate	2012 5-Year Completion Rate	Priority Status
School A	55%	70%	Continue to Step 3. The highest completion rate is above 60%.
School B	40%	52%	Priority School- Both completion rates are less than 60%.
School C	60%	75%	Continue to Step 3. Both completion rates are at least 60%.
School D	Min size not met	65%	Continue to Step 3. Completion rates are not evaluated due to minimum size requirements.

3. Campuses not previously included on the Priority School list (TTIPS status or graduation rate), are now ranked based on their performance results on reading and math safeguards at the All Student level. This is done by dividing the total number of passing Reading and Math tests by the total number of Reading and Math tests taken. A minimum size requirement of 25 tests in each subject is required in order for a campus to be ranked.

$\frac{\text{Number of Reading Tests Passed} + \text{Number of Math Tests Passed}}{\text{Number of Reading Tests Taken} + \text{Number of Math Tests Taken}}$
