



**Q: If TEA is pausing A–F ratings for 2021, why does the agency need to submit requests to the U.S. Department of Education (USDE)?**

TEA will process and report all available 2020–21 data to districts, stakeholders, and the USDE *without calculating scaled scores or assigning A–F ratings*. TEA is requesting approval for changes to the way the agency will process 2021 Closing the Gaps domain data for reporting purposes.



**Q: Which federal requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is Texas requesting to change for only 2021 accountability?**

Due to the impact of COVID-19, TEA is requesting the following one-year adjustments for 2021 accountability determinations:

- To delay the implementation of the [accelerated testers requirement](#) by one year.
- To report only reading and mathematics State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) *participation rates* for districts and campuses.
- To process the Closing the Gaps domain without the *Academic Growth* component due to the lack of sufficient growth data.
- To *delay the identification* of the next cohort of comprehensive support and improvement (CSI), targeted support and improvement (TSI), and additional targeted support (ATS) campuses by one year. This request would also postpone the escalation of three-year ATS campuses to comprehensive status until August 2023.
- To *retain existing CSI, TSI, and ATS labels* for 2021–22. In order to receive funding for 2021–22, CSI campuses must opt-in for continued interventions. Campuses that opt-out of continued interventions would continue to be identified and would also be opting-out of funding. Current CSI campuses identified solely by the graduation rate criteria would have an opportunity to exit if the campus met the graduation rate exit criteria.
- To *not calculate or assign scaled scores or A–F rating labels* to the Closing the Gaps domain.



**Q: Which parts of the ESSA consolidated state plan is Texas asking to amend beginning with 2021 accountability?**

Texas is asking to update the following sections of the state plan:

- The language in the *school interventions section* to reflect current interventions.
- The language in the *Title I, Part C section* to reflect current needs and procedures.
- The language in the *accountability section to align with the addendum request*. For example, the definition of “three consecutive years” of data for TSI identification will be updated to exclude data from SY 2020–21 due to the lack 2021 Academic Growth.



**Q: How do I review and provide comment on these proposed changes?**

Copies of the addendum and amendment are available on TEA’s ESSA page at <https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/laws-and-rules/essa/every-student-succeeds-act>.

Public comments and questions may be submitted via email to [performance.reporting@tea.texas.gov](mailto:performance.reporting@tea.texas.gov) between December 10, 2020 and January 11, 2021.