“Persistently Lowest-Achieving” Campuses

“Persistently lowest-achieving” (PLA) campuses as defined by the USDE Final Regulations, December 3, 2009, were determined by the agency as:

**Tier I Campuses**

Any Title I campus in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring (based on the 2009-10 final state list of campuses identified in Title I School Improvement status) that —

1. Is among the lowest-achieving five percent of Title I campuses in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring (based on the combined performance of reading/language arts and mathematics); or
2. Is a high school that has had a graduation rate as defined in 34 C.F.R. § 200.19(b) that is less than 60 percent for 2 consecutive years (2008 and 2007) or average graduation rate less than 60% for 2008 and 2007.

**Tier II Campuses**

Any secondary campus (where the highest grade offered is greater than or equal to 7th grade, i.e., 6-8, K-12, 9-12) that is eligible for, but does not receive, Title I funds (based on the 2009-10 Title I application for funding list of campuses) that —

1. Is among the lowest-achieving five percent of secondary campuses (based on the combined performance of reading/language arts and mathematics); or
2. Is a high school that has had a graduation rate as defined in 34 C.F.R. § 200.19(b) that is less than 60 percent for 2 consecutive years (2008 and 2007) or average graduation rate less than 60% for 2008 and 2007.

To identify the persistently lowest-achieving 5% of campuses in the state, the agency prioritized—

1. First, the academic achievement of the “all students” group in a school in terms of proficiency on the State’s assessments under section 1111(b)(3) of the ESEA in reading/language arts and mathematics based on absolute performance (not including the Texas Projection Measure); and
2. Second, the school’s lack of progress on those assessments from the prior year in the “all students” group. Lack of progress is defined as a campus having gains on the state’s assessments in reading/language arts and mathematics in the “all students” category that are less than the average gains of campuses in the state on those assessments in the “all students” group.
   a. calculate the gain for each school as the difference in the Proficiency Rate (as determined by AYP) on the reading/language arts and mathematics assessments administered for school year 2007-08 as compared to those administered for school year 2008-09, for the All Student Group;
   b. calculate the average gain for all schools in the State using the same method (assessments administered for school year 2007-08 as compared to those administered for school year 2008-09, for the All Student Group);
   c. identify schools when the gain for the school is less than the average gains of all schools in the state for the “all students” group.
TEA Methodology for Identification of Eligible Campuses  
Texas Title I Priority Schools Grant

Newly Eligible Campuses under 2010 USDE Appropriations Act

In addition to the PLA campuses identified in Tier I and Tier II, the agency has identified additional newly eligible campuses as allowed in the 2010 USDE Appropriations Act.

Tier I Campuses

A Tier I newly eligible campus is a Title I eligible* elementary school (where highest grade offered is less than or equal to 6th grade, i.e., 1-5, K-2) that —
1. Is among the lowest-achieving twenty percent that is not higher than the highest achieving PLA campus previously identified in Tier I; or
2. Is a campus not making AYP for two consecutive years (2008 and 2009) and not higher than the highest achieving PLA campus previously identified in Tier I.

Tier II Campuses

A Tier II newly eligible campus* is a Title I eligible secondary school (where highest grade offered is greater than or equal to 7th grade, i.e., 6-8, K-12, 9-12) that —
1. Is among the lowest-achieving twenty percent that is not higher than the highest achieving PLA campus previously identified in Tier II; or
2. Is a campus not making AYP for two consecutive years (2008 and 2009) and not higher than the highest achieving PLA campus previously identified in Tier II; or
3. Is a high school that has had a graduation rate as defined in 34 C.F.R. § 200.19(b) that is less than 60 percent for 2 consecutive years (2008 and 2007) or average graduation rate less than 60% for 2008 and 2007.

Tier III Campuses

A Tier III school is any other Title I campus identified in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring that is not previously identified in Tier I.

In addition, the agency has identified additional newly eligible campuses as allowed in the 2010 USDE Appropriations Act.

A Tier III newly eligible campus is a Title I eligible* campus that is not identified above as a Tier I or Tier II eligible campus and that —
1. Is among the lowest-achieving twenty percent; or
2. Is a campus not making AYP for two consecutive years (2008 and 2009).

* 2009-2010 Title I status as submitted by the LEA in the NCLB Consolidated Application for Federal Funding; campuses identified as Title I Eligible, Schoolwide; Title I Eligible, Targeted Assistance; or Not Served, Title I Eligible.