Chapter 3—LAS Ratings, Audits, and Appeals

LAS Ratings Submission Process

For each campus in an identified school type, all scaled component and scaled domain scores and ratings must be submitted to the agency in addition to the overall LAS score and rating. An agency-provided scaling tool is available to assist with the scaling process. In order to combine LAS scores with state accountability scores, each LAS component and domain score is required to be scaled to a 0–100 range, with the following cut points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cut Points</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90–100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80–89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70–79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60–69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;60</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scores should be rounded as follows according to usual rounding conventions:

- Component scores rounded to one decimal place;
- Domain scores are rounded to the nearest whole number

LAS Ratings Review Process

TEA verifies the LAS campus overall scaled scores submitted by districts and open-enrollment charter schools. Any data discrepancies and/or any indication that data have been compromised may result in an audit of LAS data. The audit process may include requests for data used for campus-level calculation of component and/or domain scaled scores.

On an annual basis, TEA randomly selects districts or open-enrollment charter schools for a LAS audit, and, for each such audit, TEA randomly selects components for review. Districts and open-enrollment charter schools selected must submit the requested data for review within the timeframe specified. Districts and open-enrollment charter schools must maintain documentation of the LAS plan development process along with all associated data for campus ratings for two years. Suggested documentation could include meeting dates, agendas, handouts, and sign-in sheets in accordance with locally-established policies and procedures.

LAS Ratings Appeal Process

Due to the diversity and number of districts, open-enrollment charter schools, and campuses in Texas, as well as the range of data sources eligible for inclusion in LAS, there may be situations that are not specifically addressed in this manual. If an approved LAS data source is unintentionally affected by unforeseen circumstances, such as natural disasters and test administration issues, the commissioner of education will consider those circumstances and the impact in determining whether or how that data source will be used to calculate ratings for the LAS.
A successful LAS appeal is usually limited to situations such as a calculation error attributable to the Texas Education Agency or testing contractor. Accurate data is fundamental to local accountability ratings. LAS depends upon the responsible collection and submission of data by school districts and open-enrollment charter schools. Responsibility for the accuracy and quality of data used to determine local accountability ratings, therefore, rests with each district and open-enrollment charter school. Superintendent certification of data accuracy during the LAS ratings submission process includes an assurance that calculations have been verified to ensure that all data were included as appropriate for all LAS components.

Appeals may be submitted by the superintendent or chief operating officer once ratings are released. Districts and charter schools may appeal a LAS rating by mailing the appeal letter along with all supporting documentation to: Attention: Performance Reporting Division/LAS Appeal, Texas Education Agency, 1701 Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701. Appeals not signed by the district superintendent or chief operating office of the charter school are denied. Appeals must be postmarked or hand-delivered no later than September 13, 2019, by 5:00 p.m. CDT to be considered. Commissioner’s decisions are mailed in the form of response letters to each district and charter school that filed an appeal by the September 13, 2019, deadline.

**LAS Appeals Timeline**

August 15—State Accountability and LAS Ratings Released (TEAL and TEA Public Website)
August 15–September 13—LAS Appeals Window
September 13—LAS Appeals Deadline
December—LAS Appeal Decisions Released