Alternative Compensatory Education Allotment Reporting Procedures

School districts and open-enrollment charter schools may report their eligible students through the alternative compensatory education reporting system if they do not have their income-eligible students reported to the Texas Education Agency through the Child Nutrition Programs administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

A school district or open-enrollment charter school must request prior approval from the Commissioner of Education to include students receiving a full-time virtual education (through the state virtual school network) in its count of educationally disadvantaged students. Additional requirements for submitting plans detailing the enhanced services provided to the full-time state virtual school network students are forthcoming.

The commissioner's rules require that school districts and open-enrollment charter schools document the eligibility of students reported through the alternative program and provide for routine audits of that documentation.

Note: House Bill 3 of the 86th Legislature, 2019:

- allows alternative reporting for compensatory education on one or more campuses within the district
- allows locally funded programs for the provision of free or reduced-price meals
- requires a detailed plan for alternative reporting of compensatory education if a virtual campus intends to make use of this provision

Law and Rules

- Texas Education Code: §48.104(f), Compensatory Education Allotment
- Commissioner's Rules: 19 Texas Administrative Code §61.1027, Report on the Number of Disadvantaged Students

District Responsibilities

If your school district or open-enrollment charter school receives funding through the alternative compensatory education allotment, it must:

- Collect the required data from families of potentially eligible students,
- Verify the accuracy of this information, and
- Maintain proper records.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) will audit the submitted data. Therefore, your district or charter school should retain all related records for at least five years after the end of each school year.

Sample Letters, Forms, and Instructions

View the most current list of sample letters, forms, and instructions on the <u>SCE webpage</u> under this same heading.