

2026 A-F Accountability Ratings Appeals Process and Timeline

The commissioner of education is required to provide a process for school districts (districts) and open-enrollment charter schools (charter schools) to challenge an agency decision relating to an academic rating that affects the district or school, including a determination of consecutive school years of unacceptable performance ratings (Texas Education Code [TEC], §39.151).

District and charter schools' responsibility for data quality is the cornerstone of a fair and uniform rating determination. District and charter school appeals that challenge the agency's determination of the accountability rating and/or determination of consecutive school years of unacceptable performance ratings are carefully reviewed by an external panel. District superintendents and chief operating officers of charter schools may appeal accountability ratings by following the guidelines in [this figure](#) found in [Chapter 97, Subchapter AA](#).

[Chapter 8 - Appealing the Ratings](#) of the Accountability Manual also provides additional details about the appeals process.

The following is the timeline for 2026 A-F Accountability rating appeals. This has been announced in conjunction with the release of preliminary accountability ratings in [TEA Login](#) (TEAL).

Timeline	Appeals Process
8/12/2026	<i>2026 Preliminary Ratings Release on TEA Login (TEAL).</i> Appeals Window Opens Appeals may be submitted by the superintendent or chief operating officer once ratings and year counts are released.
8/12/2026- 9/11/2026 30 days	<i>2026 Appeals Window.</i> Districts and charter schools register their intent to appeal using the TEAL Accountability application. Districts upload their signed appeal letter and supporting documentation in the TEAL Accountability application, send by mail, or hand-deliver. Appeals not signed by the district superintendent or chief operating officer of the charter school are denied.
9/11/2026 5pm Day 30	<i>2026 Appeals Deadline.</i> Appeals must be uploaded in the TEAL Accountability Appeals system, postmarked, or hand-delivered by 5pm no later than the date shared by TEA in conjunction with the preliminary ratings release into the TEAL Accountability application.
Prior to 12/11/2026	<i>2026 Rating Decisions Provided to Appealing Districts</i> Commissioner's decisions are provided in the form of response letters to each district and charter school that filed an appeal by the submission deadline. Letters are posted to the TEAL Accountability application.
12/11/2026 Day 90	<i>2026 Final Ratings and Count of Consecutive Years of Unacceptable Performance Release.</i> The outcomes of all appeals are reflected in the final ratings and year counts update. The TEAL and public websites are updated. Ratings and year counts are subject to change due to the results of an audit, compliance review, or investigation.