COVID-19 FAQ: Accountability

Updated as of 4/15/20

1. **Will state accountability provisions be carried out this year?**
   In recognition of the disruption caused by the COVID-19 emergency, TEA is proposing to label all districts and campuses *Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster* for the 2019-2020 school year. It is important to note that this rating does not break the chain of consecutive years of unacceptable ratings for purposes of accountability interventions and sanctions. The proposed accountability manual, including this proposal, will be available for public comment beginning May 1 as part of the established accountability manual adoption process.

2. **Will any sanctions be carried out in 2020-2021 for districts or campuses who were designated in need of improvement 2019-2020? What about comprehensive campuses?**
   Under the *Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster* rating, districts and campuses shall continue to implement any previously ordered sanctions and interventions. This rating does not break the chain of consecutive years of unacceptable ratings for purposes of accountability interventions and sanctions. As a result, ordered sanctions and interventions carried out by districts and/or campuses in school year 2019-2020 will carry over and continue for school year 2020-2021.

3. **If a campus believes they would have gotten out of F status, can they use other data, such as a benchmark STAAR test, to provide evidence to change their rating?**
   No. All campuses will receive a *Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster* rating, and districts and campuses shall continue to implement any previously ordered sanctions and interventions. This rating does not break the chain of consecutive years of unacceptable ratings for purposes of accountability interventions and sanctions. As a result, ordered sanctions and interventions carried out by districts and/or campuses in school year 2019-2020 will carry over and continue for school year 2020-2021.

4. **Will College, Career and Military Readiness (CCMR) data be used?**
   CCMR data will be reported only on TEA reports such as Texas Academic Performance Reports (TAPR). It will not be used in ratings calculations for the 2019-2020 school year.

5. **Will provisions be made to prevent loss of points in next year's ratings if CCMR points are affected by test cancellations?**
   This has yet to be determined. We have also asked the US Department of Education for guidance on how lagging indicators affected by COVID-19 will impact next year’s accountability.

6. **Can students who were enrolled in the HB 5, college preparatory courses still receive their college readiness waiver?**
Yes, but this will be based on whether or not the college is able to provide the instruction and the assessment. The college preparatory course is an agreement between the district and the college with an assessment created by the college to waive the requirement for the student to pass the TSIA. However, the college readiness waiver is only for the college with which the course was designed in partnership with, not any college the student may wish attend.

College preparatory courses are designed for students at the 12th grade level who have not met college ready standards or who are not ready to perform entry-level college mathematics and English language arts coursework (TEC §28.014). College preparatory courses are locally developed courses through a memorandum of understanding between school districts and public two-year colleges. (TAC §9.147). Successful completion of the course allows the high school student to be exempt from TSI requirements (at the college that co-developed the course) for up to two years after graduation (TAC §4.54).

7. How will the statewide application of Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster to all schools and districts in SY 2019-2020 affect the data used in the calculation of 2020-2021 accountability?

Decisions regarding accountability for the 2020-2021 school year have not yet been made. Two advisory groups will have an opportunity to provide input into these decisions: the Accountability Technical Advisory Committee (ATAC), comprised of representatives from school districts and regional education service centers; and the Accountability Policy Advisory Committee (APAC) comprised of representatives from legislative offices, school districts, and the business community. TEA will work with these stakeholders to determine how the accountability system will be affected in 2020-2021.

8. Will 2019-2020 PEIMS Summer Submission records have any effect on 2020-2021 accountability?

How any lagging data indicators reported in 2019–2020 will be used in 2020–2021 accountability is to be determined, based on decisions made in consultation with ATAC and APAC, as described above.

9. How will schools that were rated unacceptable or triggered HB1842 during the previous year will be treated in 2020-2021 after the 2019-2020 application of Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster?

Any ordered sanctions and interventions carried out by districts and/or campuses in school year 2019-2020 will carry over and continue for school year 2020-2021.