



Cycle 2 Group 2

Dates: January - March 2021

## TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY 2020-2021 CYCLICAL MONITORING REPORT RICE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

CDN: 175911

LEA Compliant

### INTRODUCTION

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) would like to extend appreciation to Rice ISD for their efforts, attention, and time committed to the completion of the review process.

The TEA has developed a monitoring approach that reviews compliance-based indicators while also looking for best practices. In commitment to the approach, the cyclical monitoring report will provide the results of the LEA's compliance review related to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and federal and state statutes, a summary of data related to Results-Driven Accountability (RDA), State Performance Plan (SPP), Significant Disproportionality (SD), and dyslexia program evaluation recommend targeted technical assistance and support for LEAs related to special education, and highlight best practices of LEAs that demonstrate success.

### CYCLICAL MONITORING

The TEA conducts cyclical reviews of all LEAs statewide over six years. The purpose of cyclical monitoring is to support positive outcomes for students with disabilities and to determine compliance with special education regulations and dyslexia program regulations.

LEAs are required to submit artifacts and/or sources of evidence for compliance and promising practices review in the following areas:

- Child Find/Evaluation/FAPE
- IEP Development
- IEP Content
- IEP Implementation
- State Assessment
- Properly Constituted ARD Committees
- Transition

### 2020–2021 CYCLICAL REVIEW COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

On January 22, 2021, the TEA conducted a policy review of Rice ISD. On February 25, 2021, the TEA conducted a comprehensive desk review of Rice ISD. The total number of files reviewed for the Rice

ISD comprehensive desk review was 17. The review found overall that 17 files out of 17 files were compliant. An overview of the policy review and student file review for Rice ISD are organized in the chart below by indicating the number of compliant findings within the reviewed file submissions related to the compliance area. Itemized details of these findings are in the appendix:

Compliance Area	Policy Review (# compliant of # reviewed)	Student File Review (# compliant of # reviewed)
Child Find/Evaluation/FAPE	19 of 19	19 of 19
IEP Development	5 of 5	19 of 19
IEP Content	3 of 3	19 of 19
IEP Implementation	21 of 21	19 of 19
Properly Constituted ARD	8 of 8	19 of 19
State Assessment	4 of 4	19 of 19
Transition	6 of 6	5 of 5

## 2020–2021 DYSLEXIA COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

The dyslexia monitoring process focuses on three-core elements: early identification and intervention, program of instruction, and parent notification. The TEA Department of Review and Support: Dyslexia Monitoring reviewed Rice ISD artifacts using a program evaluation protocol which is aligned to Senate Bill 2075 of the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Texas Education Code (TEC) 38.003 (c-1), and 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 74.28. The **2020-2021** school year results for Rice ISD are in the table below.

Areas of Implementation	Compliance Status
Dyslexia Procedures	Met Compliance
Parent Communication	Met Compliance
Screening	Met Compliance
Reading Instruments	Met Compliance
Evaluation and Identification	Met Compliance
Instruction	Met Compliance
Dysgraphia	Met Compliance
Professional Development and Training	Met Compliance

## DATA SUMMARY OF RESULTS-DRIVEN ACCOUNTABILITY, STATE PERFORMANCE PLAN INDICATORS, AND SIGNIFICANT DISPROPORTIONALITY

The following supplemental data may be used to support development of the Strategic Support Plan (SSP) for continuous improvement and/or a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) if noncompliance is identified.

Year	Results-Driven Accountability (RDA) Determination Level	SPP Indicators 11, 12, 13 Compliance*	Significant Disproportionality
2020	DL 1—Meets Requirements	COMPLIANT	N/A

\*Indicator 11: Child Find  
Indicator 12: Early Childhood Transition  
Indicator 13: Secondary Transition

## 2020-2021 COVID-19 IMPACT NARRATIVE

In the 2020-2021 academic year, Local Education Agencies (LEAs) were provided an opportunity to complete a COVID-19 impact narrative form documenting the practices incorporated to support Child Find and FAPE for students being served by special education programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 2020-2021 CYCLICAL REVIEW PARENT, TEACHER, ADMINISTRATOR INTERVIEWS/SURVEY

### Staff and Family Surveys

On April 1, 2021, the TEA Review and Support team received 24 surveys during the comprehensive desk review. The Review and Support surveys focused on the following review areas:

The majority of participants felt training in utilizing accommodations and modifications was effective or somewhat effective to help meet the needs of students with disabilities.

Almost 80% percent of participants felt there were frequent opportunities to collaborate with related service providers and only 20% percent felt there was not frequent opportunities to collaborate with service providers.

All participants agree with the importance of including students' interests/life goals in the transition process with 67% of participants strongly agreeing.

65% of survey participants reported that remote learning for students receiving special education was somewhat effective or ineffective.

### COVID

75% of participants felt that during COVID school closure/remote learning, the Emergency Contingency Plan was effective in student progress.

During COVID school closures the top three methods teachers used to provide support to students with moderate to severe disabilities were:

- Teachers made regular contact with students and parents to meet academic and emotional needs.
- Teachers modified work.
- Teacher provided individual support.

Participants indicated that during current COVID school closure/remote learning they needed professional development in how to use virtual learning platforms, how to provide for connectedness for students, and the social and emotional impact on students.

Participants indicated that during COVID school closure/remote learning, the top two supports used by the district that didn't work well for students with disabilities were a shared device and online submission of assignments.

The majority of participants indicated they agreed or strongly agreed that they worked with parent/guardian in addressing severe behavior and work refusal.

This survey was approved by the Texas Education Agency's data governance board. Participation in this survey was both voluntary and anonymous. No data was collected identifying a name so that individual responses cannot be linked to any respondent. Participants were given the option to stop the survey at any time.

## Strengths

Based on results of the policy review and student file review, along with data collected from LEA staff and family surveys, the Review and Support team identified the following strengths for Rice ISD:

- Transition documentation for students was individualized as evidenced by inclusion of specific post-secondary goals and additional annual goals focused on transition. These investments in quality transition planning positively impacts post-secondary outcomes for students with disabilities.
- IEPs submitted for review contained specific and measurable annual goals and objectives. This practice increases the likelihood that goals are able to be implemented and monitored with fidelity.

## Considerations

Based on results of the policy review and student file review, along with data collected from LEA staff and family surveys, the Review and Support team identified the following considerations for Rice ISD:

- Consider implementing additional training and operating procedures to ensure Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (PLAAFPs) are descriptive and provide detailed information on student needs, areas of strengths and weaknesses with supporting data.
- Consider reviewing/revising operating procedures and provide additional training to ensure the ARD invitations are disseminated with advance notice of at least 5 days prior to the meeting and documenting evidence of parent agreement to waive 5-day notice.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

As a result of monitoring, the TEA has identified the following technical assistance resources to support Rice ISD engaging in **universal** support as determined by the RDA performance level data and artifacts within the compliance review:

Topic	Resource
PLAAFP Writing Support	<a href="#">Technical Assistance: IEP Development.</a> This TEA guidance document covers requirements and best practices in developing Individualized Education Programs for students with disabilities.
5 Day Notice Resource	<a href="https://www.parentcenterhub.org/pa12/#process">https://www.parentcenterhub.org/pa12/#process</a> Center for Parent Information and Resources: The process of developing a child's IEP begins with proper notification and invitation to attend.

## FINDINGS OF NONCOMPLIANCE

A finding is made when noncompliance is identified with the Review and Support report findings, SPP notification, and/or individualized education program (IEP) requirements. Noncompliance that is systemic in nature must be included in a comprehensive corrective action plan (CAP) with action steps to address each of the noncompliance findings. ***When noncompliance has been identified as part of this cyclical review, Rice ISD will receive formal notification of noncompliance in addition to this report.***

The TEA Department of Review and Support will further advise the LEA on the corrective action process, if applicable.

The TEA follows procedures for the correction of noncompliance consistent with federal guidelines (OSEP Memo 09-02.)

Before the TEA can report that noncompliance has been corrected, it must first verify the LEA:

- Has corrected each individual case of noncompliance (Prong 1); and
- Is correctly implementing the specific regulatory requirements (i.e., subsequently achieved 100% compliance) (Prong 2).

The TEA is required to monitor the completion of a corrective action plan if any noncompliance is discovered. The corrective action plan must be designed to correct any and all areas of noncompliance ***as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year from the date of notification.***

### Corrective Action Plan (CAP)

The LEA will develop a CAP to address any items identified as noncompliance in this summary report. An approved form for the CAP can be accessed on the Review and Support website or in the resources located in Ascend Texas.

The LEA must submit the CAP in Ascend within 30 school days from the date of this report and/or formal notification of noncompliance. The TEA will review the CAP submitted by the LEA for approval. If the TEA determines that a revision(s) is necessary, the LEA will be required to revise and resubmit. The Review and Support team will contact the LEA to provide notification when the CAP has been approved.

## Individual Correction

The educational agency has **60 school days** from the date of this summary report to correct all identified findings of noncompliance for individual students, unless noted otherwise in the report.

## 2020–2021 DYSLEXIA PROGRAM EVALUATION FINDINGS

As a result of the program evaluation review, the TEA Department of Review and Support: Dyslexia Monitoring has identified the LEA has met all state and federal requirements pertaining to the implementation of the dyslexia program. Additionally, the TEA has identified the following strengths, considerations, and technical assistance recommendations for Rice ISD.

### Areas of Strength

Areas of strength for the LEA include their preparation of general education teachers and dyslexia specialists who provide services to students with dyslexia and related disorders. The LEA provided evidence of annual teacher preparation training.

### Areas of Consideration

The LEA's dyslexia program is in alignment with state and federal requirements. The following resources are recommended to support the implementation of the dyslexia program, internal systems, and procedures.

Topic	Resource
TEA Review and Support	<a href="#">Dyslexia Monitoring</a>
TEA Special Education	<a href="#">Dyslexia and Related Disorders</a>
Dyslexia: TEA Professional Learning Course	<a href="#">TEALearn Dyslexia Modules</a>

If you have questions about the contents of this dyslexia review summary, please contact Edna Morales in the Texas Education Agency Department of Review and Support: Dyslexia Monitoring, by phone at 512-463-9260 or by email at [Edna.MoralesStrittmatter@tea.texas.gov](mailto:Edna.MoralesStrittmatter@tea.texas.gov).

### Corrective Action

The TEA reviews data collected from the dyslexia program evaluation to ensure compliance with federal and state regulatory requirements. In accordance with Senate Bill 2075 of the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature, TEC 38.003 (c-1), and 19 TAC 74.28. regarding noncompliance identified through the dyslexia program evaluation, a finding of noncompliance is identified by the citation (i.e., program or process) that is violated.

### Dyslexia Performance Plan (DPP)

If noncompliance is identified, the LEA is required to demonstrate correction of all noncompliance in the Dyslexia Performance Plan (DPP). This tool guides LEAs through a continuous improvement process. It addresses areas of growth that will positively impact students with dyslexia or other related disorders. LEAs should complete the DPP no later than 120-days after receiving notification of noncompliance. This document will be provided by the TEA or can be accessed in the resources section of the [Review and Support website](#).

## LEA ACTIONS

Timeline for Strategic Support Plan (SSP) and/or Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Below:

Required Actions	Submission Due Date	Completion Due Date	Support Level	Communication Schedule
SSP	N/A		Universal	N/A
CAP	N/A	N/A		30 days
DPP	N/A			

For more information about cyclical monitoring and the Differentiated Monitoring and Support process, please visit the [Review and Support website](#)

\*\*LEA may have previously identified corrective actions in addition to findings in this report.

## REFERENCES

[Differentiated Monitoring and Support System.](#)

[Review and Support General Supervision Monitoring Guide.](#)

[State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report and Requirements.](#)

[Results-Driven Accountability Reports and Data.](#)

[Results-Driven Accountability District Reports.](#)

[Results-Driven Accountability Manual.](#)