

To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

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DATE:	March 20, 2025
SUBJECT:	2025 Alternative Education Accountability Registration opens March 24, 2025
CATEGORY:	Performance Reporting
NEXT STEPS:	Share with appropriate staff

This correspondence informs school systems that 2025 Alternative Education Accountability (AEA) registration will open on March 24, 2025, in the <u>Texas Education Agency Login (TEAL)</u> Accountability application and will close on April 4, 2025. The following describes the AEA registration criteria found in Chapter 7 of the <u>Accountability System Manual for 2025 Ratings</u>. AEA criteria are unchanged from 2023.

2025 Preliminary List of Campuses for AEA

In order for a campus to be identified for AEA in 2025, it must meet all of the following criteria:

- Meet either the current-year or prior-year TSDS PEIMS 75 percent at-risk criterion
- Have at least 90 percent of students enrolled in grades 6–12, as verified through 2024-25
 PEIMS fall enrollment data
- Be identified as offering alternative instruction in AskTED
- Provide education services targeted to dropout prevention and recovery of students with enrollment consisting of at least 60 percent of the students 16 years of age or older as of September 1, 2024

Campuses that meet the criteria have been preregistered as dropout recovery schools (DRS). No action is required if a campus within your district is on the preregistered list as a DRS and you wish to keep it registered for AEA. Districts may choose to remove a campus from the preregistered list by submitting an AEA rescission form via TEAL Accountability. The preregistered list will be posted publicly on the 2025 Accountability System site.

Prior-Year Safeguard

If a registered Alternative Education Campus (AEC) does not meet the 75% at-risk enrollment criterion in the current year, it remains registered for AEA if the AEC met the at-risk enrollment criterion in the prior year.

Potentially Eligible but Not Preregistered DRS

Alternative campuses that meet all AEA criteria, with the exception of the *60 percent at age 16* criterion, must submit a DRS application during the AEA registration window in order to be identified.

The DRS application must present how the alternative campus is providing dropout prevention and/or recovery services. If the agency approves the application, the campus will receive a discretionary DRS designation and will be registered for AEA. Please view the 2025 Dropout Recovery School Application Guidelines for additional information.

Residential Treatment Facilities

As a reminder, residential treatment facilities (RTFs) are not rated under accountability regardless of AEA registration status. If a campus is not correctly identified on the preregistered list as a residential treatment facility, the district must correct the campus residential facility status by updating AskTED. Once AskTED is corrected, please notify Performance Reporting by email. New RTFs do not need to register for AEA in order to be labeled *Not Rated*; however, the district must ensure the RTF shows the instruction type as "alternative instructional" in AskTED.

2025 Final AEA Campus List

The 2025 Final AEA Campus List will be available in April. It will be posted on the 2025 Accountability System page.

For questions regarding AEA, please contact the Performance Reporting Division at (512) 463-9704 or performance.reporting@tea.texas.gov. For information regarding how to apply for TEAL Accountability access, please see the TEA Secure Applications Information page and reference accountability access.