



# ***A–F Accountability Rating System Manual: 2025 and 2026 Ratings***

A–F is a tool to help meet continuously improved goals for students.

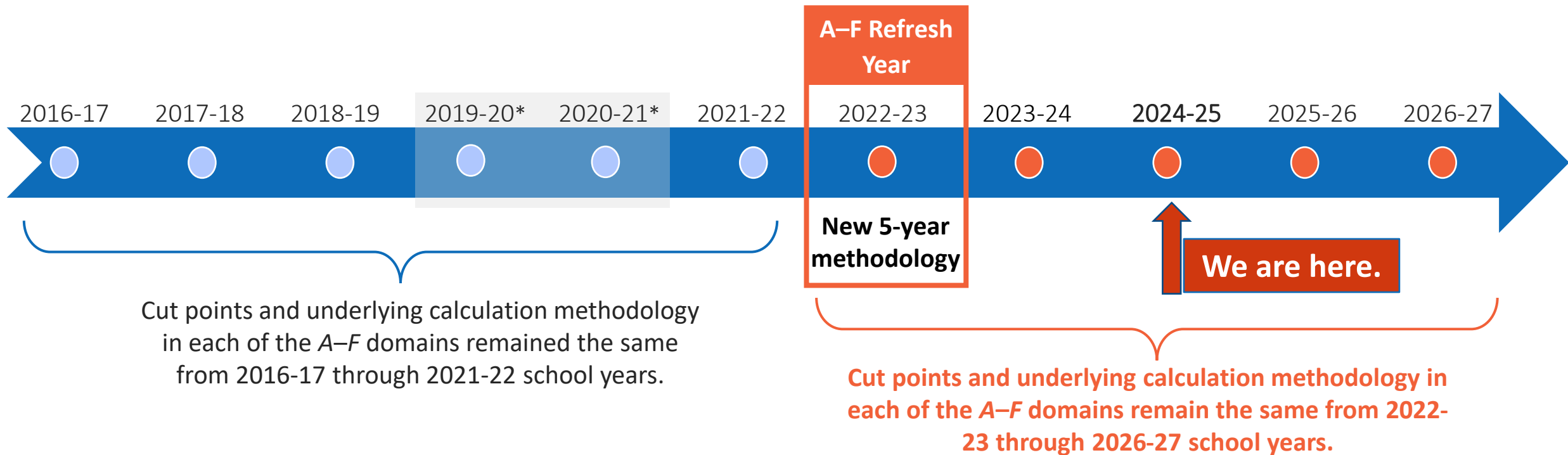
There are several key design commitments built into A–F to help ensure it works as an effective continuous improvement tool while accurately recognizing performance:

1. Ratings reflect better of achievement or progress
2. School performance is evaluated through multiple valid measures
3. Ratings are based on defined criteria, not a fixed distribution
  - “A” reflects performance consistent with reaching long term student goals
  - “C” reflects average performance for the baseline year
4. **The system design remains static in most years**

*A–F Design Commitment:  
The system remains largely  
unchanged year to year. 2025  
and 2026 are static years.*

# The A–F system remains the same for 5 years.

**We don't keep changing the bar.** The design remains unchanged in most years to allow year-over-year comparison. But we continuously receive feedback on how to improve the model, so we make design changes once every few years.



\* No ratings issued in 2019-202 or 2020-21 school years due to COVID-19

# In 2025, the A–F Accountability System remains static.

- The rules as adopted in May 2024 still apply. **There are no changes** to cut points, domain, or indicator methodology for 2025 accountability ratings.
- The rules for the 2025 accountability year were initially adopted in 2024 and **re-adopted** as annually required.
- The manual has an **effective date of April 2025**.

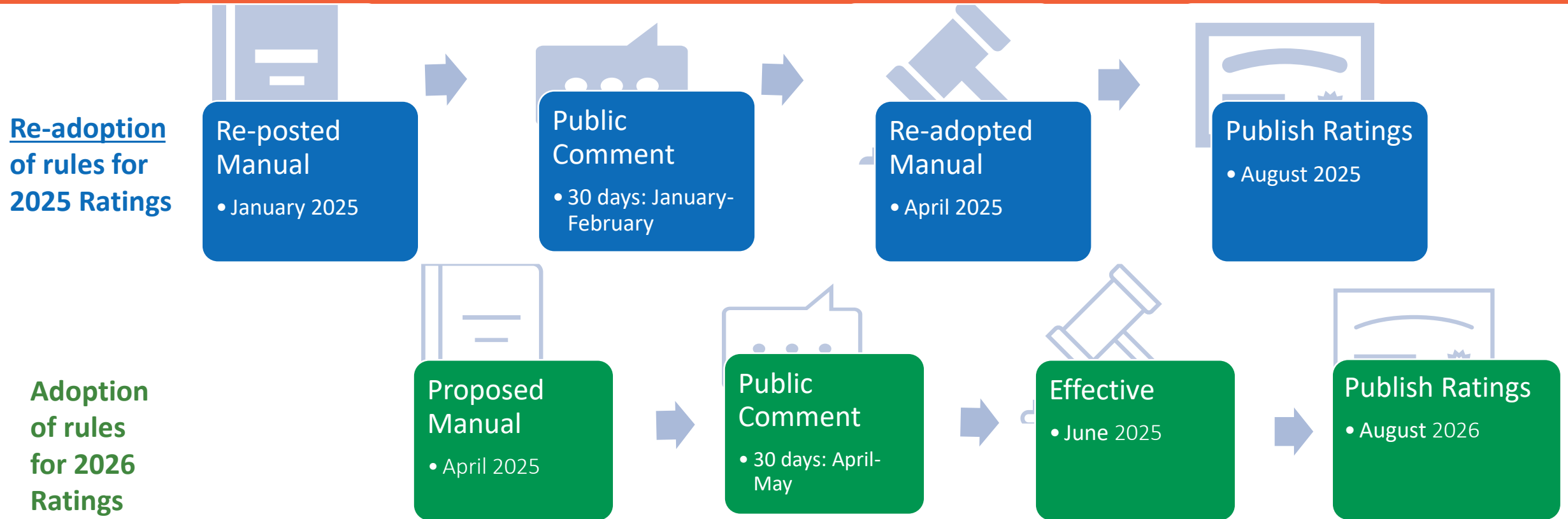
Year of Accountability	Proposed Rule Open to Public Comment	Effective Date of Final Accountability Manual
2014	5/30	8/7
2015	5/29	8/4
2016	5/27	8/11
2017	4/14	6/27
2018	5/18	8/7
2019	5/3	8/5
2020	5/1	7/21
2021	4/16	7/13
2022	5/13	8/11
2023	5/19	11/14
2024	2/23/24	5/14/24
2025	2/23/24 Re-posted January 2025	5/14/24 Re-adopted April 2025

In 2026, A–F Accountability Rules adoption will take place before the school year.

- The A–F Accountability Rating System Manual and its proposed rules for 2026 Accountability Ratings will be **published prior to the start of the 2025-26 school year.**
- The manual has an **effective date of June 2025.**

Year of Accountability	Proposed Rule Open to Public Comment	Effective Date of Final Accountability Manual
2023	5/19	11/14
2024	2/23/24	5/14/24
2025	2/23/24 Re-posted January 2025	5/14/24 Re-adopted April 2025
2026	<b>April 2025</b>	<b>June 2025</b>

# Dual Timeline of A–F Manual Adoption



Though the 2026 manual will be the adopted and effective manual at the time of 2025 ratings, 2025 ratings will be based on the rules in the manual adopted for 2025.



# ***Accountability Rating System Manual for 2025 Ratings: Previously Adopted Rule***

# Previously adopted upgrades in effect in 2025.

- There are no changes to cut points, domain, or indicator methodology for 2025 accountability ratings.
- The rules for the 2025 accountability year were initially adopted in 2024 and were **re-adopted** as annually required.
- There is one **previously adopted update** in effect in 2025:
  - Phase-In of Aligned Programs of Study Requirements for CCMR credit

There are no changes to **Progress to ELP** in Closing the Gaps from 2024. 2025 rules use the same domain-based progress methodology and the same targets.



# Reminder: 2025 Program of Study Alignment Requirement Phase-in

**IBCs & Programs of Study work together to ensure strong career preparation and reinforces an alignment of programs and credentials to labor market needs.**

## Approved IBC List (v3):

- A **v2 or v3 approved IBC** receives CCMR credit on 2025 accountability. IBCs that were on the (v2) list but not renewed on the (v3) list are subject to a **sunsetting** cap. This is the last year to report v2 IBCs.
  - Changes are additive and should not negatively impact students who have already started a program of study.

## Program of Study Phase-in (Level 2+ course):

- **Class of 2024** will receive CCMR credit on 2025 accountability for earning (not failed, not 'passed') an IBC and **earning credit in at least one level 2 course** in the career and technical education program of study **aligned** with that IBC.
  - HB 773 (2021) TEC §39.053, requires the agency to include Program of Study Completers as an indicator within the accountability system.

Annual Graduates	Accountability Year	IBC List	Program of Study
Class of 2022	2023	2019-2022 list with sunsetting limit	--
Class of 2023	2024	2019-2022 and 2022-2025 lists with sunsetting limit	--
Class of 2024	2025	2019-2022 and 2022-2025 lists with sunsetting limit	1 course in aligned program of study <sup>1</sup>
Class of 2025	2026	2022-2025 list	Concentrator in aligned program of study <sup>2</sup>
Class of 2026	2027	2022-2025 and 2025-2030 list with sunsetting limit	Completer in aligned program of study <sup>3</sup>
Class of 2027	2028	2025-2030 list	Completer in aligned program of study

<sup>1</sup> One Course that is level two or higher (excludes Career Prep I, Project Based Research, and/or Scientific Research & Design)

<sup>2</sup> Two or more courses for at least two credits in the same program of study

<sup>3</sup> Three or more courses for four or more credits including one level three or four course in the same program of study

*Sunsetting IBC Cap: A campus may not earn CCMR credit for more than five graduates or 20% of graduates, whichever is higher, who only meet CCMR criteria via a sunsetting IBC.*



# *Accountability Rating System Manual for 2026 Ratings*

## Two areas have been awaiting update since the 2023 Refresh.

- **New military-enlistment data** are available to update the methodology for the CCMR military-readiness indicator in the 2026 accountability ratings.
- **New TELPAS composite data** are available to update the methodology and targets for the Progress to ELP indicator in the Closing the Gaps domain for 2026 accountability ratings.
- Other rules for the 2026 accountability year are maintained and will be **re-adopted** as annually required. **Previously adopted updates** in effect in 2026:
  - New IBC List (v4 2025-2030) available for CCMR credit
  - Phase-In of Aligned Programs of Study Requirements for CCMR credit
  - College Preparatory Course Requirements for CCMR credit

# New: 2026 Military Enlistment Data Source

The agency has successfully reached a data agreement with the United States Department of Defense (DoD).

- The shift to use data from the Department of Defense has been announced with **1 year's advanced notice** before implementation with the **2026 accountability ratings**.
  - The DD Form 4 process will no longer be used as the source data in 2026 accountability.
- **Class of 2025** will receive CCMR credit on 2026 accountability using military enlistment data sourced directly from the US DoD.
  - According to TEC §39.053, students may earn CCMR credit for enlisting in the Armed Forces of the United States or the Texas National Guard.

Current 12<sup>th</sup> grade students (SY24-25) will not require a DD4.

Annual Graduates	Accountability Year	Data Source
Class of 2023	2024	DD Form 4 collection
Class of 2024	2025	DD Form 4 Collection
Class of 2025	2026	US Dept of Defense data <sup>+</sup>
Class of 2026	2027	

<sup>+</sup>Campuses will continue to have the opportunity to provide a DD Form 4 during the CCMR Verifier window should a concern arise.

## Closing the Gaps: Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency

- Targets for 2026 are proposed for adoption with **1 year’s advanced notice** before implementation with the **2026 accountability ratings**.
- Amendment submitted for USDE approval on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) webpage.

Proposed 2026 Accountability Targets by School Type  
(% make progress in composite score)

	Targets	ES	MS	HS/ K-12/AEA	2022 Target for reference
Progress in Achieving EL Proficiency	Interim Target (through 2026-27)	40%	30%	28%	36%
	Next Interim Target (through 2031-32)	42%	32%	30%	36%
	Long Term Target (2037-38)	46%	36%	34%	36%

### Target Setting Methodology

Targets	ES, MS, HS
Interim Target	2024 State ELP rate by campus type
Next Interim Target	+2% pts
Long Term Target	+4%

Targets set using composite scores from 2023 & 2024 TELPAS administrations.

# Reminder: Measuring Progress to Achieving EL Proficiency: Return to Composite Scores

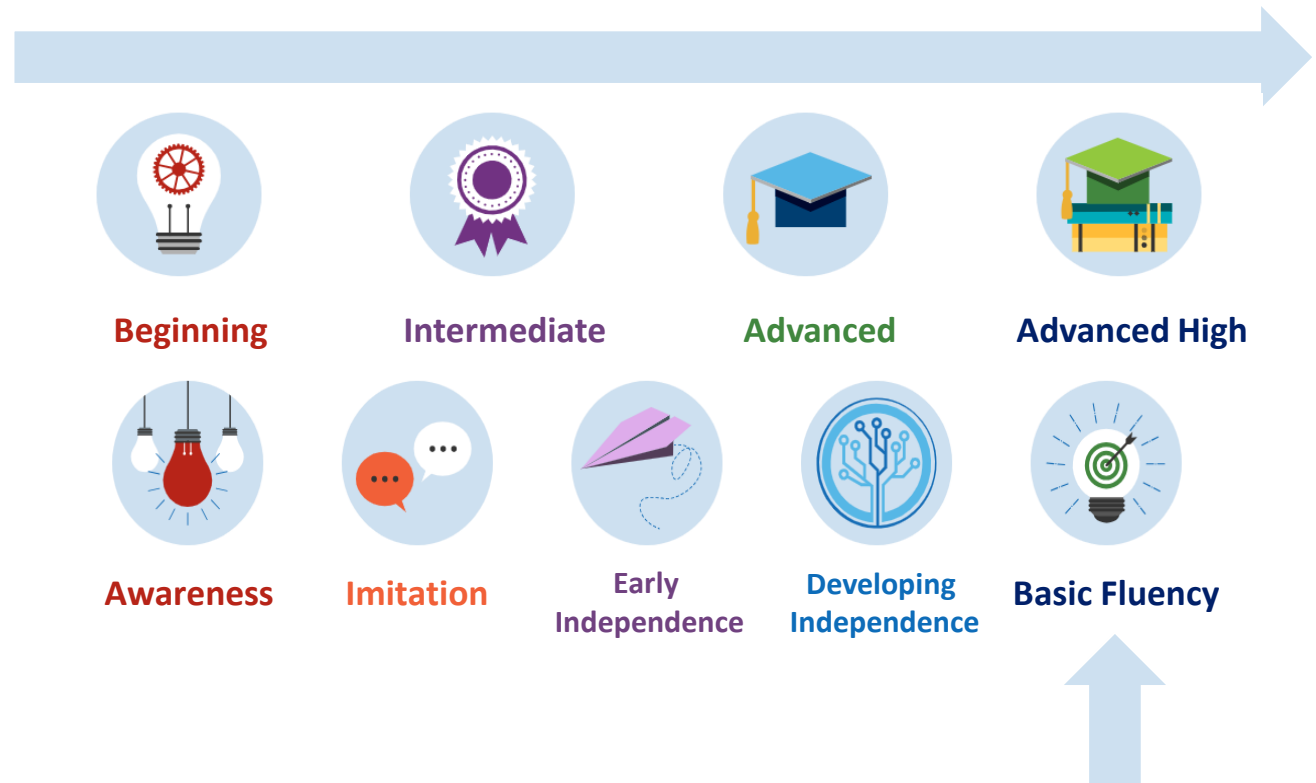
TELPAS Composite proficiency scores provide a single overall level of English language proficiency derived from the ratings in the four language domains. The composite rating weights are 25 percent for each language domain.

In accountability, a student is considered having made progress if:

**Advanced at least one TELPAS composite level**

**OR**

**Scored as Advanced High or Basic Fluency in the current year.**



## College Preparatory Courses

- As shared as part of the 2024 updates, the agency is implementing a **course approval process** to apply to future cycles.
- According to TEC §28.014, college prep courses are designed for students *at the 12th grade level who have not succeeded on EOCs or are otherwise observed as not ready for entry-level college coursework*. The agency is phasing in a **12<sup>th</sup> grade requirement** for college prep courses.
  - 2025 graduates in **2026 accountability** will receive CCMR credit for 11th or 12th grade College Prep courses.
  - 2026 graduates in **2027 accountability** will receive CCMR credit for **only 12th** grade College Prep courses.

Annual Graduates	Accountability Year	College Prep List	Grade of Course
Class of 2023	2024	any course meeting requirements	Any Grade (9-12)
Class of 2024	2025	aligned between district and the partnering IHE(s)	Any Grade (9-12)
Class of 2025	2026		11th and 12th Grade (SY23-24, 24-25)
Class of 2026	2027	TEA College Prep Approved List	12th Grade Only (SY25-26)

11<sup>th</sup> grade students in College Prep now (SY24-25) will not receive CCMR credit for it

Every year, there are updates to improve clarity and understanding.

- Additional edits to the Accountability Manual are made to support educators and to reflect stakeholder needs
- To further clarify the accountability appeals process, TEA proposed an amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 97.1002.
  - **The calendar dates for appeals for the accountability year will be announced in conjunction with the release of preliminary accountability ratings in [TEA Login](#) (TEAL).**
  - This supersedes the timelines referenced in Chapter 8 of the 2023 and 2024 Accountability Manuals and applies to all Accountability Rating Appeals from 2023 and beyond until otherwise updated.



# Key Points

- The manual for 2025 accountability ratings **re-adopted** the 2024 methodology
- The manual for 2026 accountability ratings has an adoption date **before** the 2025-26 school year
  - 2026 accountability implements new TELPAS targets and military enlistment data
  - 2026 implementation supports LEAs requests for a year of early notice
- The calendar dates for appeals for the accountability year will be announced in conjunction with the release of preliminary accountability ratings in TEA Login (TEAL).