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# **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** December 13, 2024

**TO:** MEMBERS, State Board of Education

**FROM:** TONY THURMOND, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT:** Update on the Implementation of the Integrated Local, State, and Federal Accountability System: Schools Eligible for Support Under the Every Student Succeeds Act.

## Summary of Key Issues

As a follow up to the release of the California School Dashboard (Dashboard) in November 2024, the California Department of Education (CDE) is providing this update to the State Board of Education (SBE) on schools eligible to exit Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI). Additionally, this update provides information on schools eligible for the first time for Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) based on the criteria in California’s Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plan as approved by the U.S. Department of Education (ED). This is the second year of a three-year eligibility cycle for schools in CSI and ATSI. The next time California will determine entry eligibility for CSI and ATSI will be following the release of the 2026 Dashboard.

This memorandum provides an overview of the SBE approved eligibility criteria for schools and the number of schools eligible by category and school type.

### Background

Under California’s ESSA State Plan, schools are eligible for CSI, ATSI, or TSI, based on their performance on the Dashboard which is available at <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/>. Local educational agencies (LEAs) with schools that meet the criteria for CSI must collaborate with educational partners to locally develop and implement a plan to improve student outcomes. The county office of education (COE) also plays a role in providing technical assistance and support to LEAs within its county that serve schools that meet the criteria for CSI.

At the September 2023 SBE meeting, the SBE approved the following amendments to the ESSA State Plan related to the timeline for frequency of school identification for CSI, ATSI, TSI, and exit criteria for CSI and ATSI schools:

* In response to the flexibilities provided by the 2021–22 COVID-19 State Plan Addendum (Addendum) by ED, revising the timeline for frequency of school identification. Specifically, following the 2022 determinations, schools will be identified for CSI or ATSI once every three years effective fall 2023 and identify schools for TSI in the intervening years.
* Revising the timeline and statewide exit criteria for schools identified for CSI and ATSI by:
	+ Adjusting the timeline and not counting the 2019–20 or 2021–21 school years toward the number of years in which a school must meet the criteria to exit CSI and ATSI status.
	+ Modifying the exit criteria for schools identified for CSI and ATSI that will be eligible to exit status in fall 2022 to use the status performance level rather than the performance color that is based on both status and change. The school or student subgroup in the school must (1) no longer meet the criteria for identification and (2) have improved performance on the indicators (including an increase in the status portion of each indicator) compared to when the school was initially identified.
	+ Modifying the State-determined number of years that a school eligible for ATSI has to meet the exit criteria; ATSI schools eligible in the fall of 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2023 will all have until fall 2026 to meet the exit criteria.

The ED approved these amendments in November 2023. California’s ESSA State Plan is available on the ESSA web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/es/>.

### 2024–25 ESSA Assistance

This is the second year of the three-year cycle for ESSA school support determinations for CSI and ATSI. With the release of the 2024 Dashboard, California is required to determine school eligibility for TSI. Table 1 below provides the timeline for ESSA assistance entry determinations.

#### Table 1: Timeline of ESSA Assistance Entry Determinations

| **2023 Dashboard**(2023–24) | **2024 Dashboard**(2024–25) | **2025 Dashboard**(2025–26) | **2026 Dashboard**(2026–27) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CSI and ATSI | TSI | TSI | CSI and ATSI |

Schools eligible for CSI- (Low Graduation Rate or Low Performing) or ATSI in 2023–24 are annually evaluated to determine continued eligibility for CSI or ATSI. Schools that meet the exit criteria for CSI and ATSI will be placed in the eligibility pool for TSI determinations following the release of the 2024 Dashboard.

### Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate)

School improvement activities are supported by funds from ESSA, Section 1003(a) school improvement funds, which requires California to reserve seven percent of its Title I, Part A allocation and subgrant not less than 95 percent to LEAs to serve schools eligible for support (ESSA, Section 1003[b][1][A]). The California Budget Act of 2024 appropriated the following funds for LEAs and COEs to implement school improvement activities:

* **$144.4 million**: These funds are prioritized to support LEAs serving schools eligible for CSI based on the number of schools eligible for CSI, statewide.
* **$5 million**: Funds are allocated to each eligible COE through a formula that takes into consideration the number of schools eligible for CSI, statewide for the purposes of review and approval of 2025–26 CSI plans through the CSI prompts in the 2025–26 LEA Local Control and Accountability Plan.
* **$5 million**: Funds are allocated to each eligible COE through a formula that takes into consideration the number of schools eligible for CSI, statewide for the purposes of supporting development and implementation of 2025–26 CSI plans in coordination with the statewide system of support for LEAs established in California’s ESSA State Plan.

## Overview of the 2024–25 ESSA Assistance

For information about eligibility and program requirements for CSI, TSI, and ATSI, please visit the CDE School Support web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/t1/schoolsupport.asp>.

Table 2 provides an overview of the schools that were originally identified in 2023–24 for CSI or ATSI. Based on the most recent results of the 2024 Dashboard, these schools met the CSI – Low Graduation Rate, CSI – Low Performing, and ATSI exit criteria and are no longer eligible for these statuses in 2024–25.

#### Table 2: 2024–25 CSI and ATSI Exits

| **Determination Status** | **Number of Schools Eligible in 2023–24** | **Number of Schools That Met Exit Criteria in 2024–25** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CSI** – Low Graduation Rate | 289 | 62 |
| **CSI** – Low Performing | 540 | 419 |
| **ATSI** | 2,363 | 1,734 |

Table 3 provides a breakdown of schools eligible for CSI, ATSI, TSI, and No Status from 2023–24 and 2024–25.

#### Table 3: Summary Results of Schools Eligible for CSI, ATSI, TSI, and No Status from 2023–24 and 2024–25

| **Determination Status** | **2023–24** | **2024–25** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CSI** – Low Graduation Rate | 289 | 226 |
| **CSI** – Low Performing  | 540 | 117 |
| **ATSI**  | 2,363 | 626 |
| **TSI** | N/A | 306 |
| **No Status** | 6,852 | 8,765 |
| **Total Schools** | 10,044 | 10,040 |

Table 4 provides a breakdown of charter schools eligible for CSI, ATSI, TSI, and No Status for 2024–25.

#### Table 4: 2024–25 Summary Results of Schools Eligible for CSI, ATSI, TSI, and No Status – By Charter Status

| **Determination Status** | **Number of Charter Schools** | **Percent of Charter Schools** | **Number of Non-Charter Schools** | **Percent of Non-Charter Schools** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CSI** – Low Graduation Rate | 91 | 7.2% | 135 | 1.5% |
| **CSI** – Low Performing | 8 | 0.6% | 109 | 1.2% |
| **ATSI** | 45 | 3.5% | 581 | 6.6% |
| **TSI** | 31 | 2.4% | 275 | 3.1% |
| **No Status** | 1,096 | 86.2% | 7,669 | 87.5% |
| **Total** | 1,271 | 100.0% | 8,769 | 100.0% |

Table 5 shows the number of schools eligible for CSI, ATSI, TSI, and No Status by Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) status. Of the 947 DASS schools, 345 schools or 36.4 percent of DASS schools were eligible for CSI, ATSI, or TSI.

For additional information on the support for DASS schools, please see the DASS Community of Practice section in Attachment 1.

#### Table 5: 2024–25 Summary Results of Schools Eligible for CSI, ATSI, TSI, and No Status – By DASS Status

| **Determination Status** | **Number of DASS Schools** | **Percent of DASS Schools** | **Number of Non-DASS Schools** | **Percent of Non-DASS Schools** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CSI** – Low Graduation Rate | 211 | 22.3% | 15 | 0.2% |
| **CSI** – Low Performing | 46 | 4.9% | 71 | 0.8% |
| **ATSI** | 35 | 3.7% | 591 | 6.5% |
| **TSI** | 53 | 5.6% | 253 | 2.8% |
| **No Status** | 602 | 63.6% | 8,163 | 89.8% |
| **Total** | 947 | 100.0% | 9,093 | 100.0% |

Table 6 shows the number of LEAs eligible for differentiated assistance under the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) with the number of schools eligible for CSI and ATSI.

### Table 6: 2024–25 Number of Non-Charter Schools Located in LEAs (Districts and COEs only) Eligible for Differentiated Assistance

| **Assistance Type** | **Number of Schools Eligible for ESSA Assistance** | **Number of Schools in LEAs Eligible for Differentiated Assistance** | **Percent of Schools in LEAs Eligible for Differentiated Assistance** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CSI – Low Graduation Rate | 135 | 97 | 71.9% |
| CSI – Low Performing | 109 | 93 | 85.3% |
| ATSI | 581 | 484 | 83.3% |
| TSI | 275 | 218 | 79.3% |

Table 7 shows the number of charter schools eligible for both differentiated assistance under the LCFF and eligible for CSI or ATSI.

### Table 7: 2024–25 Number of Charter Schools Eligible for Differentiated Assistance and ESSA Assistance

| **Assistance Type** | **Number of Charter Schools Eligible for ESSA Assistance** | **Number of Charter Schools Eligible for Differentiated Assistance and ESSA Assistance** | **Percent of Schools in Charter School Eligible for Differentiated Assistance and ESSA Assistance** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CSI – Low Graduation Rate | 91 | 72 | 79.1% |
| CSI – Low Performing | 8 | 6 | 75.0% |
| ATSI | 45 | 14 | 31.1% |
| TSI | 31 | 12 | 38.7% |

Attachment 1 of this Information Memorandum details the exit criteria for CSI and provides data on schools eligible for CSI exits. Attachment 2 details the exit criteria for ATSI. Attachment 3 details the entry criteria for TSI and provides data on schools eligible for TSI.

## Attachment(s)

* Attachment 1: Comprehensive Support and Improvement Exit Determinations (2 Pages)
* Attachment 2: Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Exit Determinations (1 Page)
* Attachment 3: Targeted Support and Improvement Eligibility Determinations (2 Pages)

# **Attachment 1**

## Comprehensive Support and Improvement Exit Determinations

### Exit Criteria

Schools eligible for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)–Low Graduation Rate will be evaluated annually to determine continued eligibility or exit for CSI – Low Graduation Rate. Those eligible for CSI – Low Graduation Rate in 2023–24 will be reevaluated in 2024–25. Schools with a three-year combined four-and five-year graduation rate at 68 percent or above are no longer eligible for CSI based on the CSI – Low Graduation Rate criteria.

Schools will be evaluated annually to determine continued eligibility or exit for CSI – Low Performing. Those eligible under the CSI – Low Performing category in 2023–24 will be reevaluated in 2024–25. A school is no longer eligible for CSI – Low Performing when **both** of the following criteria are met:

* **Exit Criterion 1:** School does not meet any of the CSI eligibility criteria for entry.

Eligibility criteria are as follows:

* + Criterion 1: All **Red** indicators
	+ Criterion 2: All **Red** indicators except for one indicator of another Performance Color
	+ Criterion 3: Five or more indicators where the majority are **Red**
* **Exit Criterion 2:** On the 2024 Dashboard, the school showed improvement in Change on at least **one** state indicator that was **Red** on the 2023 Dashboard. Please note that for the College/Career Indicator (CCI), a Very Low Status level was used as a proxy for Red on the 2023 Dashboard.

### Dashboard Alternative School Status Community of Practice

Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) schools eligible for CSI under the Low Graduation Rate or Low Performing criteria will be referred to as DASS Community of Practice (CoP) schools. The addition of “CoP” was first approved by the SBE at the September 2022 SBE meeting to distinguish the uniqueness of DASS schools and the students they serve.

In addition, at their September 2022 meeting, the SBE also approved the implementation of a federal flexibility for LEAs. This flexibility allows LEAs the option to forgo implementation of **all** CSI-related improvement activities if their DASS CoP schools meet both of the following criteria:

1. School is eligible for CSI – Low Graduation Rate; and
2. School has less than 100 students enrolled as of Census Day

More information about DASS CoP schools and available flexibilities for CSI is available on the Comprehensive Support and Improvement web page, under the DASS CoP tab, at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/t1/csi.asp>.

# **Attachment 2**

## Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Exit Determinations

### Exit Criteria

Schools eligible for Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) in 2023–24 will be reevaluated in 2024–25 to determine continued eligibility or exit. A school is no longer eligible for ATSI when both of the following criteria are met:

* **Exit Criterion 1**: Student group does not meet any of the ATSI eligibility criteria for entry.

Eligibility criteria for the 2023 and 2024 Dashboards are as follows:

* + Criterion 1: All **Red** indicators
	+ Criterion 2: All **Red** indicators except for one indicator of another Performance Color
	+ Criterion 3: Five or more indicators where the majority are **Red**
* **Exit Criterion 2:** On the 2024 Dashboard, the student group showed improvement in Change on at least **one** state indicator that was **Red** on the 2023 Dashboard. (Please note that for the CCI, a Very Low Status level was used as a proxy for Red on the 2023 Dashboard.)

Improvement in Change is different by state indicator:

* + English Language Arts and Mathematics indicator, a Change of +0.1 distance from standard points.
	+ English Learner Progress Indicator, Graduation Rate, and CCI, a Change of +0.1 percentage points.
	+ Suspension Rate and Chronic Absenteeism, a Change of -0.1 percentage points.

# **Attachment 3**

## Targeted Support and Improvement Eligibility Determinations

### Entry Criteria

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) support determinations under Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) were made for California following the publication of the 2023 Dashboard on December 15, 2023. These determinations marked the first year of California’s three-year identification cycle for both CSI and ATSI. The publication of the 2024 Dashboard requires California to identify schools under TSI for the first time since the SBE adopted California’s ESSA State Plan in 2018.

Accordingly, all schools, both Title I-funded and non-Title I–funded, that are not eligible for CSI – Low Graduation Rate, CSI – Low Performing, or ATSI, are placed in the eligibility pool for TSI determinations. Both Title I-funded and non-Title I funded schools are eligible for TSI if they have **one or more student group(s) that, for two consecutive years**, meet the criteria used for 2023–24 CSI – Low Performing determinations.

Schools are eligible under the TSI entry criteria if one or more student groups meet **one** of the following criteria on **both** the **2023 and 2024 Dashboards**:

* Criterion 1: All **Red** indicators
* Criterion 2: All **Red** indicators except for one indicator of another Performance Color
* Criterion 3: Five or more indicators where the majority are **Red**

Per California’s ESSA State Plan, California is required to determine TSI eligibility for small schools. Schools that do not have a performance color at the all school level for the Academic Indicator (English Language Arts/Literacy [ELA] and Mathematics) and Chronic Absenteeism Indicator are placed in the eligibility pool for TSI small schools determination.

Student groups within these schools that have between 11 to 29 students in the ELA Status, Math Status, and Chronic Absenteeism Status will make the school eligible for TSI if the following criteria are met:

* ELA Status level = Very Low (1); and
* Math Status level = Very Low (1); and
* Chronic Absenteeism Status greater or equal to 20.1 percent

**A total of 306 schools are eligible for TSI for the 2024–25 school year.** Out of the 306 schools eligible for TSI, 6 schools are eligible based on the TSI small schools criteria. The four student groups that most commonly qualify schools for TSI are Students with Disabilities (96 schools), English Learners (74 schools), and Black/African American (56 schools).

Table 1 provides a breakdown of TSI-eligible schools, showing how many schools meet the criteria based on the number of student groups meeting the criteria.

#### Table 1: 2024–25 Schools Eligible for TSI Based on the Number of Student Groups Meeting the Criteria

| **Number of Student Groups** | **Number of Schools** |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | 249 |
| 2 | 43 |
| 3 | 11 |
| 4 | 3 |

Tables 2 and 3 provide a breakdown of TSI-eligible schools by Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) and charter status.

#### Table 2: 2024–25 Schools Eligible for TSI: Breakdown by DASS and Non-DASS Schools

| **Number of DASS Schools** | **Number of Non-DASS Schools** |
| --- | --- |
| 53 | 253 |

#### Table 3: 2024–25 Schools Eligible for TSI: Breakdown by Charter and Non-Charter Schools

| **Number of Charter Schools** | **Number of Non-Charter Schools** |
| --- | --- |
| 31 | 275 |