



ESEA in focus: Accountability and Student Testing

The basic requirements under ESEA

- Starting in 2005-06 school year, requires annual testing in at least math and reading in grades 3-8, and at least once in grades 10-12. States must use the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) as a benchmark every other year, but no sanctions will be based on NAEP performance.
 - Prior to 2005-06, the requirement of reading and math tests at least once in each of three grade spans (3-5, 6-9, 10-12) remains in effect.
 - Each state sets performance goals – the initial goal is linked to the current lowest-performing group of students or schools in the state.
 - Progress must be made overall for the school and for economically disadvantaged students, students from major racial and ethnic minority groups, students with disabilities, and Limited English Proficient students.
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What if a school doesn't meet "Adequate Yearly Progress"? (AYP)

- School fails to meet AYP for 2 years – in year 3, enters school improvement including public school choice.
 - School again fails to meet AYP – enters second year of school improvement (year 4), must offer supplemental services to students who want them.
 - School still failing at the end of year 4 – enters corrective action (year 5), including extending school year/day, hiring outside expert, changing curriculum, replacing staff, and/or reducing local decision-making.
 - School continues to fail to meet AYP – goes into the second year of corrective action (year 6), including developing a restructuring plan.
 - School still failing in year 7 – one of the following actions must be taken: state takeover; turn over to private management; turn into a charter school; reconstitution/ restructuring.
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What about Colorado schools on "the list?"

Title I schools that were in school improvement under the old ESEA are still in school improvement and must meet the requirements listed above.

For more information

www.coloradoea.org Colorado Education Association
www.cde.state.co.us Colorado State Department of Education -- click on the NCLB icon
www.ed.gov U.S. Department of Education

Contact your UniServ Director to arrange for a presentation on ESEA in your local.