

Wyoming Department of Education
Division of Individual Learning

District Determinations Explanation 2015

1. A Determinations “Percent Score” is calculated for each LEA, each of the four population cohorts, and the State as a whole:
 - An LEA’s Percent Score is (a) the sum of the its scores on Indicators 1, 2, 3b (for both math and reading), 3c (for both math and reading), 5a, 5b, 5c, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 20a, and 20b (b) divided by the sum of the target scores on these indicators.
 - Indicators 2, 5b, and 5c are “reversed-scored” because for these indicators, a lower score is better than a higher score. For example, if an LEA’s indicator 2 (drop-out rate) score is 10%, its score for that item is 100%-10% or 90% (0.9 points).
 - Each LEA’s Indicator 13 score is its “raw” score before correction based on the WDE’s transition file review (conducted in December of 2012).
 - Indicator 3B and 3C scores are weighted according to the numbers of students with disabilities at each grade band (elementary, middle, and high school).
 - The highest possible point score an LEA could receive is 17.00. This would occur if an LEA received a 100% score on each of the 17 indicators. The sum of the target scores on these 17 indicators is 15.6941. Thus, if an LEA scored the highest possible on each indicator, its Percent Score would be 108.321% (17.00/15.6941). If an LEA scored at the target for each of the indicators, its Percent Score would be 100% (15.6941/15.6941).
 - Note 1: For those LEAs that did not have a score for Indicators 11 or 14 due to the fact that they had no students that met the selection for these indicators (e.g., not having any exiting high school students in a given year), the total score is based on only those indicators for which the LEA had scores. In these situations, the percent score is the revised LEA score divided by the revised target score (both of which are based on only those indicators for which the LEA had scores.)
 - Note 2: For those LEAs that had fewer than six respondents for Indicators 8 and 14, a 3-year rate for these indicators was calculated based on scores the LEA received in 2013-14, 2012-13, and 2011-12. If the number of respondents based on the 3-year rate was six or higher, then the 3-year rate was used in the determinations formula. If the number of respondents based on the 3-year rate was less than six, then the indicator 8 and/or 14 rate was not used in calculating the determinations score for that LEA. In this case, the percent score is the revised LEA score divided by the revised

target score (both of which are based on only those indicators for which the LEA had scores.)

- In previous years, in order to achieve a level of “Meet Requirements,” an LEA’s Percent Score had to be at 100% or higher which reflected that the LEA met or exceeded the state target total. If the WDE would continue to use a cut score of 100% for Meets Requirements, no LEA would achieve this status. The reason for this is that over time, the targets on each indicator have increased; as such, it gets more difficult each year to Meet Requirements. Increasing targets is a good practice as it reflects a belief in continuous improvement. However, two indicators have increased dramatically over time due to their alignment with the targets established for Title I of the ESEA. These indicators are indicators 1 and 3C which now have targets of 85% and 100%, respectively. Because these targets are so high, and do not reflect a realistic target for LEAs (at this time), the WDE has decided to adjust the cut scores for the determinations levels to reflect a more realistic belief in what is a rigorous, yet achievable standard. Thus, for 2013-14, each LEA’s Percent Score is evaluated according to the following criteria:
 - If the LEA’s Percent Score is 91.00% or higher, then the LEA *Meets Requirements* (providing no special circumstances).
 - If the LEA’s Percent Score is 85.00% – 90.99%, then the LEA *Needs Assistance* (providing no special circumstances).
 - If the LEA’s Total Score is 76.00% – 84.99%, then the LEA *Needs Intervention* (providing no special circumstances).
 - If the LEA’s Total Score is less than 76.00%, then the LEA *Needs Substantial Intervention* (providing no special circumstances).
2. Additional Non-Compliance Circumstances Considered:
- If an LEA has any outstanding, uncorrected findings of noncompliance from monitoring, due process, or complaints identified during the 2014 – 2015 school year, then it cannot be in *Meets Requirements*.
 - LEAs in Compliance Agreements from the 2013 – 2014 school year are automatically in *Needs Intervention* (year one of the compliance agreement).
 - LEAs with uncorrected findings of noncompliance from the 2012 – 2013 school year (or before) are automatically in *Needs Substantial Intervention* (\geq year two of the compliance agreement) unless notable progress has been made toward correction.