

Preparing for the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Accountability System Restart for the 2022-23 School Year

Overview

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 - New York State (NYS) Stakeholders
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 - Other States
- Stakeholder Engagement
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- Next Steps



Reliability

Input from educational/data experts and NYS stakeholders

Transparency

Frequent communication with NYS stakeholders

Explainability

Building understanding through various communication modalities

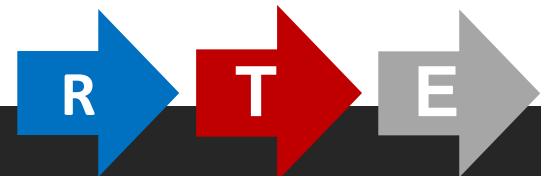
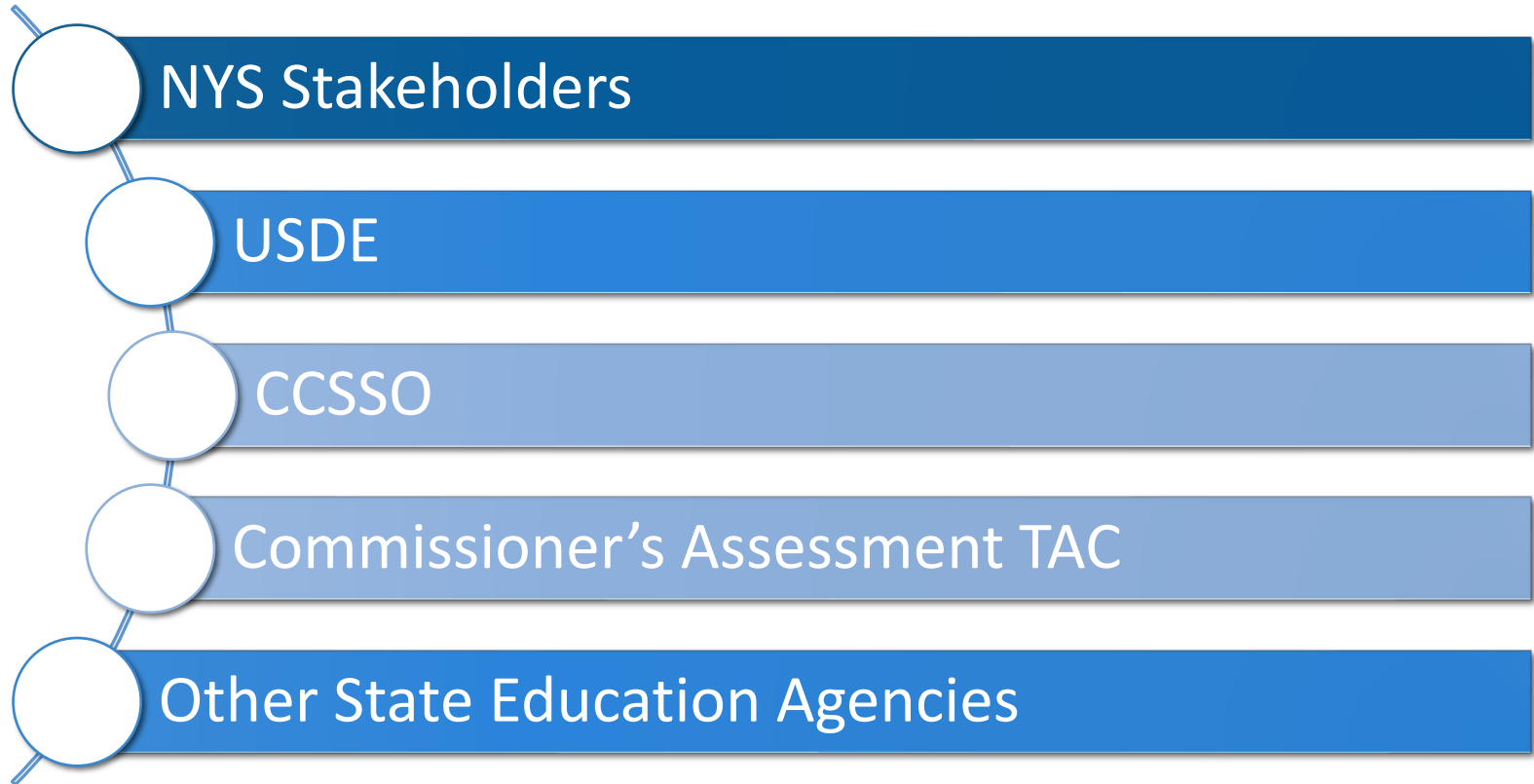
NYSED
Values

Guiding
Accountability
Restart

NYSED Accountability Restart Timeline: June 2021 to Present



Accountability Restart Conversations



Key Takeaways from Educational Experts

- Consider the lowered participation rates due to the pandemic.
- Many states will have difficulty restarting the accountability system.
- Certain indicators will be difficult to calculate.
- Consider whether pre-pandemic targets are achievable.
- It is important to consider the most appropriate use of data and to avoid its misuse in terms of accountability.

Stakeholder Engagement Modalities



Meetings with District Superintendents (DSs)



Monthly Stakeholder Meetings



Public Surveys and Public Comment Requests:



April 2022 Accountability Indicators Webinar

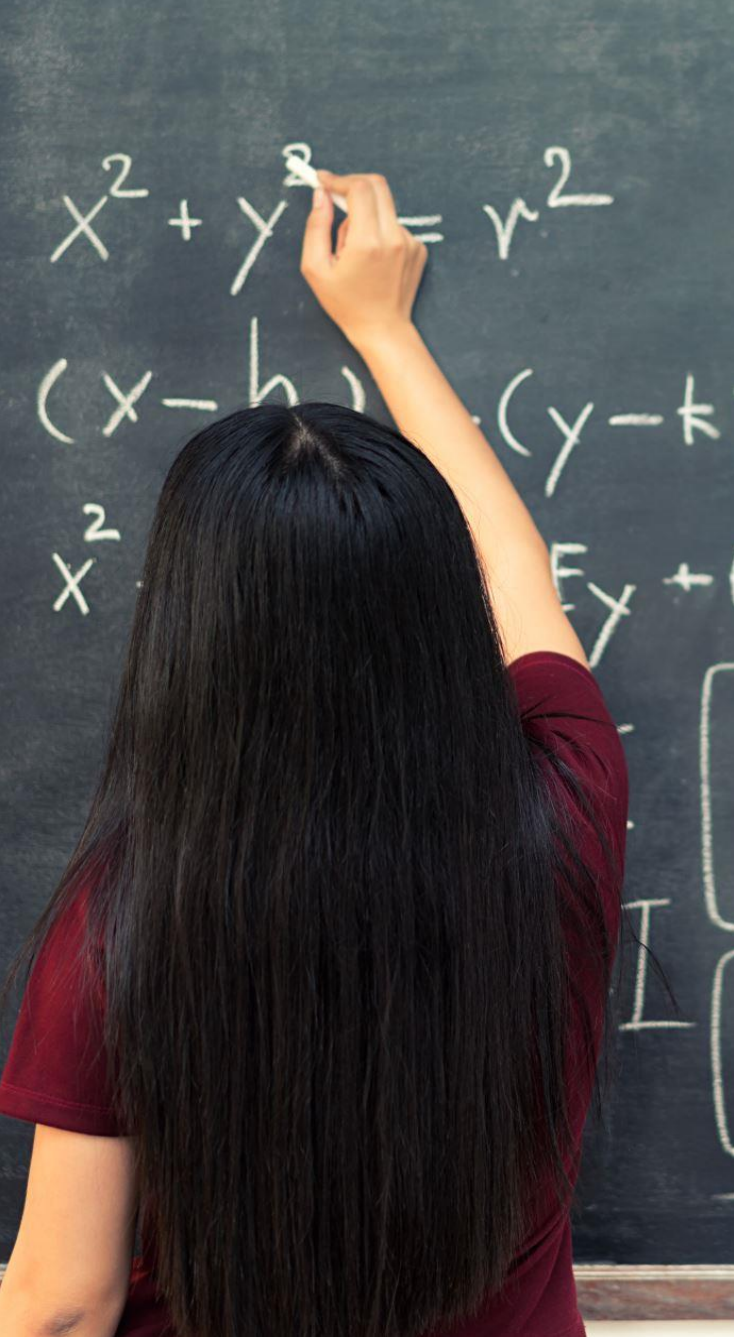


July 2022 Accountability State Plan Addendum Webinar



NYSED Website, Press Releases, P-20 Weekly, Social Media





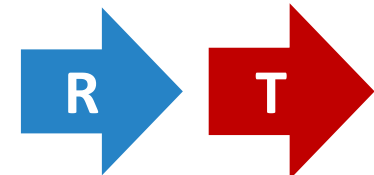
Interest Survey for Possible Accountability Waiver:

In a November 2021 Survey to NYS Stakeholders:
3,888 responses

91% in favor of not making accountability determinations using 2021-22 school year results

61% in favor of not identifying new schools for CSI using 2021-22 school year results

49% in favor of not identifying new schools for TSI using 2021-22 school year results



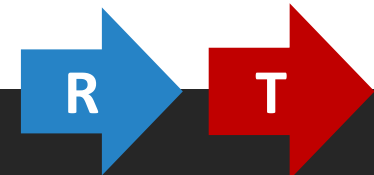
2021-22 Accountability Waiver

Based on strong support from educational experts and NYS Stakeholders, NYSED drafted an accountability waiver package to suspend accountability determinations.

Top reasons for waiver support (based on written comments):

- Schools need more time to support student during the pandemic
- Data is inaccurate and/or insufficient
- Inequitable to make accountability determinations

On December 22, 2021, NYSED submitted a waiver to USDE seeking flexibility from federal accountability requirements.



ESSA State Plan Addendum

- Accountability waiver request denied by USDE on December 30, 2021
- USDE mandating accountability and school improvement requirements under the ESEA using data from the 2021-2022 school year
- USDE allowing State Education Agencies (SEAs) to submit a 2021-22 ESSA State Plan Addendum
 - Plan amendments for the 2021-2022 school year *only*
 - Amendments will impact accountability determinations made based on data from the 2021-2022 school year and school identifications in the 2022-2023 school year.

USDE Accountability Restart Constraints

According to USDE Guidelines:

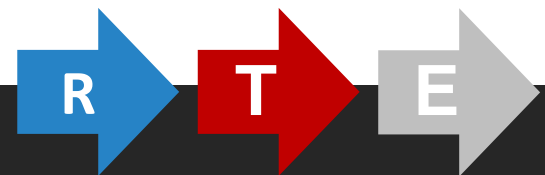
- Each SEA is required to annually measure the achievement of not less than 95 percent of all students and students in each subgroup on its annual statewide assessments in reading/language arts and mathematics under ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(E).
- An SEA may not use indicators that are not in use statewide.
- An SEA must run its accountability system for purposes of identifying at least the current lowest-performing five percent of Title I schools in fall 2022 based on data from the 2021-22 school year and may not carry over a previous year's list of identified schools.
- SEAs may exclude students from the high school participation and performance calculations for the 2019-20 school year, but not in subsequent years for which an assessment waiver was not provided.



USDE Accountability Restart Flexibilities

According to USDE Guidelines:

- A State Education Agency (SEA) may make one-year or longer-term changes to its approved ESEA consolidated State plan, consistent with ESEA requirements.
- An SEA may consider changes to Long-Term goals and Measurements of Interim Progress (MIPs) for Academic Achievement, Graduation Rates, and Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency (ELP) due to the impact of COVID-19 and resulting disruptions on school performance.
- An SEA has discretion to modify its methodology for its system of annual meaningful differentiation, which must include all schools in the State and be based on all indicators (or may replace the Other Academic Indicator).

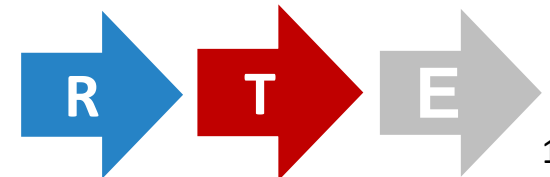


Accountability Indicator Webinar and Survey:

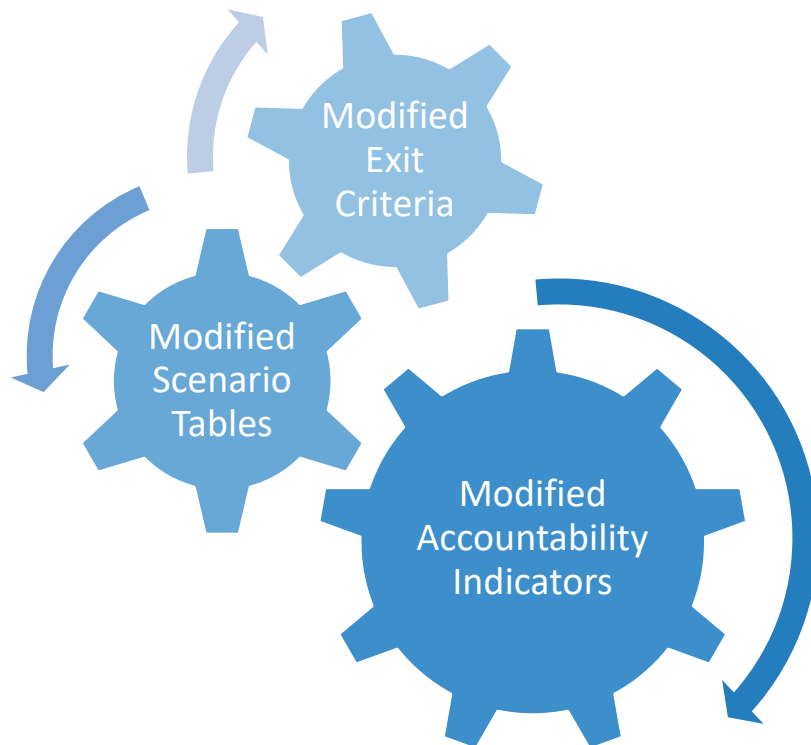
In an April 2022 Survey to NYS Stakeholders:
654 responses

76% in favor of minimizing the use of data from
years prior to the 2021-22 school year as much as
possible

79% in favor of using a one-year model for
restarting the accountability system using 2021-
22 school year data that would lead to a more
“normal” cycle of accountability



Restarting the Accountability System



After receiving stakeholder input, extensive modeling, and data analysis, the proposed accountability system restart for the 2022-2023 school year will...

- Start with a one-year model that relies on 2021-2022 school year data
- Suspend the use of several indicators
- Modify the use of several indicators
- Introduce a new indicator
- Use modified scenario tables for identification
- Use modified exit criteria

State Plan Addendum

Based on strong support from NYS stakeholders in the April 2022 survey, NYSED drafted an accountability state plan addendum to restart the accountability system using a 1-year model using 2021-22 school year data.

NYSED is adjusting the addendum to reflect recommendations received through the public comment.

NYSED requested public comment regarding the draft waiver and received feedback from USDE on revisions to the plan addendum. Among the 122 responses, the top areas of feedback:

- Schools needs more time to support students during the pandemic
- Data is inaccurate and/or insufficient
- Inequitable to make accountability determinations



Next Steps

Formal submission to and approval by USDE of the ESSA State Plan Addendum

Communicate USDE approval to the field

Present proposed amendments to Sections 100.21 and 100.19 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Restarting the Accountability System to the Board of Regents

Continue to engage with stakeholders regarding the future of accountability in New York State

