

# Louisiana's K-12 ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

## WHAT IS LOUISIANA'S K-12 ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM?

The Louisiana school and school system accountability system was developed to

- inform and focus educators through clear expectations for student outcomes; and
- provide objective information about school quality to parents and other community stakeholders.

Annually, public schools in Louisiana receive a **School Performance Score (SPS)** and corresponding letter grade that measures how well they are preparing all of their students for the next grade-level or postsecondary education.

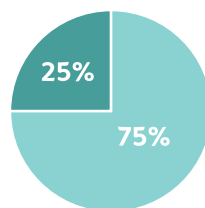
**Watch a quick video on how school performance scores are calculated.\***

SPS is reported on a scale from zero to 150, and is measured by how well schools perform on the following indices.

LETTER GRADE	SCALE FOR 2017–2018*
A	90–150
B	75–89.9
C	60–74.9
D	50–59.9
F	0–49.9

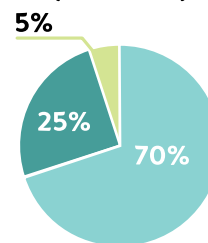
\*Over time, this scale will become more rigorous to ensure that an “A” school in Louisiana, is the same as any in the country.

Elementary School Performance Scores



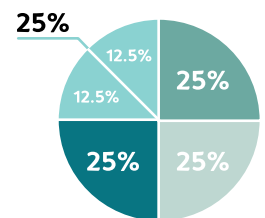
● State Assessment Performance  
● Student Progress

Elementary/Middle School Performance Scores (with Grade 8)



● State Assessment Performance  
● Student Progress  
● Credit Accumulation in 9th Grade

High School Performance Scores



● State Assessment Performance and Progress  
● ACT/WorkKeys  
● Strength of Diploma  
● Graduation Rate

## WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO EARN AN “A” IN LOUISIANA?

### Student Performance on State Assessments:

Students are achieving **“Mastery” or higher** on state assessments.



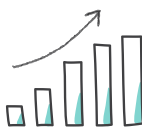
### ACT:

Students average a score of **21 or higher** on the ACT.



### Student Progress:

Regardless of where a student starts at the beginning of the year, they progress throughout the school year and are on track to **achieve “Mastery”**.



### Strength of Diploma:

Students graduate **on time in four years** and schools earn additional points for students in **college-level classes** or **earning Jump Start credentials**.



### Dropout Credit Accumulation Index:

Students earn **six or more credits by 9th grade** signaling a successful transition from middle school.



### Cohort Graduation Rate:

Nine out of 10 students in each high school cohort **graduate in four years**.



# WHAT IS NEW ABOUT THIS YEAR'S SCHOOL PERFORMANCE SCORES?

## REWARDING SCHOOLS FOR STUDENT GROWTH THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

The 2017-2018 school performance score calculation will represent two critical shifts in the design of Louisiana's accountability system as a result of the Every Student Succeeds Act:

1. ensuring an "A" in Louisiana's letter grade system signals mastery of fundamental skills; and
2. adjusting school rating calculations to value more the progress of every individual child.

The new Student Progress Index measures how well students, regardless of where they start at the beginning of the year, are progressing towards "Mastery" throughout the year, and rewards schools for this growth.

Schools earn an 'A' in the progress index for any student who:

- is not yet at a "Mastery" level, but whose improvement since last year is on track to reach "Mastery" by the 8th grade (or 10th grade for high schools); or
- scored higher than expected based on the scores of other students with similar past performance and characteristics.

On their report card in School Finder, each school will now receive an overall A-F rating, a rating for student performance (how did students score on end-of-year assessments) and student progress (how much progress have students demonstrated since last school year).

## TRANSPARENT REPORTING AND SUPPORT FOR PERSISTENTLY STRUGGLING SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS

As part of Louisiana's ESSA plan, any school identified under one of the following intervention labels will be required to submit a plan to the Department for improvement, and an application for funding to support its implementation. The labels will also appear on a school's report card in School Finder.

URGENT INTERVENTION NEEDED	URGENT INTERVENTION REQUIRED	COMPREHENSIVE INTERVENTION REQUIRED*
Subgroup performance equal to "D" or "F" in the current year.	Subgroup performance equal to "F" for 2 years and/or out of school suspension rates more than double the national average for 3 years.	Overall performance of "D" or "F" for 3 years (or 2 years for new schools) and/or graduation rate less than 67% in most recent year.

*\*Beginning in 2018-2019, schools that are UIR for 3 or more years will be identified as CIR.*

## WHERE CAN PARENTS GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOOLS' PERFORMANCE?

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is committed to helping families find the right school or early childhood center for their children, and providing them with helpful information about Louisiana's schools.

The Louisiana School Finder is an online tool that provides families with:

1. school performance scores and early childhood performance ratings to show how well schools and centers are preparing students for the next grade-level;
2. basic information about schools and centers such as their address, website, hours of operation, and principal or director's name; and
3. listings of course offerings, clubs, enrichment and extracurricular activities.

To find out information about schools in your area, visit [www.louisianaschools.com](http://www.louisianaschools.com), and type in a school's name or your zip code.

