
Guidelines

Campuses that are paired should have a “feeder” relationship and should serve students in contiguous grades. For example, a kindergarten (K) through grade 2 campus should be paired with the campus that serves grade 3 in which its students will be enrolled following grade 2.

When a campus being asked to pair is a prekindergarten (PK) or K campus with a “feeder” relationship to a campus that also requires pairing (e.g., a grade 1–2 campus.) both campuses should pair with the same campus that serves grade 3 in which their students will be enrolled following grade 2.

Campuses may be paired with the district itself instead of with another campus. This option is suggested for cases in which the campus has no clear relationship with another single campus in the district. A campus paired with the district will be evaluated using the district’s assessment results (for all grades tested in the district). Note that pairing with the district is not required in these cases. Districts have the choice of selecting another campus or selecting the district itself.

Multiple pairings are possible. If several K–2 campuses feed the same 3–5 campus, all of the K–2 campuses may pair with that 3–5 campus.

Districts may change pairings from year to year. Any changes should, however, be based on establishing the most appropriate pairing relationship. For example, a change in attendance zones that affects feeder patterns may cause a district to change pairing. A change in a pairing relationship does not change accountability ratings assigned in previous years to either campus.

Non-Traditional Educational Settings

Even though districts are responsible for the performance of all their students, statutory requirements affect the rating calculations for residential treatment facilities (RTF), Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD), juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP), and disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) campuses.

Inclusion or Exclusion of Performance Data

The performance of students served in certain campuses cannot be used in evaluating the district where the campus is located. Texas Education Code (TEC) §§39.054(f) and 39.055 require that students ordered by a juvenile court into a residential program or facility operated by the TJJD, a juvenile board, or any other governmental entity or any student who is receiving treatment in a residential facility be excluded from the district and campus when determining the accountability ratings. See *Appendix G – Inclusion or Exclusion of Performance Data*.

Student Attribution Codes

Districts with RTF or TJJD campuses are required to submit student attribution codes in

DAEPs, JJAEPs, and stand-alone General Educational Development (GED) programs are ineligible for evaluation by AEA provisions. Data for these campuses are attributed to the home campus.

AEA Campus Registration Process

The AEA campus registration process is conducted online using the TEASE Accountability website. AECs rated by 2015 AEA provisions are re-registered automatically in 2016. Filing an *AEA Campus Rescission Form* is required from AECs wishing to discontinue AEA registration. Filing an *AEA Campus Registration Form* is required for each AEC not on the list of registered AECs that wishes to be evaluated by 2016 AEA provisions. The 2016 registration process occurred March 28–April 8, 2016.

AEA Campus Registration Criteria

Thirteen criteria must be met for campuses to register for AEA. However, the requirements in criteria 8–13 may not apply to charter campuses (depending on the terms of the charter) or for community-based dropout recovery campuses established in accordance with TEC §29.081(e).

- 1) The AEC must have its own county-district-campus number for which PEIMS data are submitted and test answer documents are coded. A program operated within or supported by another campus does not qualify.
- 2) The AEC must have its own county-district-campus number on PEIMS fall snapshot day (October 30, 2015).
- 3) The AEC must be identified in AskTED (Ask Texas Education Directory database) as an alternative instructional campus. This is a self-designation that districts and charters request via AskTED.
- 4) The AEC must be dedicated to serving students at risk of dropping out of school as defined in TEC §29.081(d).
- 5) At least 50 percent of students at the AEC must be enrolled in grades 6–12.
- 6) The AEC must operate on its own campus budget.
- 7) The AEC must offer nontraditional settings and methods of instructional delivery designed to meet the needs of the students served on the AEC.
- 8) The AEC cannot be the only middle school or high school listed for the district in AskTED.
- 9) The AEC must have an appropriately certified, full-time administrator whose primary duty is the administration of the AEC.
- 10) The AEC must have appropriately certified teachers assigned in all areas including special education, bilingual education, and/or English as a second language (ESL) to serve students eligible for such services.
- 11) The AEC must provide each student the opportunity to attend a 7-hour school day as defined in TEC §25.082(a), according to the needs of each student.
- 12) If the campus has students served by special education, the students must be placed at the AEC by their Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee. If the campus is a residential facility, the students must have been placed in the facility by the district.

- 13) Students served by special education must receive all services outlined in their current individualized education programs (IEPs). English language learners (ELL) must receive all services outlined by the language proficiency assessment committee (LPAC). Students served by special education or language programs must be served by appropriately certified teachers.

At-Risk Enrollment Criterion

Each registered AEC must have at least 75 percent at-risk student enrollment on the AEC verified through current-year PEIMS fall enrollment data in order to be evaluated by AEA provisions. The at-risk enrollment criterion restricts use of AEA provisions to AECs that serve large populations of at-risk students and enhances at-risk data quality.

Prior-Year Safeguard. If a registered AEC does not meet the at-risk enrollment criterion in the current year, it remains registered for AEA if the AEC meets the at-risk enrollment criterion in the prior year. For example, an AEC with an at-risk enrollment below 75 percent in 2016 that had at least 75 percent in 2015 remains registered in 2016.

Grades 6–12 Enrollment Criterion

In order to be evaluated by AEA provisions, each registered AEC must have at least 50 percent student enrollment in grades 6–12 based on total students enrolled (early education–grade 12) verified through current-year PEIMS fall enrollment data. The grades 6–12 enrollment criterion restricts use of AEA provisions to middle and high schools.

Final AEA Campus List

The final list of AEA campuses is posted on the TEA website in May at which time an email notification is sent to all superintendents.

The *2016 Final AEA Campus List* includes DRS designations. If at least 50 percent of the students enrolled at an AEA campus are 17 years of age or older as of September 1, 2015, then the AEC of choice is designated as a DRS (TEC §39.0545).

AEA Charter Identification

Charter ratings are based on aggregate performance of the campuses operated by the charter. Performance results of all students in the charter are used in determining the charter's accountability rating and for distinction designations.

- € Charters that operate only registered AECs are evaluated by AEA provisions.
- € Charters that operate both non-AEA campuses and registered AECs are evaluated by AEA provisions if the AEC enrollment criterion described below is met.
- € Charters that operate both non-AEA campuses and registered AECs that do not meet the AEC enrollment criterion described below do not qualify for evaluation by AEA provisions.
- € Charters that operate only non-AEA campuses do not qualify for evaluation by AEA provisions because the campuses choose not to register for AEA evaluation, do not meet the at-risk criteria, or do not meet the grades 6–12 enrollment criteria.

AEC Enrollment Criterion for Charters

A charter that operates both non-AEA campuses and registered AECs is eligible for evaluation by AEA provisions if at least 50 percent of the charter's students are enrolled at registered AECs. AEC enrollment is based on total students enrolled (early