

XIV. PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS

The educational strategic plan for the state of Iowa, approved by the State Board of Education, provides a framework to improve student learning in the state for all students. In Iowa, all public schools and districts are held to the same process and criteria for making adequate yearly progress (AYP), set by state-wide goals and indicators. AYP shifts yearly goals toward 100% proficiency by the 2013-14 school year, as defined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The goals for the educational system in the state of Iowa, as stated in the 2010 strategic plan, are:

- All children will enter school ready to learn.
- All K-12 students will achieve at a high level.
- Individuals will pursue postsecondary education in order to drive economic success.

For purposes of AYP accountability, all public schools and districts are judged by performance and improvement on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS), the Iowa Tests of Educational Development (ITED), and alternate assessment. All public school buildings and districts are also accountable for subgroup performance as required by federal law provided the subgroup meets the minimum size requirement as determined by the state. The minimum n size is 40 for participation and 30 for performance. The AYP definition includes all students and subgroups in grades 3-8 and grade 11 in reading and mathematics.

Indicators of success reported at the state level are:

- Participation rate and Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)* in reading assessment (Grades 3-8 and 11)
- Participation rate and Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)* in mathematic assessment (Grades 3-8 and 11)
- Graduation rate
- Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Rate

*AMO results represent the performance of students who are enrolled in Iowa public schools/districts for a full academic year.

The 2008-2009 state graduation rate for all students based on a first time freshmen four-year cohort rate is 87.2%.

Graduation rate data are reported one year in arrears, to allow schools to include summer graduates in their total counts. For example, the 2009-2010 graduation rate will be used for 2010-2011 AYP decisions.

Annually, the State of Iowa will report to the Secretary of Education and the public of Iowa, the progress of the State and of the children with disabilities in the State toward meeting these goals. Based upon the assessment of the progress, the State will revise its State Improvement Plan as needed to improve its performance.