



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

# Alternative Education Campuses

**Guidance to the 2015-16 Selection of Accountability Measures**

May 19, 2016

# Today's Goals

- Understand the timelines and implications of the accountability system for AECs.
- Learn the definition of what an Alternative Education Campus (AEC) is.
- What is the purpose of having a specialized accountability system for AECs?
- How can the Selection of Measures for the AEC SPF best represent the work my school is doing?
- How to submit the Selection of Measures form.
- How to get additional support.



# What is an Alternative Education Campus?



# Alternative Education Campuses

As Per C.R.S. 22-7-604.5 an Alternative Education Campus (AEC) in Colorado is defined as a public school that is:

- Having a specialized mission and serving **special needs** or **at-risk population**;
- Being an **autonomous Public School**, meaning that the school provides a complete instructional program that allows students to **proceed to the next grade level or to graduate**;
- Having an **administrator** who is not under the supervision of an administrator at another public school;
- Having a **budget separate** from any other Public School;
- Having **nontraditional methods of instruction delivery**; and
- One of the following:
  - Serving **students who have severe limitations** that preclude appropriate administration of the assessments administered pursuant to §22-7-409, C.R.S.;
  - Serving a student population in which more than **95%\* of the students have either an individual education program (IEP)** pursuant to §22-20-108, C.R.S. or **meet the definition of a High-Risk Student**; or
  - **Serving students who attend on a part-time basis** and who come from other Public Schools where the part-time students are counted in the enrollment of the other Public School; except that the results of the assessments administered pursuant to §22-7-409, C.R.S., of all part-time students and High-Risk Students shall be used in determining the levels of attainment on the performance indicators for the Public School for which the student is counted for enrollment purposes.;

*\*HB16-1429 passed in May 2016 and will lower this percentage to 90% high-risk for the 2017-18 school year and going forward.*



# “High-Risk Student” is a student who has one or more of the following conditions

- juvenile delinquent
- dropped out of school
- expelled from school
- history of personal drug or alcohol use
- history of personal street gang involvement
- history of child abuse or neglect
- has a parent or guardian in prison
- Has an IEP
- family history of domestic violence
- repeated school suspensions
- parent or pregnant woman
- migrant child\*
- homeless child
- history of a serious psychiatric or behavioral disorder\*
- is over traditional school age for his or her grade level and lacks adequate credit hours for his or her grade level\*\*

*\*Added in 2010*

*\*\*Added in 2011*



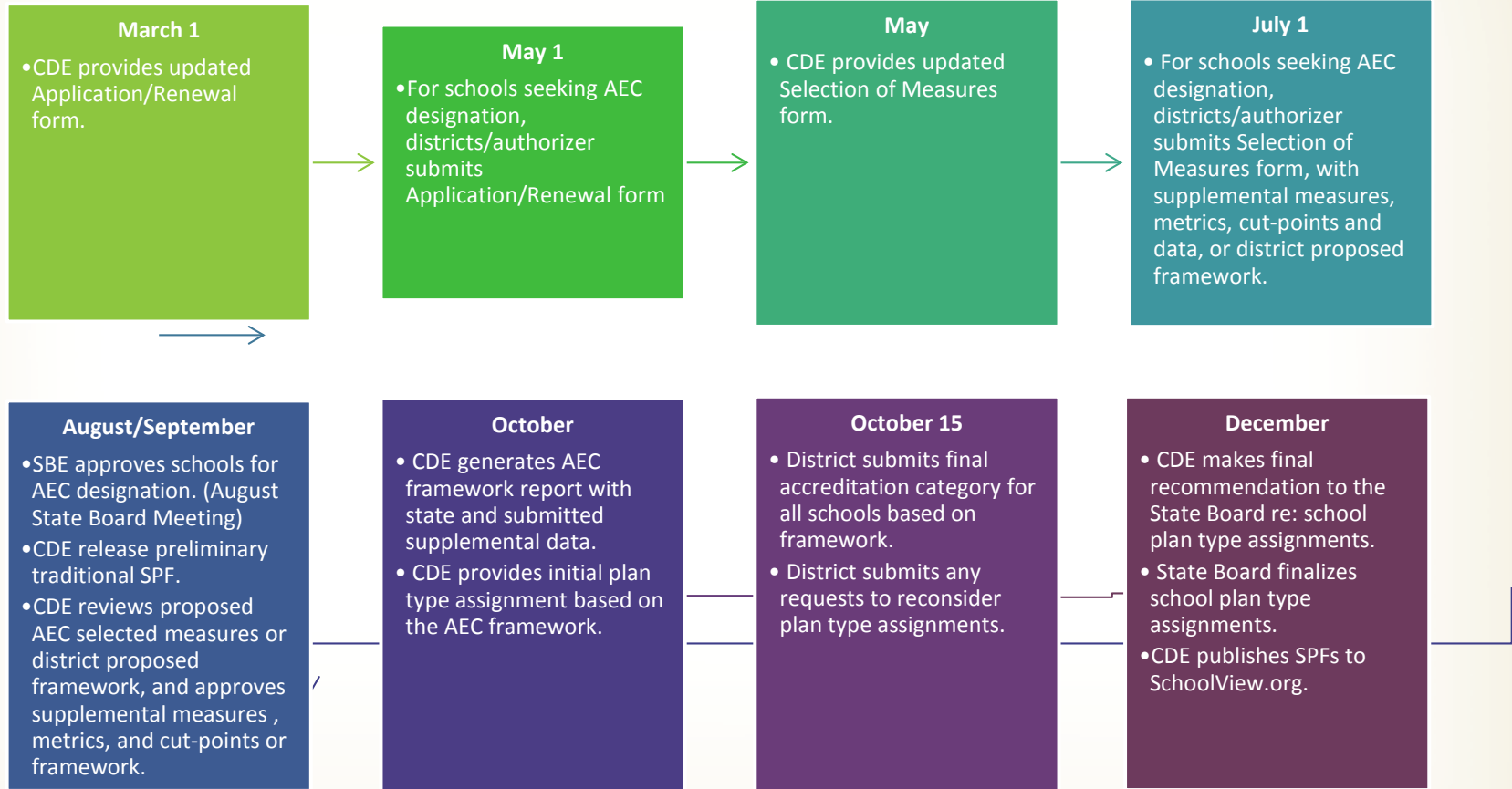
# How does a School Become an Alternative Education Campus?



# AEC Application & Selection of Measures Process

- **All AECs, including those previously approved as AECs, must annually submit an application for AEC designation by April 29.**
  - Districts verify that the school meets AEC criteria.
  - Districts verify the AEC has 95% “high-risk” students.
  - CDE makes a recommendation to the State Board.
  - State Board approves AEC designation.
- **All existing AECs must annually submit a “Selection of Measures Form” by June 30.**
  - Districts select and submit accountability measures for their AEC(s)
  - CDE approves or denies submitted accountability measures
  - Accountability measures are factored in the AEC SPF
  - State Board approves AEC plan type assignments in December

# Process/Timeline





# What is included in the AEC SPF?

- **All AECs receive data on the traditional SPF, but accountability is based on a separate AEC SPF.**
  - Improvement planning expectations and consequences are the same as for traditional schools.
- **3 of the same performance indicators, 1 modified.**
  - Different weights than those of traditional schools
- **Within indicators, many of the same measures and metrics, but different cut-points.**
- **Districts may opt to submit supplemental measures for CDE's review.**

# AEC Accountability

Alternative Education Campuses receive a School Performance Framework annually, similar to traditional schools. The main exception is AECs are measured on Student Engagement measure, rather than Growth Gaps.

Performance Indicator	Weight		State-Required Measures and Metrics	Optional Measures and Metrics
	E/MS	HS		
<b>Academic Achievement</b>	20%	15%	1. CMAS PARCC % of students proficient in English Language Arts, Math, Science	NWEA MAP, Scantron, Acuity, Galileo, Wide Range Achievement Test (WRAT), Test for Adult Basic Education (TABE), STAR, and/or Accuplacer Diagnostic Exam
<b>Academic Growth</b>	50%	35%	1. CMAS PARCC median growth percentiles in English Language Arts, Math, and ACCESS (English language proficiency)	NWEA MAP, Scantron, Acuity, Galileo, Wide Range Achievement Test (WRAT), Test for Adult Basic Education (TABE), ACCESS, STAR, and/or Accuplacer Diagnostic Exam
<b>Student Engagement</b>	30%	20%	1. Attendance rate 2. Truancy rate	1. Student Re-engagement, 2. Returning students, 3. Socio-Emotional or Psychological Adjustment
<b>Postsecondary &amp; Workforce Readiness</b>	N/A	30%	1. Completion rate (English learners, free and reduced price eligible students, minority students, students with disabilities) 2. Dropout rate 3. Average composite Colorado ACT score 4. Matriculation rate (2-year higher institution, 4-year higher institution, career and technical education)	1. Credit/course completion, 2. Workforce Readiness, 3. Post-Completion Success, 4. Successful transition (for non-degree granting schools only), 5. Graduation rate 6. Accuplacer Placement Exam

# Consideration of Measures for the AEC SPF

- The three most recent years of data will be included.
- AECs will receive indicator ratings similar to the traditional SPF:
  - Does Not Meet, Approaching, Meets, or Exceeds AEC norms
- Each indicator/sub-indicator:
  - Uses adjusted AEC cut-points relative to each other
  - Typically uses either normative cuts of 40th/60th/90th percentile or head counts of 40%/60%/90%
- Where there are common measures across districts, common metrics and cut-points will be used.
- For specific metrics of the AEC SPF measures, review the Calculation Guidance located here:  
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/sites/default/files/documents/accountability/downloads/calculationguidanceforaecmeasures.pdf>

# Weighting of Optional Measures

- **HB15-1350** requested the AEC Accountability Working Group (AEC AWG) to consider the current **“N” weighting system** and to suggest “changes to weights to address the unique socio-emotional needs to the students served by the alternative education campus.”
- Under the previous AEC performance framework, all sub-indicators were weighed equally when determining the total indicator points earned and eligible; the number of students contributing towards state measures versus local measures was not considered.
- The AEC Accountability Working Group was asked to review an alternate approach that would assign weights to each sub-indicator in proportion to the contributing “N” count. Under this approach, **the weight assigned to a given sub-indicator would be based on the proportion of students represented on that indicator** out of the total number of students across all sub-indicators.
- The entire AEC AWG unanimously voted to adopt the recommendation to factor the number of students contributing to each sub-indicator measure into the aggregated point totals for **the achievement and growth indicators**. “N” Weighting was adopted by CDE in Spring 2016 and will be reflected in the AEC SPF going forward.

# Submission Requirements for Measures

- **Academic Achievement and Growth Data are required:**
  - The AEC is required to submit achievement and growth data through supplemental measures if CMAS PARCC data are not available to provide a more complete picture of school performance.
- **Student Engagement and Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness data are required:**
  - The AEC is required to submit student engagement and postsecondary and workforce readiness data through supplemental measures if attendance or truancy rate(s) are not available (for student engagement) and/or completion or dropout rate(s) or CO ACT score is not available (for postsecondary and workforce readiness) to provide a more complete picture of school performance.
- **Supplemental measures must include reliable and valid interim assessments, meaning those interim assessments are nationally- or state-normed and are capable of measuring progress on the standards adopted by the local school board or Institute pursuant to § 22-7-1013, C.R.S.**
- **These data are only required if the student count is greater than 16 students (20 students for growth), comprised of 3 years of data.**

# How to fill out the Selection of Measures Form



## Selection of Measures Form

- In the Selection of Measures worksheets, please indicate the supplemental measures for each of the four performance indicator areas for which your AEC will be accountable.
- The measures for each of the performance indicators must be approved by the Local School Board or Charter School Institute for each AEC, before submission to CDE.
- CDE will then notify the local school board or Charter School Institute if any revisions to the measures are necessary. This notification will be given on or before September 1, 2016.
- Revisions will be due within 10 days of notification. Data submitted in this form is subject to CDE audit and verification.
- The Selection of Measures Worksheet is available here:  
[http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/aec\\_selection\\_of\\_accountability\\_measures\\_2016](http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/aec_selection_of_accountability_measures_2016)

# Selection of Measures Form



Selection of Accountability Measures for Alternative Education Campuses		
REQUIRED INFORMATION	School Name	
	School Code	
	District/Authorizer Name	
	District/Authorizer Code	
	Principal's Name	
	Primary Contact	
	Primary Contact's E-mail	
	Primary Contact's Phone #	
SCHOOL LEVELS SERVED BY THIS AEC	Elementary School	
	Middle School	
	High School	
ASSURANCE SIGNATURES	Principal/Administrator Signature	
	District/Authorizer Signature	
	District Board President Signature	





# Selection of Measures Form

Selection of Measures for AECs - HIGH SCHOOL			
	School Name	<a href="#">Not submitting HIGH SCHOOL measurement selections</a>	
	School Code	<a href="#">Not submitting HIGH SCHOOL measurement selections</a>	
	Select Measure	<a href="#">ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT</a>	
	(Click on name of measure to jump to section)	<a href="#">ACADEMIC GROWTH</a>	
		<a href="#">STUDENT ENGAGEMENT</a>	
		<a href="#">POST-SECONDARY &amp; WORKFORCE READINESS</a>	
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT			
REQUIRED	CMAS PARCC English Language Arts	To receive the indicator rating, the AEC's percent of students scoring proficient and advanced was:	
		<a href="#">Exceeds AEC norms</a>	at or above the 90th percentile of all AECs
		<a href="#">Meets AEC norms</a>	below the 90th percentile but at or above the 60th percentile of all AECs
		<a href="#">Approaching AEC norms</a>	below the 60th percentile but at or above the 40th percentile of all AECs
		<a href="#">Does Not Meet AEC norms</a>	below the 40th percentile of all AECs
		Cut-point values for percent of students scoring proficient and advanced were:	
		<a href="#">Cut-point value for Exceeds</a>	To be determined by CDE with 2015-16 data
		<a href="#">Cut-point value for Meets</a>	To be determined by CDE with 2015-16 data
		<a href="#">Cut-point value for Approaching</a>	To be determined by CDE with 2015-16 data
		Your school's actual percent of students scoring proficient and advanced was:	
Percent proficient and advanced	to be populated by CDE with 2015-2016 data		
Total student count (if N ≥ 16)	to be populated by CDE with 2015-2016 data		
REQUIRED	CMAS PARCC Math	To receive the indicator rating, the AEC's percent of students scoring proficient and advanced was:	
		<a href="#">Exceeds AEC norms</a>	at or above the 90th percentile of all AECs
		<a href="#">Meets AEC norms</a>	below the 90th percentile but at or above the 60th percentile of all AECs
		<a href="#">Approaching AEC norms</a>	below the 60th percentile but at or above the 40th percentile of all AECs
		<a href="#">Does Not Meet AEC norms</a>	below the 40th percentile of all AECs
		Cut-point values for percent of students scoring proficient and advanced were:	
		<a href="#">Cut-point value for Exceeds</a>	To be determined by CDE with 2015-16 data
		<a href="#">Cut-point value for Meets</a>	To be determined by CDE with 2015-16 data
		<a href="#">Cut-point value for Approaching</a>	To be determined by CDE with 2015-16 data
		Your school's actual percent of students scoring proficient and advanced was:	
Percent proficient and advanced	to be populated by CDE with 2015-2016 data		
Total student count (if N ≥ 16)	to be populated by CDE with 2015-2016 data		



# Selection of Measures Form

OPTIONAL	Name of Additional Measure		Select a Measure
	<i>To receive the indicator rating,</i>		Select a Measure
	To receive the indicator rating, the criteria for the additional measure of student academic achievement was:		Acuity
	Exceeds AEC norms		Galileo
	Meets AEC norms		NWEA MAP
	Approaching AEC norms		Scantron
	Does Not Meet AEC norms		STAR Enterprise
			Test for Adult Basic Education (TABE)
			Wide Range Achievement Test (WRAT)
			#N/A
	Cut-point values for additional measure of student academic achievement were:		
	Cut-point value for Exceeds		#N/A
	Cut-point value for Meets		#N/A
	Cut-point value for Approaching		#N/A
	Subject Area 1 of Additional Measure		Select a Subject
	Your school's actual percent of students increasing a grade level was:		
	Number of students increasing at least one grade level		enter number of students meeting measure
	Total students contributing to measure (if N ≥ 16)		enter number of students contributing to additional measure
	Percent of students scoring at grade level		#VALUE!
	Subject Area 2 of Additional Measure		Select a Subject
Your school's actual percent of students increasing a grade level was:			
Number of students increasing at least one grade level		enter number of students meeting measure	
Total students contributing to measure (if N ≥ 16)		enter number of students contributing to additional measure	
Percent of students scoring at grade level		#VALUE!	
Subject Area 3 of Additional Measure		Select a Subject	
Your school's actual percent of students increasing a grade level was:			
Number of students increasing at least one grade level		enter number of students meeting measure	
Total students contributing to measure (if N ≥ 16)		enter number of students contributing to additional measure	
Percent of students scoring at grade level		#VALUE!	
Subject Area 4 of Additional Measure		Select a Subject	
Your school's actual percent of students increasing a grade level was:			
Number of students increasing at least one grade level		enter number of students meeting measure	
Total students contributing to measure (if N ≥ 16)		enter number of students contributing to additional measure	
Percent of students scoring at grade level		#VALUE!	

Additional Measure of Academic Achievement #1  
(Acuity, Galileo, NWEA MAP, Scantron, Test for Adult Basic Education (TABE), STAR Enterprise, or Wide Range Achievement Test (WRAT))



# Required and Optional Measures

## ■ Required Measures

- CDE has populated all the fields for measures and metrics for available required measures and optional measures. The rest of the state fields may be updated with 2015-16 data in August, 2016.
- Note that **you do not need to fill in information for the required measures**; required measures will be included in all AEC frameworks for schools with enough data.

## ■ Optional Measures

- The **most common additional measures used by AECs have been added** to the data collection template.
- For measures labeled as OPTIONAL **use the drop-down menu** in the highlighted box to indicate if you wish to count the measure towards your framework. You only need to fill out and/or modify cells in yellow.
- If there is a **choice of metrics**, the first row in the section will be highlighted in yellow and you will need to select from a drop-down menu.
- Cut-points have been for the most common additional measures used by AECs. If you choose to add an additional measure, **please enter the information in the "Other" box and include cut-point values in the highlighted cells.**
- Finally, **enter your school's actual performance on the measure.** Note that all versions/administrations of an assessment (e.g. Acuity A, Acuity B, and Acuity C) count as a single measure and results should be aggregated.

# Entering Data on Optional Measures

- **Within each framework indicator, the required measures are listed first, followed by the optional measures. For each measure, the following information is required:**
  - the metric of interest (i.e. % of students scoring proficient or advanced);
  - the criteria for exceeding, meeting, approaching and not meeting the AEC norms (e.g., at or above the 90th percentile of AECs) ;
  - the cut-point values associated with each of the criteria levels (e.g. the % of students scoring proficient or advanced associated with the 90th percentile of AECs); and
  - your school's observed score on the measure and metric of interest (e.g., 15.8% of your students were proficient or advanced)
  - if your school meets the minimum N requirement, the total number of students contributing to your school's actual score on the measure and metric of interest (e.g. 25 students took NWEA MAP)

# How to Submit your Selection of Measures Form

- Once all templates have been completed, please save this form as "Selection of Accountability Measures - 0000.xls". Replace "0000" with the school's specific code.
- **Print the coversheet for signatures.** The signature of your district's superintendent and district board president or authorizer on this coversheet is sufficient evidence of agreement by your district or authorizer as to the selected measures and metrics.
- **Scan cover sheet**, with appropriate signatures, and **submit the excel file** via the **Syncplicity** secure file system at <https://my.syncplicity.com/> in the "CDE\_Accountability" folder.
- Only Superintendents and District Accountability Contacts were given initial access to Syncplicity. **If a district would like to allow another person access**, the superintendent must share the folder with the person on Syncplicity or email [accountability@cde.state.co.us](mailto:accountability@cde.state.co.us).
- If you have any questions regarding the **Selection of Measures** form, please contact Jessica Knevals at [knevals\\_j@cde.state.co.us](mailto:knevals_j@cde.state.co.us) or 303-866-6778.
- If you have any questions or need assistance regarding the secure **Syncplicity** file transfer system, please contact Corey Kispert [kispert\\_c@cde.state.co.us](mailto:kispert_c@cde.state.co.us) or 303-866-6928.



# Resources and Support



## Resources and Additional Help

For more  
information on  
AEC  
Accountability  
please visit:

- **AEC Webpage:**  
**<http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/stateaccountabilityaecs>**
  - Application/Renewal Form
  - Selection of Measures Form
  - Calculation Guidance
  - Policy Guidance
- **Office Hours:** For additional support in determining optional measures for your AEC or to learn which additional measures can be submitted, the accountability office will provide office hours on Thursdays **from 1-3pm beginning on Thursday, May 19** and concluding **on Thursday, June 30.**
  - Please register for office hours here:  
**[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090D4DAEAD2FA3FF2-aecselection](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090D4DAEAD2FA3FF2-aecselection)**
- **CDE Accountability Website:**  
**<http://www.cde.state.co.us/Accountability/index.asp>**
- **Unified Improvement Planning Website:**  
**<http://www.cde.state.co.us/Accountability/UnifiedImprovementPlanning.asp>**



# AEC Application Staff Contact Information

## Staff Assistance

For more help or  
specific questions  
contact the  
following staff:

- **Marie Huchton:** Data and Statistics  
[huchton\\_m@cde.state.co.us](mailto:huchton_m@cde.state.co.us) , 303-866-6203
- **Corey Kispert:** Technical Assistance for  
Syncplicity [kispert\\_c@cde.state.co.us](mailto:kispert_c@cde.state.co.us) , 303-  
866-6928
- **Jessica Knevals:** Accountability and Policy  
[knevals\\_j@cde.state.co.us](mailto:knevals_j@cde.state.co.us) , 303-866-6778
- **Kelly Stritzinger:** Application, Selection of  
Measures, and Submission Forms  
[stritzinger\\_k@cde.state.co.us](mailto:stritzinger_k@cde.state.co.us) , 303-866-6676
- **General Accountability Questions:**  
[accountability@cde.state.co.us](mailto:accountability@cde.state.co.us)

