Federal Accountability Methodology
Reward School Criteria

- Federal identification methodology is based on the approved waiver from USDE.
- Campuses may be identified as either high-performing and/or high-progress schools.
- Reward schools must meet the campus AMO targets on each of the system safeguards evaluated for all students and all subgroups.
    - This applies to the seven federally required student groups (African American, White, Hispanic, English Language Learners (ELL), Special Education, Economically Disadvantaged, and All Students) in the reading and math subject areas.
- Additionally, campuses, or districts, currently under investigation with the Agency may have been deemed ineligible for a Reward School designation.

High-Performing Schools Identification

A high-performing school is a Title I school that receives distinction designations based on math and reading performance, and at the high school level, is also among the Title I schools with the highest graduation rates; or (2) has exceeded AYP for two or more consecutive years.

- A minimum size requirement of 10 students is used for the 4 and 5 year completion rate denominators. If either value is less than 10 then the graduation rate cannot be evaluated for that campus

Based on page 43 of the waiver request, the following steps explain the data run used to determine the list of high-performing schools.

1. Determine the number of Title I served schools in Texas and subtract all non-rated paired Title 1 campuses.
2. Remove all campuses included on the 2016-2017 PEG list.
3. Remove all campuses that did not meet the AMO targets on each of the system safeguards evaluated for all students and all subgroups. This will include to the seven federally required student groups in math and reading subject areas
4. Remove all campuses that did not receive distinctions based on math and reading performance. Mathematics 3-8 test results were not included in the 2015 State Accountability system, and therefore many campuses serving grades K-8 were not eligible for the Math Distinction. These campuses were not excluded from the High-Performing list as long as they received the Reading Distinction.
5. Add all campuses with a high grade of 11 or lower to the High-Performing Schools list
6. Evaluate all campuses with a high grade of 12 by graduation rate criteria. Apply graduation minimum size requirements to all campuses serving twelfth grade remaining on the list.
7. Add all campuses serving twelfth grade that met the graduation minimum size requirements and had a graduation rate[1] of at least 90% to the High-Performing Schools list.
8. From the final list of all campuses meeting the above criteria, remove any campuses or districts, currently under investigation with the Agency deemed ineligible for a Reward School designation.

High-Progress Schools Identification

A high-progress school will be identified as Title I school in the top 25% in annual improvement and/or schools in the top 25% of those demonstrating ability to close performance gaps based on system safeguards. Any school that has significant achievement gaps across subgroups that are not closing will not be considered a reward school. Schools are identified for the top 25% in annual improvement by achieving the top quartile (top 25%) of performance on the STAAR progress measure in relation to a comparison group of similar schools. Each school is compared to a unique group of 40 other public schools (throughout the state) that closely matches that school on the following characteristics: campus type, campus size, percent economically disadvantaged students, mobility rates (based on cumulative attendance), and

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[1] The Graduation Rate is determined as the highest of the 2014 four-year and 2013 five-year completion rates. This calculation is consistent with the graduation rate analysis used under the state accountability system.

percent of English language learners. Schools that achieve the top 25% in annual improvement have outperformed their peers in terms of growth in student achievement from the prior school year.

Based on page 43 of the waiver request, the following steps explain the data run used to determine the list of high-progress schools.

1. Determine the number of Title I served schools in Texas and subtract all non-rated paired Title 1 campuses.
2. Remove all campuses included on the 2015-2016 PEG list.
3. Remove all campuses that did not meet the AMO targets on each of the system safeguards evaluated for all students and all subgroups. This will include to the seven federally required student groups in math and reading subject areas
4. Remove campuses that did not receive a distinction for "Progress Measure"
5. Remove any campuses or districts, currently under investigation with the Agency deemed ineligible for a Reward School designation.
6. The resulting value is the number of Title I schools in the state that are to be identified as High-Progress schools.