

A photograph of a classroom scene. A male teacher in a light blue shirt is standing at the front of the room, gesturing with his hands raised. Several young students are seated at a table, also with their hands raised. The background shows blue lockers decorated with colorful drawings and a blue shelving unit with various supplies. A semi-transparent white box with blue text is overlaid in the center of the image.

Not Rated: Texas Partnerships Impacts



Introductions

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1. Understand impact of the Not Rated rating on:

- Performance goals in contracts (all partnerships)
- Accountability sanction pause (turnaround partnerships)

2. Identify potential next steps and resources to support Texas Partnerships

| Topic |
|---|
| Introduction and Logistics |
| Background and Context |
| Performance Contracts Requirements Impact Potential Next Steps Resources |
| Accountability Sanction Pause Requirements Impact Potential Next Steps Resources |
| Closing |

Questions

- Use Chat button
- I'll take questions at end of each section

Resources

Guidance document,
recorded webinar,
and today's slides:

txpartnerships.org
(Tools page)

Reflection

- Pausing at the end of each section to record key takeaways
- Strongly encouraged!

- **Next application cycle dates (*TAA*)**
- **Informational webinars**

A photograph of a classroom scene. A teacher, a young man with dark hair wearing a light blue shirt, is seated at a table and has both hands raised. Several young students are also seated at the table, with their hands raised. The background shows a classroom environment with blue shelves, a bulletin board with colorful drawings, and a red pennant with the number '2012'. A white semi-transparent banner is overlaid across the center of the image, containing the text 'Background and Context' in blue.

Background and Context

Texas Partnerships and A-F Ratings

All Partnerships

Performance contract must include annual performance targets related to the campus' overall rating

Turnaround Partnerships

The commissioner may not apply a sanction to the campus based on its accountability rating for the first two years of operation

What

All campuses in the state of Texas will receive a 2020 rating of *Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster*

Why

School closures during the testing window inhibited the ability of the state to accurately measure district and campus performance

Underlying Assumptions for this Webinar

- **Ultimate goal is to provide a great education for kids in a safe and healthy environment**
- **This webinar covers how the 2020 Not Rated rating impacts partnerships; doesn't address future years**

A photograph of a classroom where several children are sitting at a table and raising their hands. In the background, a teacher or adult is also raising their hands. The room is decorated with colorful posters and a banner that says '2MI'. There are bookshelves and storage bins in the background.

Performance Targets: Performance Contracts

What's required?

To be eligible for Texas Partnership benefits, performance contracts must include academic performance targets*:

| Approved before March 31, 2020 | Approved after March 31, 2020 |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• annual target for the overall campus academic rating• a target for student growth based on the School Progress Domain | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• annual target for the overall campus academic rating |

** 19 TAC 97.1075 and 19 TAC 97.1079 were amended in Spring 2020; the amendments went into effect on March 31, 2020.*

Benefits eligibility remains the same.

- The performance contract is still required to have annual performance targets based on campus rating
- Districts and operating partners are not required to amend performance contracts to maintain eligibility for benefits

What's the impact? Renewal Decisions

Performance targets are used to make renewal decisions. Now there is a gap in the data a district uses to make that decision.

A yellow rectangular callout box with a thin blue border. Inside the box, the text "A gap in data; NOT an unmet goal!" is written in a blue, sans-serif font. A yellow arrow with a blue outline points upwards from the top center of the box towards the word "gap" in the main text above.

A gap in data; NOT an unmet goal!

Renewal Decisions: an example

| | Year 1 (18-19) | Year 2 (19-20) | Year 3 (20-21) | Year 4 (21-22) | Year 5 (22-23) |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Goal | C | B | B | A | A |
| <i>Actual</i> | <i>C</i> | <i>Not Rated</i> | <i>C</i> | <i>B</i> | <i>A</i> |

Question to consider: how will a district (the authorizer) make a renewal decision for this contract?

The process for contract renewal is included in the performance contract and your district board policy.

What are some steps we can take?

If the performance contract does not outline performance targets beyond the overall rating, here are some actions districts can consider (based on national best practice authorizing guidance):

| Renewal Timeline | Next 12-18 months | More than 18 months |
|------------------|---|--|
| Possible steps | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend the term of the contract by an additional year to have the full information needed to make the renewal decision. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the contract to define the other sources of academic data that will be used <u>starting in 2020-2021</u> as part of the evidence base for renewal decisions. |

Keep in mind: this is not a best practice in a non-disaster situation!

Keep in mind: the operating partner must maintain sole authority to select and determine the use of any and all assessments to be used on the campus that are not required by the state of Texas.

What resources can support us?

- The section on Performance Contracts: Performance Standards in the [NACSA Principles and Standards for Quality Charter School Authorizing](#) (p. 15) provides foundational guidance on potential data sources
- Texas Authorizers Leadership Academy (TALA) [online modules](#)
- Executive Advisors and Technical Assistance providers (SGS and SAF districts)
- CIO Workshops
- DSSI staff at TEA

Key Takeaways and Questions

- ✓ ***Not Rated*** means the result for the annual target is missing
- ✓ **Benefits eligibility** does not change as long as targets meet requirements in rule
- ✓ **The contract/district board policy** has the process for renewal
- ✓ **Districts** should consider what information they need to make quality authorizing decisions



Other takeaways?

A photograph of a classroom scene. A teacher, a young man with dark hair wearing a light blue shirt, is seated at a table with his hands raised. Several young students are also seated at the table, with their hands raised. The background shows a classroom environment with blue shelves, a bulletin board with colorful papers, and a red pennant with the number '21' on it. A white semi-transparent banner is overlaid across the center of the image, containing the text 'Accountability Sanction Pause' in blue.

Accountability Sanction Pause

What's required?

If a campus received unacceptable rating for the school year before operation of the district campus under a contract began, then the commissioner may not impose a sanction or take action against the campus.

The commissioner may not:

- Order the development of a turnaround plan
- Close the campus
- Install a Board of Managers

Regardless of the rating applied by TEA, the accountability sanction pause applies for the first two school years of operation under the contract.

(f) This subsection applies only to a district campus subject to a contract described by Subsection (a) that received an overall performance rating of unacceptable under Subchapter C, Chapter 39, for the school year before operation of the district campus under the contract began. The commissioner may not impose a sanction or take action against the campus under Section 39.107(a) or (e) for failure to satisfy academic performance standards during the first two school years of operation of a district campus under Subsection (a). The overall performance rating received by the campus during those first two school years is not included in calculating consecutive school years and is not considered a break in consecutive school years under Section 39.107(a) or (e).

Important to keep in mind:

- The 2020 *Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster* rating does not break the chain of consecutive years of unacceptable ratings for purposes of accountability interventions and sanctions.
- When a campus receives a rating of *Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster*, the campus shall continue to implement the previously ordered sanctions and interventions.
- The length of the contract is defined in the contract; the accountability pause duration does not change the term

What's the Impact? First year of operation 2018-19

| | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 (Year benefits approved) | 2019-2020 | 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 |
|----------|-----------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Campus A | IR4+ | Pause* | Pause | Not Rated | '21 Rating |
| Campus B | IR3 | IR4 | Pause | Pause | '21 Rating |
| Campus C | IR2 | IR3 | Pause | Pause | '21 Rating |
| Campus D | IR1 | IR2 | Pause | Pause | '21 Rating |
| Campus E | Met | IR 1 | Pause | Pause | '21 Rating |

If the 2021 Rating is an F:

- Campus A and B will be subject to closure/BoM.
- Campus C and D will continue interventions.
- Campus E will be ordered to develop a turnaround plan.

**Any campus that was IR4+ in 17-18 used the first year of the pause on the planning school year.*

What's the Impact? First year of operation 2019-20

| | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 (Year benefits approved) | 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 |
|----------|-----------|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------------------|
| Campus A | IR4 | Pause* | Pause | '21 Rating | Depends on '21 rating |
| Campus B | IR3 | 4 th year F | Pause | Pause | '22 Rating |
| Campus C | IR2 | 3 rd year F | Pause | Pause | '22 Rating |
| Campus D | IR1 | 2 nd year F | Pause | Pause | '22 Rating |
| Campus E | Met | 1 st year F | Pause | Pause | '22 Rating |

If the 2022 Rating is an F:

- Campus B will be subject to closure/BoM. (Campus A will be subject to closure/BoM with '21 rating.)
- Campus C and D will continue interventions.
- Campus E will be ordered to develop a turnaround plan.

**Any campus that was IR4+ in 18-19 used the first year of the pause on the planning school year.*

What's the Impact?

| District | Campus | Pause Expires |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Austin | Mendez Middle | August 2020 |
| Beaumont | Smith Middle | August 2021 |
| Beaumont | Jones-Clark El | August 2021 |
| Ector County | Ector Success | August 2020 |
| Hearne | Hearne El | August 2020 |
| Lubbock | Dunbar Middle | August 2021 |
| Midland | Sam Houston El | August 2022 |
| San Antonio | Ogden El | August 2020 |

Reminder:
Pause based
on years of
operation

Campuses that have received a D or higher have “broken the chain” and are not included on this list.

What are some steps we can take?

Keep in mind the roles in autonomy and accountability:

- Operating partner makes and implements the plan
- The district is the authorizer:
 - Ensures the OP has a strong plan and is successfully implementing it
 - Requires OP action if goals are not being met (but OP decides on the actions)

What resources can support us?

- NACSA's [Covid Resources for Charter School Authorizers](#)
- TEA [Covid Guidance](#)
- Executive Advisors and Technical Assistance providers (SGS and SAF districts)
- CIO Workshops
- DSSI staff at TEA

Key Takeaways and Questions

- ✓ **Continue to implement the model described in the contract. Student outcomes come first!**
- ✓ **The accountability sanction pause applies for the first two school years of operation under the contract.**
- ✓ **Check the chart for your status: varies by year of application and campus rating at time of application.**



Other takeaways?

- **Next application cycle dates (*TAA*)**
- **Informational webinars**

Thanks!

For more info, contact:

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