

Fact Sheet on NY's NCLB Differentiated Accountability Proposal

- New York is one of 17 states that has applied to participate in the USED differentiated accountability pilot. USED will select a maximum of ten states for approval.
- SED submitted a "Phase I" plan on May 2. If approved, SED will submit a Phase 2 plan later this year.
- SED's plan was based upon the NCLB reauthorization recommendations approved by the Regents in April 2007.
- The key elements of the plan are:
 - Provide flexibility to newly identified schools in need of improvement to determine whether choice or Supplementary Education Services (SES) is appropriate in the first year of identification.
 - Promote the provision of Supplementary Educational Services in instances where there is little or no likelihood of student participation in public school choice by providing enhanced grants to school districts and permitting at a district's discretion the use of Title I funds to provide transportation to SES sites.
 - Replace the current SINI 1 and SRAP 1 designations, with the designations of "participation improvement," "targeted improvement" and comprehensive improvement" schools.
 - Develop a set of specific planning requirements, supports and interventions for schools that failed to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) solely because of participation rate.
 - Develop a set of supports and interventions tailored for schools that fail to make Adequate Yearly Progress solely because of the academic performance of a single accountability group. Utilize a School Quality Indicators process as the basis for the creation or revision of improvement plans.
 - Require comprehensive interventions in schools that are identified for the performance of the "all student group" or the performance of multiple subgroups.
 - Provide differentiated consequences and interventions for schools failing to make acceptable progress after implementation of a restructuring plan.
- After consultation with key constituents and approval by the Regents, we hope to submit a Phase II plan that beginning in 2009-2010:
 - Makes accountability designations based primarily on the reasons that a school or district has failed to make AYP. Interventions, while becoming increasingly rigorous over time, would be primarily determined by the casual factors (i.e. participation, failure of a single accountability group, or failure of the all student group or multiple accountability groups) that resulted in the school or district not making AYP. Under this model, when choice and SES are offered and to which students will be determined first by the category of the school and then by how long it has been in that category.
 - Uses the differentiated accountability model to better coordinate improvement planning and interventions both among Federal accountability requirements and between Federal and State accountability systems.
- USDE decisions are expected by the end of June.