



# Colorado's School and District Accountability



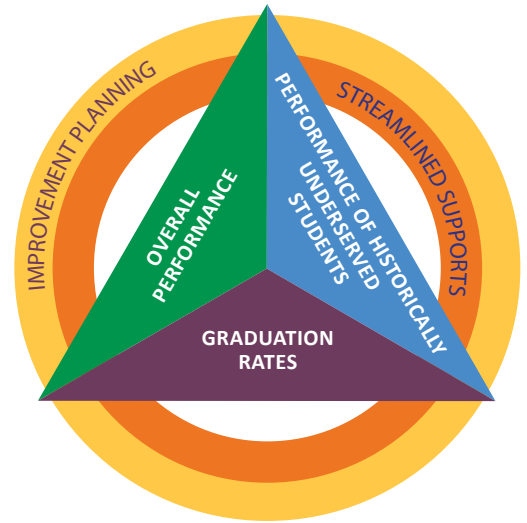
COLORADO  
Department of Education

## IDENTIFYING SCHOOLS THAT NEED SUPPORT AND IMPROVEMENT

Colorado's education accountability system is based on the belief that every student should receive an excellent education and graduate ready to succeed. Successful schools and districts are recognized and serve as models, while those that are struggling receive support.

As required by state and federal laws, schools and districts are identified as needing improvement and support if they have:

1. Low graduation rates
2. Low performance of historically underserved students, including as English learners and economically disadvantaged students
3. Low overall performance of students based on state assessments and postsecondary workforce readiness indicators



## ASSIGNING SCHOOL AND DISTRICT RATINGS

Schools and districts receive a rating each year based on their overall performance, which includes the follow categories:

- **Academic Achievement** – Average scores on state assessments for all students as well as specific groups of students
- **Academic Growth** – Progress students make in their achievement on assessments from one year to the next
- **Postsecondary readiness** – Graduation rates, dropout rates, average scores on the SAT college entrance exam and matriculation into college and other postsecondary options

Based on points assigned in each of the above categories, schools and districts receive one of the ratings listed here.

**SCHOOL RATINGS**

- Performance
- Improvement
- Priority Improvement
- Turnaround
- Insufficient State Data: Small Tested Population
- Insufficient State Data: Low Participation

**DISTRICT ACCREDITATION RATINGS**

- Accredited With Distinction
- Accredited
- Improvement
- Priority Improvement
- Turnaround
- Insufficient State Data: Small Tested Population
- Insufficient State Data: Low Participation

## For more information

- [Colorado's system for identifying schools for support and improvement](#)
- [Schools and districts honored for outstanding performance](#)
- [Support available for low-performing schools and districts](#)
- [Details about school and district performance, also called school and district performance frameworks](#)



