



Unified Improvement Plans: CDE Reviews & Feedback

All schools and districts are required to regularly submit Unified Improvement Plans (UIPs). CDE reviews and provides feedback on UIPs for schools and districts that are identified for improvement under the state (Performance Watch, including Priority Improvement and Turnaround), or federal (Comprehensive Support under ESSA) systems. The [UIP Quality Criteria](#) outline the state and federal planning requirements and are used by CDE in the review of UIPs.

In the 2025-26 year, two types of reviews are available to sites that will have their UIPs reviewed by CDE.

Review Type	Timing of Review	Focus of Review	Default or Opt-In?
Consultation Review	Pre-Submission	<i>In progress</i> UIP is reviewed. Feedback focuses on changes recommended prior to submission.	Opt-In only
Document Review	Post-Submission	<i>Submitted</i> UIP is reviewed. Feedback focuses on changes recommended for the next UIP.	Default review

The rest of this document outlines these two review types in greater detail, including directions for requesting a UIP Consultation Review, if desired.

Consultation Review (Pre-Submission, *Opt-In*)

A UIP Consultation Review (or “UIP Consultation”) is a direct, live collaboration with a CDE Improvement Planning Partner, a school leader (if a school UIP), and their district support person. Additional school or district staff (e.g., other members of the leadership team) may also be invited, as desired. A Consultation session is approximately 60-90 minutes and is intended to be a collaborative conversation that provides targeted support for the development of the UIP prior to submission. Consultations are informed by the [UIP Quality Criteria](#) and may be based on prior year CDE feedback (if available) and a review of the site’s UIP draft prior to the consultation session. The focus of the Consultation is jointly determined by the school/district and the CDE Improvement Planning Partner.

A brief report summarizing the content of the Consultation will be provided to the school and district leaders within a week of the Consultation. The report will also be kept on file at the CDE and will serve as the official CDE review of the UIP for that plan year. (*Note that the submitted UIP may still be reviewed for specific program requirements as needed—e.g., READ Act or Comprehensive Support requirements.*)

Eligibility

All schools/districts are eligible for a UIP Consultation review; however, priority is given to schools/districts that will have their UIPs reviewed by CDE:

- Sites with a Priority Improvement, Turnaround, or Performance Watch rating

- Sites identified for Comprehensive Support & Improvement, especially those that have not yet gotten CS-approval for their UIP
- Sites on Performance Watch
- If additional prioritization is needed, priority will be based on
 - Dual-identification (both state and federal)
 - Number of years identified (either state or federal identifications)

Consultations may be offered to non-identified sites upon request, contingent on CDE capacity.

Requirements

In order to ensure the UIP Consultation can provide meaningful feedback and next steps for improvement plans, **the site's UIP must be largely complete** in the [UIP Online System](#) one week before the scheduled consultation. The following sections must be complete (or nearly complete):

- Student Performance Priorities (SPP) (complete)
 - *Targets may be incomplete*
- SPP Evidence & Rationale (significant progress made)
- Root Causes (complete)
- Major Improvement Strategies (complete; strategies must be selected, but action plans may be incomplete)

Considerations

A UIP Consultation Review is a good fit for sites that fit one or more of the following conditions:

- The school or district leader is interested in engaging in dialogue about improvement efforts;
- The site received feedback in 2024-25 and would like support implementing it;
- The site is identified for Comprehensive Support and working towards getting plan approval; OR
- Site leaders would like to work with a CDE partner to strengthen their processes and practices that inform an impactful improvement plan.

To request a UIP Consultation

[Please click here to access the UIP Consultation Request Form](#). *Note that Consultations are offered subject to availability and that requesting a Consultation does not guarantee a Consultation slot. Slots will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis; if you know you would like a Consultation, request one as soon as possible to increase the likelihood that there will be slots available (and that you can get one that works for your schedule).*

Deadlines for UIP Consultations:

<i>UIP Due Date</i>	<i>Consultations must be requested by...</i>	<i>Consultations must be completed by...</i>
Sites submitting in October	September 25	October 10
Sites exercising January submission flexibility	December 15	January 13

If a district does not request Consultation Review, schools having their UIPs reviewed by CDE will receive a Document Review (see below).

If you have additional questions about the UIP Consultation, please reach out to Lauren Hesse (hesse_l@cde.state.co.us).

Document Review (Post-Submission, Default Review Type)

Document Reviews provide written feedback on the finalized UIP after submission. The UIP is reviewed against the applicable state and federal requirements listed in the [Quality Criteria](#). Written feedback on the UIP will focus on identifying areas where the UIP is not yet meeting expectations and provide prioritized recommendations for more fully meeting expectations.

Optional: Document Review Feedback Debrief (by request)

Sites that receive a Document Review may request a Feedback Debrief session after they have received feedback on their UIP. This Debrief session is similar in format to the UIP Consultation, with the key difference that it occurs after the submission of the UIP and it focuses on an exploration and discussion of the feedback received on the UIP in preparation for the coming planning cycle.

To request a Document Review Feedback debrief, please email uiphelp@cde.state.co.us or hessel@cde.state.co.us.

FAQs

Can schools in the same district request different types of review?

Yes, each site that will have its UIP reviewed by CDE may request the type of review it deems most suited to its needs.

Do all schools/districts having their plans reviewed have to specify which review type they want?

No; all sites having their plans reviewed that *do not opt in* to a UIP Consultation will receive a Document Review of their plans post-submission (the default review type). However, in order to receive a UIP Consultation, schools and/or districts must opt in to that review type.

If my site prefers a Document Review, do we need to specify that?

No; all sites having their plans reviewed that *do not opt in* to a UIP Consultation will receive a Document Review of their plans post-submission (the default review type).

Contact / For More Information

For more information about the review types available, contact Lauren Hesse (hessel@cde.state.co.us).

For other assistance (including technical assistance for the online portal), email uiphelp@cde.state.co.us. Your email will be answered promptly by a member of our team.