



Continuous Improvement



\$6 MILLION FOR DELAWARE SCHOOLS

What every educator should know about continuous school improvement in Delaware under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

What is ESSA?

ESSA is a federal law that outlines how states can identify and support students in public schools. In August 2017, the U.S. Department of Education approved Delaware's plan for implementing ESSA-required assessments, accountability and support to improve outcomes for all students.

What is continuous improvement?

Delaware districts and charter schools operate under the belief that all schools must continue to focus on improving their support for all students. Delaware dedicates \$6 million annually to school improvement. Under ESSA, schools may qualify for additional support based on measures below.

Every Delaware school will receive an overall rating

The measures listed here are mapped to an overall rating:

- Exceeds Expectations,
- Meets Expectations,
- Approaching Expectations, or
- Well-Below Expectations

Measures	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
English language arts (ELA) and math proficiency				█								█	
ELA and math growth				█									
Graduation rates (4-, 5- and 6-year)													█
English learner progress		█											
On-track attendance	█												
Science and social studies proficiency				█				█			█		
College- and career-ready													█
On track in 9th grade										█			

Results will be posted publicly on the Delaware School Profiles website beginning November 2018 and on the Delaware Report Card website beginning December 2018.

Additional support for Delaware schools

All public schools in Delaware receive support from the state. Some schools that have low student performance may qualify for additional program and funding support as described below. Delaware identifies these schools every three years.

	Which schools need CSI or TSI support?	How will schools choose the right support for students?	What types of support will be provided?
Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)	Title I and non-Title I schools that are in the bottom 5% OR any public school with a graduation rate of 67% or less OR any TSI school that does not improve after three years.	Districts and charter schools must conduct a needs assessment to determine how to best support students, work in partnership with stakeholders, and develop and implement a school-level plan for improvement.	Schools that qualify as needing CSI will receive funding and additional support from the state, as identified through a needs assessment. DOE will serve as a thought partner throughout the process.
Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)	Any Title I or non-Title I school with a subgroup of students (i.e. students with disabilities, English learners) performing at or below the bottom 5% of schools.	Districts and charters must develop and implement a school-level plan for improvement in partnership with stakeholders. Districts and charters approve their plans and monitor implementation.	Schools that qualify as needing TSI will develop a school-level plan for improvement. DOE may serve as a thought partner and resource for support, which can include funding, program assistance and more.

See page 2 for support examples and FAQs.



Continuous Improvement Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



What continuous improvement support is offered to Delaware schools under ESSA?

All Delaware schools receive continuous improvement support from the state. Some Title I and non-Title I schools with low student performance based on state measures may be identified as qualifying for comprehensive support and improvement (CSI) or targeted support and improvement (TSI), which can provide additional program and funding support. Districts and charter schools will assist these schools in conducting their needs assessments, analyzing the data, and developing school-level improvement plans.

DOE will provide support and assistance to schools in the form of:

- Needs assessment assistance;
- Evidence-based interventions and strategies;
- Thought partnerships;
- Professional learning opportunities;
- Online resources; and
- Connections to experts, partners and networks.

Districts and charters are not required to use the DOE-identified tools and resources; however, locally developed templates must meet DOE approval and ESSA needs assessment, planning, and budgeting requirements.

What is the timeline for identifying schools that qualify for comprehensive or targeted support?

In November 2018, all schools will receive individual ratings. At this time, some schools that receive ratings of Well-Below Expectations will also be identified as schools that qualify for additional support, based on the combination of measures outlined on page 1.

How do I view a school's rating?

School ratings will be posted on the Delaware School Profiles website in November 2018. Beginning December 2018, school ratings will be posted in an easier-to-read format for families and communities on the new Delaware School Report Card website. Visit <https://www.doe.k12.de.us> to access these sites and for more information.

How do the plans created for CSI and TSI differ?

Schools identified as qualifying for CSI must create plans outlining how they will improve low performance for the whole school. Schools identified as qualifying for TSI must create plans that focus on improving school performance for one or more subgroups. Plan details are outlined below:

CSI/TSI Plan Overview	CSI	TSI
Plan must be developed with stakeholders (including school leaders, teachers, and parents)	Yes	Yes
Plan is informed by student performance against DSSF	Yes	Yes
Plan includes evidence-based interventions	Yes	Yes
Plan includes a school-level needs assessment	Yes	
Plan includes a district- or charter-level needs assessment		
Plan addresses resource inequities	Yes	Yes
School, district/charter and DDOE must approve plan	Yes	
Only district or charter approves plan prior to implementation		Yes
Upon approval and implementation, DDOE monitors and periodically reviews plan	Yes	
District or charter monitors and reviews plans	Yes	Yes