

Universal Support



The FACTS:

After the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), each state was required to write a plan outlining how they will evaluate how well schools are doing on a variety of indicators. The System for School Success is outlined in Alaska's State Plan and describes how DEED will create school designations and what supports these schools will receive.

Indicators within the System for School Success are:

- Academic Achievement looks at the percentage of students whose performance on the state's summative assessments demonstrate the skills and knowledge of the current grade-level content in English language arts and mathematics.
- Academic Growth looks at the percentage of students who improved from one year to the next on the statewide summative assessments in English and language arts and mathematics
- Graduation Rate looks at the percentage of students who graduated from high school with a diploma in four or five years.
- English Learner Progress calculates the percentage of English learners who meet or exceed their growth target toward attaining English language proficiency. English learners are students who have the influence of a language other than English.
- Chronic Absenteeism (School Quality/Student Success) looks at the percentage of students who missed less than 10% of the days they attended at the school.
- Grade 3 English Language Arts indicates how many students are proficient on the statewide summative assessment in English language arts.

An index value is determined for each school with 10 students in a minimum of two indicators.

How is this school designation determined?

A school receives a designation of Universal Support if

- The index value is higher than school identified as the lowest 5% of Title I schools (Comprehensive Support and Intervention-lowest 5%)
- The graduation rate is higher than 66 2/3% for schools with grade 12 (Comprehensive Support and Intervention- Graduation Rate).
- The index values for each subgroup in their school is higher than schools identified as the lowest 5% of Title I schools (Targeted Support and Intervention)

Supports Available for Universal Support

- Statewide networks are aimed at connecting educators and supporting best practices in school improvement. Examples of statewide networks include the Alaska ECHO Project, Alaska Professional Learning Network (AKPLN), and AK RISE Rural Teachers Network.
- Webinars focused on school improvement topics highlight promising practices and success stories from across Alaska. In addition, technical assistance webinars for CSI and TSI schools provide additional support for continuous improvement efforts.