

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

TITLE I FAST FACT SERIES

Issue: Adequate Yearly Progress

What is Adequate Yearly Progress?

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is the state's measure of student achievement against state academic content standards. It sets the minimum level of proficiency that states, school districts, and schools must attain each year. In identifying Adequate Yearly Progress, the *No Child Left Behind Act* requires that the state, districts, and schools measure not only overall student achievement, but also how particular subgroups of students, who are traditionally at a high risk of being left behind, be measured separately as well. Achieving Adequate Yearly Progress means that the state, school, or district being measured has the required number of students who are meeting proficiency against state academic standards in reading and mathematics.

What happens if a school does not make Adequate Yearly Progress?

If a school does not meet Adequate Yearly Progress proficiency levels for two consecutive school years and the school receives Title I funds, the school will be identified for program improvement. As a program improvement school, the following provisions apply:

1. Within three months after the school's identification, the school must submit a program improvement plan, which specifically what it plans to do to raise student achievement in reading and mathematics.
2. Beginning its first year in program improvement, schools that receive Title I funds are required to face specific sanctions which increase each year if they continue to not make AYP. These sanctions include school choice, supplemental services, corrective actions, and alternative governance. More information on these sanctions is available on our website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/progress/index.shtm.
3. If a school does not receive Title I funds, it is not required to implement the required sanctions. The school will still, however, receive an AYP report from the state and it is still required to share this report with parents.
4. Schools identified for program improvement are eligible to apply for special funds available to them specifically to support initiatives that will enable them to improve academic achievement in reading and mathematics.
5. Schools identified for program improvement must spend not less than 10% of the district's Title I Part A allocation for professional development. The USDE categorizes schools as being in "program improvement" for the first two years they are identified.

What happens if a district does not make Adequate Yearly Progress?

At the district level, AYP is determined by aggregating the results of academic achievement measures from each of the school buildings in the district into one district-level AYP report. When a district does not make Adequate Yearly Progress for two consecutive years, the following three provisions must be met:

1. The state must promptly notify the parents of each student enrolled in the schools served by the identified district that the district did not make AYP and explain the reasons for this identification.
2. The district must develop or revise a program improvement plan to raise academic achievement. The plan must be submitted no later than three months after the district's identification and be submitted to the state Title I office. In developing (and when revising) this plan, the district must consult with parents, school staff, and others.
3. The district must reserve not less than ten percent of its Title I, Part A funds for high quality professional development, specifically designed to improve teacher instruction while in program improvement. The USDE categorizes districts as being in "program improvement" for the first two years they are identified.
4. Beginning its first year in program improvement, districts that receive Title I funds are required to face specific sanctions which increase each year if they continue to not make AYP. These sanctions include corrective actions and alternative governance. More information on these sanctions is available on our website at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/progress/index.shtm.

How do I know my school or district's AYP status?

All school, district, and state Adequate Yearly Progress reports are available online at the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction's website at the following address: www.dpi.state.nd.us/dpi/reports/profile/index.shtm. Click on your school district's name to download a copy of the AYP report. Also available at this website is the *School District Profile* which summarizes how well students in the school and district performed during the past year in reading/English language arts and mathematics on various academic indicators.

Reporting Requirements

In terms of Adequate Yearly Progress, schools and districts are required to disseminate two reports with parents that share information on the school's academic achievement: Schools must: 1) send a copy of the school and district AYP reports to all parents and the community and 2) notify parents of the availability of the school district profiles. Sample letters that schools can use to notify parents of the AYP reports and the school district profiles are available on the Title I website at the following address: www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/notification.shtm.

If you have questions regarding this issue, please contact:

Department of Public Instruction
State Title I Office
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 201
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

Telephone: (888) 605-1951
Fax: (701) 328-4770
Website: www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/index.shtm