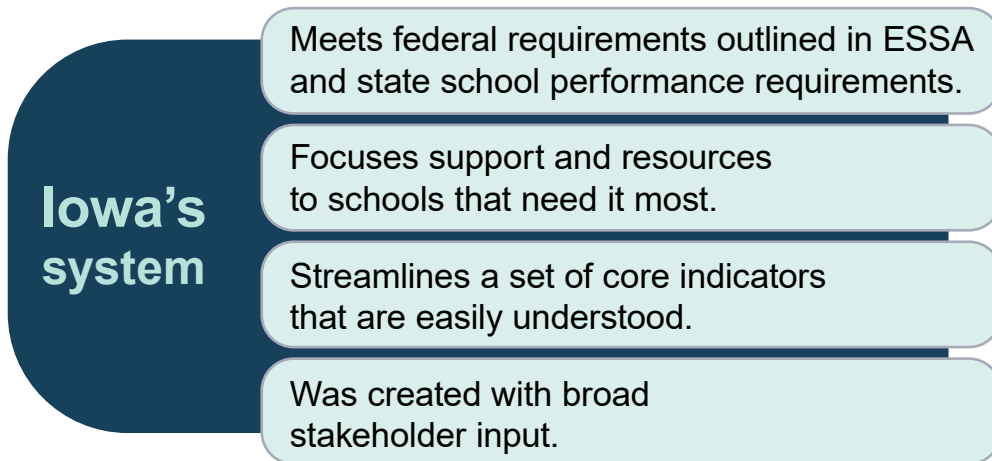


School Accountability

under ESSA

Iowa's state plan for school accountability and support under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) unifies Iowa's school accountability systems. It maintains a focus on school accountability, reflecting high expectations for all students, incentivizing evidence-based instructional practices and prioritizing partnership with schools most in need of support.



School Identification

Identification of Iowa schools for support and improvement is based on these measures:

Proficiency: Percentage of students in a school who are proficient in math, English language arts, and science based on assessment results.

Student Growth: Measures overall student growth by looking at student percentiles and determining whether the student is meeting or exceeding growth targets.

Graduation Rate (high schools): Determines percentage of students who graduate from high school in four or five years.

English Language Growth: Measures a student's progress in obtaining English language proficiency across the domains of reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Chronic Absenteeism (measures the following):

Chronic Absenteeism: Measures the percentage of students who miss 10 percent or more of their school year.

Attendance Growth: Measures the growth in attendance rate of previously chronically absent students.

Postsecondary Readiness (high schools): Includes the percentage of students who earn college credit while in high school and the percentage of students who participate in high quality work-based learning programs.

The 2024 Iowa School Performance Profiles phases in a new accountability system for Iowa schools.

Iowa's new unified accountability system utilizes a streamlined set of core indicators, a new system for calculating scores and identifying schools and student groups that are in need of improvement and support.

New cohorts were identified for Comprehensive and Targeted schools.

Under ESSA, States Must:

- Develop plans for accountability and support
- Set achievement goals for all students to reach
- Identify schools for support and improvement every three years
- Publish school report cards with data and information

Comprehensive and Targeted Schools

ESSA requires public schools to be identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement and Targeted Support and Improvement using the measures outlined on the previous page. See how it's calculated below. The state provides support to identified schools.

Schools receive a rating based on their overall performance across multiple measures. The total number of points differ between elementary/middle and high schools. Due to the differences, the point totals vary by school type with 700 points for elementary schools and 900 points for high schools. The percent of points earned produces a common metric that can be applied across school type in order to create one set of cut points listed below. A school is considered Comprehensive if the overall performance is at or below the Priority/Comprehensive cut point. A Targeted school is a school who has one or more student group(s) performing below this same cut point.

Elementary and Middle Schools

Measure	Points
Proficiency	300
Growth	300
Chronic Absenteeism	100
Total	700

High Schools

Measure	Points
Proficiency	300
Growth	300
Chronic Absenteeism	100
Graduation Rate	100
Postsecondary Readiness	100
Total	900

Rating Category	% of Points Earned	Elementary/Middle School Points Earned	High School Points Earned
Exceptional	78.25% and above	547.75 and above	704.25 and above
High Performing	69.60% - 78.24%	487.20 - 547.74	626.40 - 704.24
Commendable	60.95% - 69.59%	426.65 - 487.19	548.55 - 626.39
Acceptable	52.30% - 60.94%	366.10 - 426.64	470.70 - 548.54
Needs Improvement	42.37% - 52.29%	296.59 - 366.09	381.33 - 470.69
Priority/Comprehensive	42.36% and below	296.58 and below	381.32 and below

Schools either 1) identified for targeted support and improvement or 2) having less than a 95 percent participation rate on state assessments for any student group drop one rating category.

Iowa School Performance Profiles

ESSA requires states to publish report cards reflecting the performance of the state, schools and school districts. Iowa's online report card is called Iowa School Performance Profiles.

Find out more at www.iaschoolperformance.gov.