Comprehensive Support and Improvement Overview

Why Are Schools Identified for Supports?

Federal law (the Every Student Succeeds Act or ESSA) requires states to identify schools needing further support and defines three categories of support to be identified:

- Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)
- Additional Targeted Support (ATS)
- Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)

How Are Schools Identified for CSI?

Schools are identified for CSI if they meet any of the following criteria:

- School is in the bottom 5% of schools in Michigan
- OR is a high school with a four-year graduation rate of 67% or less
- OR was in a CSI cohort but did not meet CSI exit criteria
- OR was in an ATS cohort but did not meet ATS exit criteria and so supports are elevated to CSI

Michigan uses its School Index accountability system to identify schools for support. Each school, student subgroup, and component receives a 0-100 index value based on the percent of target met in seven key areas:

- Student Growth
- Student Proficiency
- School Quality/Student Success
- Graduation Rate
- English Learner Progress
- Test Participation (M-STEP, PSAT 8, SAT and MI-ACCESS)
- English Learner Test Participation (WIDA ACCESS and WIDA Alternate ACCESS)

Once index values have been determined, the school index values are ranked to find the bottom 5% of schools.

How Often Are Schools Identified for and Exited from CSI?

Michigan identifies schools for, and exits schools from, CSI once every three years. The last CSI cohort was identified in Fall 2025 using 2024-25 data and will be reviewed for possible exit in Fall 2028 using 2027-28 data. The next CSI identification will be in Fall 2028 using 2027-28 data.

What Happens After a School is Identified for CSI?

Once schools are identified for CSI, the following actions occur:

1. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will assign a primary contact to support the school's district
2. The school's district, working with the MDE primary contact, will:
    a) Complete a needs assessment
    b) Develop improvement plan(s), that address CSI requirements, to be approved by MDE
    c) Implement improvement plan(s)
3. MDE, working with the school's district, will monitor improvement plan(s)
4. After 3 years of supports, MDE will evaluate the school for possible exit from CSI

CSI Improvement Plan Requirements

ESSA requires districts with schools identified for CSI shall, for each school identified for CSI and in partnership with stakeholders (including principals and other school leaders, teachers, and parents), locally develop and implement an improvement plan for the school to improve student outcomes, that—

- is informed by the components of School Index
- is based on a school-level needs assessment
- includes evidence-based interventions
- identifies resource inequities
- is approved by the school, district, and MDE
- upon approval and implementation, is monitored by MDE

To minimize the reporting burden, districts will integrate CSI requirements into the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP).

Supports

All districts with schools identified for CSI will:

- Have a primary contact within MDE assigned to support their district
- Be eligible for MDE supports in creating, implementing and monitoring improvement plan(s)
- Receive supports from their local Intermediate School District (ISD) at no cost to the local district (funded by federal Title I Regional Assistance Grant or RAG) in creating, implementing and monitoring improvement plan(s)

Some districts with schools identified for CSI, including charter districts, will also be able to develop and implement a Partnership Agreement which will allow them to:

- Access expert consultants and diverse resources (including additional funding)
- Combine state- and community-level support systems to drive improvement
- Have an explicit and detailed understanding between all partners while continuing under the leadership of the local superintendent and the local board of education

Exiting Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)

To exit CSI a school must meet the following criteria:

- No longer meet CSI entrance criteria described earlier in this document
- Improve proficiency in both math and ELA (minimally 0.01 percentage point improvement) for each of the last two available years of the CSI cycle.
    - For 2027-28 CSI exits this means both 2026-27 and 2027-28 proficiency each need to be at least 0.01 percentage point greater than baseline proficiency in 2024-25.
    - For schools identified for CSI due to not exiting ATS, they will need to meet the improvement requirement for both (1) the subgroups previously identified for ATS and (2) the school overall.

Schools identified for CSI but not meeting CSI exit criteria at the end of the CSI cohort cycle will remain CSI and receive more rigorous supports.

Additional Resources

- Michigan School Index Resources (www.mi.gov/mde-schoolindex)
- Resources for Schools Identified for CSI, ATS, or TSI (www.mi.gov/mde-supports)
- Information on Partnership Districts (www.mi.gov/mde-partnershipdistricts)