

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:

- the 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 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, MI-ACCESS, PSAT, and SAT)
- English Learner Test Participation (WIDA 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 CSI?

Schools are identified for CSI once every three years. The first CSI cohort was identified in Spring 2018, based on 2016-17 data. Initially, schools were planned to exit CSI status and new CSI identifications for Fall 2020, based on 2019-20 data. However, due to the pandemic, both new CSI identifications and CSI exits were delayed until Fall 2022 and will be based on 2021-22 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 liaison to support the school's district
2. The school's district, working with the MDE specialist, 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 for two years as calculated on the School Index (minimally 0.01 percentage point improvement)

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

Additional Resources

- [Information on School Index and School Identifications](http://www.mi.gov/mde-schoolindex) (www.mi.gov/mde-schoolindex)
- [Information on Statewide System of Support](http://www.mi.gov/ssos) (www.mi.gov/ssos)
- [Information on Partnership Districts](http://www.mi.gov/mde-partnershipdistricts) (www.mi.gov/mde-partnershipdistricts)