



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Thomas R. Bice  
State Superintendent of Education

April 21, 2015

Alabama  
State Board  
of Education

Governor  
Robert Bentley  
President

Al Thompson  
District I

Betty Peters  
District II

Stephanie Bell  
District III

Yvette M.  
Richardson, Ed.D.  
District IV

Ella B. Bell  
District V  
Vice President

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.  
District VI

Jeff Newman  
District VII  
President Pro Tem

Mary Scott Hunter, J.D.  
District VIII

Thomas R. Bice, Ed.D.  
Secretary and  
Executive Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

**FROM:** Thomas R. Bice *TRB*  
State Superintendent of Education

**RE:** Local Indicator

Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year local education agencies (LEA) will be required to submit a local indicator to the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE). The local indicator is a measurable goal that is aligned with Alabama PLAN 2020 that is unique to the school or LEA.

The local indicator data will be collected, monitored, and reviewed in the *Adaptive System of School Improvement Support Tools (ASSIST)* platform. The school/LEA shall upload its chosen local indicator by September 1 of each school year. More detailed information is included in the attached *Accountability Review Guide for Local Indicator*.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Patience Oranika at [poranika@alsde.edu](mailto:poranika@alsde.edu) or Dr. Tony Thacker at [tthacker@alsde.edu](mailto:tthacker@alsde.edu) or by telephone at (334) 242-9742.

TRB:PO:RH

Attachment

FY15-3033

Alabama State Department of Education  
Accountability Review Guide  
For  
Local Indicator

---



**Thomas R. Bice**  
**State Superintendent of Education**

## LOCAL INDICATOR GUIDE

### INTRODUCTION

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) PLAN 2020 requires a grading system reflective of school district performances. The local indicator is one aspect of the Alabama Accountability Performance Indicators and a requirement of the Alabama Accountability System. Starting with the 2015-2016 school year, schools/local education agencies (LEAs) shall be required to choose and upload a local indicator by September 1 to the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE). Each school/LEA will be required to declare one local indicator that is unique to that school/LEA with a measurable goal that is aligned to Alabama PLAN 2020.

### PROCESS

Suggested recommendations for identifying a local indicator may include, but are not limited to: (a) selecting a representative group of persons who will be directly involved in implementing the local indicator, (b) identifying persons responsible for delivering requisite activities, (c) partnering with outside agencies in selecting the local indicator, (d) commissioning a survey to garner stakeholder input, and/or (e) conducting a needs assessment to determine the goal and/or desired outcome(s) of the local indicator.

#### Quality:

The quality of the local indicator is vital to its impact on desired outcomes. Outcomes must be measurable. Examples of local indicators include providing academic opportunities for students such as arts program, a foreign language academy, Advanced Placement (AP) participation, career technical programs, dual enrollment opportunities, and/or after-school programs. Determination of the school/LEA local indicator is the sole prerogative of the school/LEA. Therefore, the school/LEA is strongly encouraged to:

- A. Clearly articulate a written local indicator as part of its school/district ACIP process.
- B. Create or import an existing measurable goal, with objectives.
- C. Establish implementation timelines and milestones.
- D. Allocate adequate resources to accomplish set goal.

#### Implementation:

The local indicator process is one that is implemented systemically and systematically as part of the school and district ACIP process. It is recommended that schools/LEAs address the following issues as they approach the implementation of their local indicator goal:

- A. Provide/develop the requisite capacity to drive the local indicator implementation at all levels throughout the school year.
- B. Actively and consistently work to ensure that capacity is developed and sustained where the capacity to drive the local indicator implementation at all levels does not exist.
- C. Ensure that school/LEA leadership is in support of the implementation protocols to the local indicator goal.

- D. Articulate and communicate clearly in written format for all stakeholders the goals, strategies, action steps and/or activities.
- E. Ensure that all stakeholders have easy access to all applicable documents, activities, milestones, timelines, and measures pertinent to achieving the goals of the local indicator.

**Outcome Measures:**

Outcome measures are used to determine the success or failure to meet the desired result of the school/LEA local indicator. Evidence of effectiveness is attributable and linked to intended goal implementation, activities, and process metrics. By July 30 of each school year the school/LEA must upload evidence to show the degree to which they have met their local indicator goal.

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| <b>ALSDE LOCAL INDICATOR REVIEW</b> |
|-------------------------------------|

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) will utilize local indicator review reports and supporting evidence for the verification review process. A sample local indicator scoring rubric has been attached at the end of this guide. The primary purpose of conducting the local indicator review is to determine if the school/LEA has set a local indicator goal and met or failed to meet that goal. The local indicator process will include the following:

- A. The school/LEA will enter its local indicator by September 1 of each school year as a goal in the ASSIST platform.
- B. The school/LEA will notify the ALSDE that it has completed its local indicator goal.
- C. The ALSDE designated reviewer shall perform a preliminary review of the local indicator goal in the ASSIST platform.
- D. The reviewer will determine if the school/LEA local indicator meets the appropriate criteria (attached).
- E. Upon completion of the first of the year review, the ALSDE will provide feedback to the school/LEA in the ASSIST platform.
- F. By July 30 of each year the school/LEA will provide data showing its current results in meeting the school/LEA local indicator. Evidence must be uploaded to support the data results.
- G. Upon completion of the review, the school/LEA may be asked to submit additional clarifying documentation or advised to continue implementation with no further submission required.

Questions and concerns regarding this process may be directed to Dr. Patience Oranika at [poranika@alsde.edu](mailto:poranika@alsde.edu) or Dr. Tony Thacker at [tthacker@alsde.edu](mailto:tthacker@alsde.edu) or at telephone number 334-242-9742.

| <b>Local Indicator Scoring Rubric</b>                            |                                 |  |  |               |                |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|---------------|----------------|
| School System: _____   |                                 |  | Year: _____  |               |                |
| <b>Criterion</b>   | <b>Did Not Meet Goal<br/>0%</b> | <b>Partially Met Goal<br/>50%</b>  | <b>Met Goal<br/>100%</b>   | <b>Points</b> | <b>Comment</b> |
| <b>Outcome</b><br><br>Evidence of effectiveness based on outcome | No evidence provided            | Inconsistent progress monitoring of goals and strategies, limited use of data for adjustment | Consistent use of data as evidence leading to adjustments, course corrections for goals, strategies, process metrics, and indicator outcomes |               |                |
| <b>Total Points</b>  |                                 |  |  |               |                |

**CRITERIA FOR MEASURABLE SCHOOL/LOCAL INDICATOR**

Local indicators must not be one of the indicators in the proposed Alabama Accountability System. Local indicators must be written as a goal with the following:

- A. Student-based measure.
- B. Goal percentage (%).
- C. Baseline percentage (%).
- D. Time.

Schools/LEAs must provide data results for evidence and to support:

- A. End of Year.
- B. Baseline percentage (%).
- C. Goal percentage (%).
- D. Current percentage (%).