

College and Career Readiness School Models (CCRSM) Designated – Needs Improvement Status Overview

College and Career Readiness School Models (CCRSM)

College and Career Readiness School Models (CCRSM) include the Early College High School (ECHS) and Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools (P-TECH) models. CCRSM programs are open-enrollment programs that allow students least likely to attend college or who wish to accelerate completion of high school, to combine high school courses and college-level courses while participating in rigorous and accelerated instruction.

Overview of Designated – Needs Improvement Status

CCRSM programs with six or more years of implementation are required to meet designation Outcomes-Based Measure (OBMs) standards, as established by the CCRSM Blueprints. Programs that do not meet designation OBM standards are placed in the Designated – Needs Improvement status, which is not a public facing status.

Designated – Needs Improvement program:

- ✓ Have up to three years to meet OBM designation standards.
- ✓ Programs that do not meet designation standards after three years will be removed from the CCRSM network.
- ✓ Receive targeted, individualized, and OBM-driven coaching.
- ✓ Must submit the Program Application Cycle and OBM Action Plan.

Purpose of Designated – Needs Improvement Status Overview Document

This document provides an overview of the Designated – Needs Improvement status, including requirements, guidance, and resources for Designated – Needs Improvement programs.

ECHS Model Goals

ECHS students earn a high school diploma in addition to up to an applied associate degree or academic associate degree, with a completed field of study, that is transferable towards a baccalaureate degree

P-TECH Model Goals

P-TECH students earn a high school diploma in addition to industry-based certifications, Level 1 or 2 certificates, and/or an associate degree while engaging in work-based learning at every grade level.

Information Provided in this Document:

- Designation Requirements
- Path to Designation
- Needs Improvement Status Purpose
- Needs Improvement Requirements
- Needs Improvement Technical Assistance and Support

CCRSM Designation Overview

Designation Process

TEA designed a designation process for CCRSM programs under the authority of Texas Education Code (TEC) §29.908(b) (2019) and Title 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §102.1091 (effective 2007). Designation is the process by which TEA determines whether a school can fully implement benchmark design element and meet OBM standards. Designation, through the Program Application Cycle (PAC), is an annual requirement for CCRSM programs.

Designation Expectations

A CCRSM with six or more years of implementation must satisfy Access, Achievement and Attainment OBM criteria annually to achieve the Designated status.

- **Access:** Must meet targets on “At-Risk Students” and “Economically Disadvantaged Students” data indicators
- **Achievement:** Must meet targets on at least three achievement designated data indicators
- **Attainment:** Must meet targets on at least three attainment designated data indicators

CCRSM Program Statuses

CCRSM program statuses are differentiated into five categories:

Planning CCRSM

Planning CCRSMs must recruit the first cohort of students and build out required Blueprint design elements and systems.

Provisional CCRSM

CCRSMs in the first 5 years of operation (i.e., first five years of serving students) must implement all Blueprint design elements monitor OBM progress.

Designated CCRSM

A CCRSM 6+ years of operation (i.e., serve students five or more years) must maintain designation by implementing all Blueprint design elements and must meet Access, Achievement, and Attainment OBM designation criteria.

Designated with Distinctions CCRSM

A CCRSM with 7+ years of operation that meets designated OBM criteria and Access, Achievement, and Attainment designation with distinction OBM criteria.

Designated – Needs Improvement CCRSM

A CCRSM with 6+ years of operation that does not meet OBM designation criteria. Needs Improvement CCRSMs must meet OBM designation criteria within three years of being designated as a Needs Improvement program.

Path to Designation



Year 0

Planning Year

- Engage in 12-18 months of CCRSM planning.
- Recruit the first 9th grade CCRSM cohort.



Years 1-5

Provisional

- Grow cohorts, improve programming, and build strong partnerships.
- Implement all benchmark design elements.
- Receive OBM data for informational purposes only.



Year 5

Apply for Designation

Designated (Year 6)

Programs that meet access, achievement, and attainment Designated OBMs and implement all design elements receive Designated status.

Needs Improvement (Year 6)

Programs that do not meet access, achievement, and attainment Designated OBMs are considered Needs Improvement.

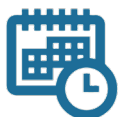


Year 7+

Designated

Meet Designated OBMs and implement all design elements.

Programs must continue to meet Designated OBMs yearly to maintain Designated status.



Year 7+

Designated with Distinctions

A program is eligible for Designated with Distinction status if the program is Designated and meets Distinction OBMs.



Years 6-8

Receive targeted technical assistance to improve OBMs. Programs may receive Designated status if OBMs are met prior to Year 9.



Year 9

Receive Designated status if Designated OBMs met.

Removed from network if Designated OBMs not met.

Needs Improvement Purpose and Exit Criteria

Needs Improvement Status Purpose and Notification

As established by the TAC §102.1091, CCRSMs must implement models with fidelity and meet the required OBM criteria. The Designated – Needs Improvement status allows for CCRSMs that have not met OBM criteria to continue to operate while receiving technical assistance to improve OBMs.

The Needs Improvement Status is not public facing and only Needs Improvement programs, districts, and their partnering institutions of higher education (IHE) will be notified of the status via designation letters sent by TEA each summer.

Needs Improvement Status Length

Once designated as Needs Improvement, programs will have up to three years to improve OBMs and meet designation standards. All Needs Improvement programs must complete the first two years of Needs Improvement.

Criteria for Exiting Needs Improvement Status

- If a program meets OBM standards after the second year of Needs Improvement, then the program may exit the needs improvement status and move into the designated status.
- If a program does not meet OBM standards after the second year of Needs Improvement, then the program will continue in the Needs Improvement status for a third year.
- If a program does not meet OBM standards after the third year of Needs Improvement, the program will be exited from the CCRSM network.

The graphic below illustrates the several paths to exiting the Needs Improvement status. Programs that do not meet OBM standards at the end of three years and exit the network may apply to enter the CCRSM network as a planning program after a three year wait period.

	School Year 1	SY 2	SY 3	SY 4	SY 5	SY 6	SY 7	SY 8	SY 9
Designation Met	DES	DES	DES	DES	DES	DES	DES	DES	DES
Needs Improvement	1-IMPR	2-IMPR	3-IMPR						
Improved to Designated				DES	DES	DES	DES	DES	DES
Exit CCRSM Network				EXIT CCRSM			APPLY	PLAN	1-PROV

Needs Improvement Technical Assistance

Needs Improvement CCRSMs must fulfill the following requirements during each year of the Needs Improvement status.

- Attend a TEA-facilitated Needs Improvement webinar
- Complete the Program Application Cycle (PAC)
- Submit the OBM Action Plan Submission 1 and Submission 2
- Participate in technical assistance coaching

TEA – Facilitated Needs Improvement Webinar

Upon notification of the Needs Improvement status, TEA will release dates for Needs Improvement webinars. The purpose of the webinar is to provide information on the Needs Improvement status, including Needs Improvement requirements and support.

Needs Improvement Program Application Cycle (PAC)

Needs Improvement programs must complete the Program Application Cycle (PAC) during each year of the Needs Improvement status. Needs Improvement programs will be required to submit district, IHE, and if applicable, business and industry assurance pages as part of the PAC.

Needs Improvement OBM Action Plan

Needs Improvement programs may only exit the status through meeting OBM designation standards. To facilitate OBM attainment, Needs Improvement programs must complete the OBM Action Plan during each year of the Needs Improvement status. The OBM Action Plan will have two annual submissions:

- Submission 1 – identify which OBM(s) the program will target for improvement, describe anticipated challenges, and outline strategies to achieve OBM improvement.
- Submission 2 – serves as an end of year reflection on NI Year 1 and provides progress update towards meeting SMART goals outlined in OBM Action Plan Submission 1.

The OBM Action Plan Submission 1 is due to TEA during the fall semester, and the OBM Action Plan Submission 2 is due at the end of the spring semester. TEA will provide the OBM Action Plan Submission 1 and 2 templates to programs after notification of the Needs Improvement status.

Needs Improvement Coaching

To support programs in meeting OBM standards and to promote retention in the CCRSM network, technical assistance coaching will be provided to all Needs Improvement programs throughout each year of Needs Improvement. Coaching will be provided by a TEA-designated technical assistance provider. Programs will receive individualized supports depending on program OBM data.

Needs Improvement technical assistance and coaching supports can include the following activities:

- 1:1 Coaching
- OBM data workshops and TEAL report deep-dive
- Coaching support on OBM data and recruitment targets
- Targeted CCRSM resources
- Access to network webinars and learning communities
- Access to all CCRSM professional development events and convenings

TEA Facilitated Technical Support

In addition to coaching provided by the CCRSM technical assistance provider, TEA will provide technical support to Needs Improvement programs, including the following activities:

- 1:1 Support Calls
- Needs Improvement Webinars
- Needs Improvement Office Hours

Role of the IHE Partner in the Needs Improvement Status

If an IHE is currently partnered with a program identified as a Needs Improvement program, the IHE will receive notification from TEA via an electronic letter sent in the summer. TEA will provide IHE office hours and guidance to IHEs partnered with Needs Improvement programs.

During each Needs Improvement year, if the IHE partners with the Needs Improvement CCRSM:

- The IHE will be required to sign assurance pages in the Program Application Cycle (PAC). The signed assurance page serves as a commitment to support the program during that Needs Improvement school year.
- The Needs Improvement program should collaborate with the IHE partner during the development of the OBM Action Plan, invite the IHE partner to coach site visits, and meet regularly with the IHE partner to monitor progress and promote continuous improvement.

Role of the Business and Industry Partner in the Needs Improvement Status

TEA does not notify P-TECH Business and Industry partner CCRSM designation statuses. Needs Improvement programs are encouraged to continue regular collaboration with the business partner to monitor progress and promote continuous improvement.

Needs Improvement Appeals Process

Needs Improvement Appeal Application

Districts with programs designated as Needs Improvement may appeal for a revised designation status, (i.e. move from the Needs Improvement status to the Designated status) for specific reasons via an online application. The online application opens after designation letter notifications are sent to CCRSMs. Needs Improvement appeals must be submitted with a signed assurance page from the district superintendent.

TEA will review all appeals and provide a final decision to districts within 60 days of submission. Submission of an appeal does not guarantee a revision in designation status.

Districts may request an appeal in designation status due to one or more of the following reasons:

- Significant Data Reporting Discrepancy
- Significant Data System Error
- Natural Disaster
- Sudden and significant demographic shift
- Other
 - For example: TEA did not provide the program graduation rate or persistence rate due to insufficient data, by no fault of the program.
 - For example: CCRSM did not meet OBM designation criteria by less than 1% point

Needs Improvement Annual Calendar

The following page outlines the annual calendar and key deadlines for Needs Improvement CCRSMs.

July

- TEA notifies programs of Designated – Needs Improvement status
- Needs Improvement Appeals Application open for submissions

August

- TEA provides Needs Improvement Appeal Decisions
- Program Application Cycle Opens
- TEA facilitates Needs Improvement webinar

September – October

- Needs Improvement Coaching site visits begin
- Needs Improvement programs develop OBM Action Plan Submission 1
- TEA hosts Needs Improvement office hours

November - December

- Needs Improvement coaching site visits ongoing
- Program Application Cycle (PAC) due
- OBM Action Plan Submission 1 due

January – April

- Needs Improvement Coaching site visits ongoing
- TEA hosts Needs Improvement office hours
- Needs Improvement programs implement OBM Action Plan

May

- Needs Improvement programs submit OBM Action Plan Submission 2

June

- Programs receive OBM TEAL Report (Needs Improvement Year 1 OBM TEAL report will be for informational purposes only)
- TEA notifies programs of Designation Status (All Needs Improvement Year 1 programs will continue as Needs Improvement Year 2 program)