

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 Campus Status

Beginning the 2025 – 2026 school year, 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. Campuses 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 campus:

- ✓ Have up to three years to meet OBM designation standards.
- ✓ Campuses 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 Campuses.

ECHS Model Goals

ECHS students earn a high school diploma and up to an associate 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
- Needs Improvement Appeals Process
- Needs Improvement Annual Calendar

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 Campus Statuses

Beginning in the 2025 – 2026 school year, campus 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 campus.

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

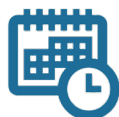
Apply for Designation

Designated (Year 6)

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

Needs Improvement (Year 6)

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

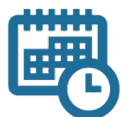


Year 7+

Designated

Meet Designated OBMs and implement all design elements.

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



Year 7+

Designated with Distinctions

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



Years 6-8

Receive targeted technical assistance to improve OBMs. Campuses 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 campuses, 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, campuses will have up to three years to improve OBMs and meet designation standards. All Needs Improvement campuses must complete the first year of Needs Improvement.

Criteria for Exiting Needs Improvement Status

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

The graphic below illustrates the several paths to exiting the Needs Improvement status. Campuses 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 campus 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 Requirements

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
- 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 campuses must complete the Program Application Cycle (PAC) during each year of the Needs Improvement status. Needs Improvement campuses 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 campuses may only exit the status through meeting OBM designation standards. To facilitate OBM attainment, Needs Improvement campuses must complete the OBM Action Plan during each year of the Needs Improvement status. In the OBM Action Plan, the campus will identify the target OBMs, outline strategies to improve target OBMs, and provide information on how the campus will track progress.

To ensure campuses have adequate time to identify OBM goals and strategies, the OBM Action Plan is due to TEA at the beginning of the Spring semester (January). TEA will provide the OBM Action Plan template and form to campuses after notification of the Needs Improvement status.

At the end of the Needs Improvement school year, the CCRSM must submit an end of year progress report to TEA with information on successes and challenges of implementing the OBM Action Plan. The progress report template will be provided to campuses by TEA.

Needs Improvement Technical Assistance

Needs Improvement Coaching

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

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 campus during that Needs Improvement school year.
- The Needs Improvement campus 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 campuses 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

Campuses 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 campuses within 60 days of submission. Submission of an appeal does not guarantee a revision in designation status.

Campuses may request an appeal to their 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 campus graduation rate or persistence rate due to insufficient data, by no fault of the campus.
 - 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 campuses of Designated – Needs Improvement status
- Needs Improvement Appeals Application open for submissions

August

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

September – October

- Needs Improvement Coaching site visits begin
- Needs Improvement campuses develop OBM Action Plan
- TEA hosts Needs Improvement office hours

November

- Needs Improvement coaching site visits ongoing
- Program Application Cycle (PAC) due

January

- Needs Improvement OBM Action Plan due

February – April

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

May

- OBM Action Plan End-of-Year Progress Report due

June

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