

What is the Texas Education Agency FIRST Rating?

§109.1001. Purpose of Financial Accountability Rating System.

The purpose of the financial accountability rating system is to ensure that school districts will be held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices and achieve improved performance in the management of their financial resources. The system is designed to encourage Texas public schools to manage their financial resources better in order to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes. The system will also disclose the quality of local management and decision-making processes that impact the allocation of financial resources in Texas public schools. An evaluation of the long-term effectiveness of the system should disclose a measurable improvement in the quality of Texas public schools' financial decision-making processes.

(1) Superior Achievement. In accordance with the procedures established in §109.1002 of this title (relating to Financial Accountability Ratings), a district shall be classified as Superior Achievement if it scores within the applicable range established by the commissioner of education for Superior Achievement.

(2) Above Standard Achievement. In accordance with the procedures established in §109.1002 of this title, a district shall be classified as Above Standard Achievement if it scores within the applicable range established by the commissioner of education for Above Standard Achievement.

(3) Standard Achievement. In accordance with the procedures established in §109.1002 of this title, a district shall be classified as Standard Achievement if it scores within the applicable range established by the commissioner of education for Standard Achievement.

(4) Substandard Achievement. In accordance with the procedures established in §109.1002 of this title, a district shall be classified as Substandard Achievement if the district responds negatively to specified indicators or if the district scores within the applicable range established by the commissioner of education for Substandard Achievement. The commissioner of education may apply sanctions to a district that is assigned a Substandard Achievement rating.

(5) Suspended--Data Quality. If serious data quality issues are disclosed by the commissioner of education, a Suspended--Data Quality rating shall be assigned to the school district. The Suspended--Data Quality rating will be assigned until the district successfully resolves the data quality issues. The commissioner of education may apply sanctions to a district that is assigned a Suspended--Data Quality rating.