

The Virginia Board of Education is revising its accreditation standards to provide a more comprehensive view of school quality while encouraging continuous improvement for all schools and placing increased emphasis on closing achievement gaps. School accreditation ratings for the 2018-2019 school year will be the first to reflect this new approach to accountability.

School Quality Indicators

The revised accreditation standards measure performance on multiple school-quality indicators, not just on overall student achievement on state tests.

Elementary and middle schools are evaluated on the following indicators:

- Overall proficiency and growth in English reading/writing achievement (including progress of English learners toward English-language proficiency)
- Overall proficiency and growth in mathematics
- Overall proficiency in science
- English achievement gaps among student groups
- Mathematics achievement gaps among student groups
- Absenteeism

High schools are evaluated on the following school-quality indicators:

- Overall proficiency in English reading/writing and progress of English learners toward English-language proficiency
- Overall proficiency in mathematics
- Overall proficiency in science
- English achievement gaps among student groups
- Mathematics achievement gaps among student groups
- Graduation and completion
- Dropout rate
- Absenteeism
- College, career and civic readiness (effective 2021-2022)

Performance Levels

Performance on each school-quality indicator is rated at one of three levels:

- LEVEL ONE:** Meets or exceeds standard or sufficient improvement
- LEVEL TWO:** Near standard or making sufficient improvement
- LEVEL THREE:** Below standard

All schools must develop a multi-year plan to support continuous improvement on all indicators. Specific local and state actions and interventions are required to improve performance on indicators rated at Level Two and Level Three.

Performance Level	Action or Intervention
LEVEL ONE: At or Above Standard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Performance at or above state standard for indicator ■ Sufficient improvement toward state standard for indicator from Level Two 	Monitor performance on indicator and update multi-year school improvement plan as needed
LEVEL TWO: Near Standard or Improving <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Below state standard for indicator but approaching Level One performance ■ Sufficient improvement on indicator from Level Three 	Revise multi-year improvement plan and implement revisions to improve performance on indicator
LEVEL THREE: Below Standard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Performance on indicator below state standard ■ Performance on indicator at Level Two for more than four consecutive years 	Implement state-approved corrective action plan following academic review conducted by Virginia Department of Education

Accreditation Ratings

Under the new system, schools earn one of the following three accreditation ratings:

- Accredited** — Schools with all school-quality indicators at either Level One or Level Two
- Accredited with Conditions** — Schools with one or more school-quality indicators at Level Three
- Accreditation Denied** — Schools that fail to adopt or fully implement required corrective actions to address Level Three school-quality indicators. A school rated as Accreditation Denied may regain state accreditation by demonstrating to the Board of Education that it is fully implementing all required corrective action plans.

SAMPLE SCHOOL: South Middle School		
Achievement	English Combined Rate	Level ONE
	Math Combined Rate	Level ONE
	Science Pass Rate	Level ONE
Achievement Gaps	English	Level TWO
	Math	Level TWO
Student Engagement	Chronic Absenteeism	Level TWO
OVERALL	ACCREDITED	

SAMPLE SCHOOL: North High School		
Achievement	English Combined Rate	Level ONE
	Math Pass Rate	Level ONE
	Science Pass Rate	Level ONE
Achievement Gaps	English	Level TWO
	Math	Level THREE
Student Engagement	Chronic Absenteeism	Level TWO
	Graduation & Completion	Level ONE
	Dropout Rate	Level TWO
	College, Career & Civic Readiness	(2021-2022)
OVERALL	ACCREDITED WITH CONDITIONS	