

HISD Defined Autonomy Framework:

Level 5 FAQ

Q: Will elementary and middle schools be able to apply for SB 1882 partnership?	A: This opportunity is not open to elementary and middle schools at this time but may be offered in the future.
Q: Will a school lose access to district services (e.g. transportation) if it becomes a partnership campus?	A: No. While TEA requires certain provisions be included in the performance agreement to ensure the partner campus has sufficient autonomy to implement its model (e.g. staffing and academic program), districts and partners must also agree to service-level agreements outlining which services the district will provide to the partnership school (e.g. transportation, food services, and other back-office functions).
Q: Who manages the principal or school leader?	A: For a partnership school to be eligible for benefits, the partner organization must manage the principal or the school leader.
Q: Do school staff remain HISD employees or do they become employees of the partner organization?	A: The partner or the district can employ staff. The district and the partner define employer and employee arrangements in the performance contract. The partner must employ at least one FTE to manage the school.
Q: How long does the SB 1882 partnership status last?	A: By statute, SB 1882 partnership campuses must be authorized for a minimum of 3 years to qualify for benefits, with a maximum term of 10 years prior to renewal. Term lengths and conditions for renewal are negotiated as part of the performance contract. HISD schools should maintain their A-rating and continue to decrease achievement gaps.
Q: Are there additional reporting requirements associated with being an SB 1882 partnership school?	A: Yes. Performance contracts will define additional reporting requirements and information sharing agreements between the partner and district to ensure the district has visibility into school performance and that the partner remains in compliance with the terms of the contract and state law. Outside of the terms of the performance contract, however, the partnership campus may be exempt from other standard district reporting requirements.
Q: How much additional funding would my school receive from SB 1882 benefits?	A: Approved partnership schools may receive additional state funding if they receive less per-pupil state funding than they would receive if they were a state-authorized charter school. Generally, this tends to amount to between \$700-\$1,500 per student; however, a portion of this funding may go to the district to cover support services as defined and agreed to in the performance contract.