



Current Accreditation Process

**Presentation to the Virginia Board of
Education's School and Division
Accountability Committee**

**Shelley Loving-Ryder
Virginia Department of Education**

Factors Included in Current Accreditation Ratings

- **Pass rates on state tests**
 - Current year pass rate or 3-year pass rate, whichever is higher
 - Includes tests in all four content areas: English (reading and writing), mathematics, science, and history/social science
- **Graduation and Completion Index for High Schools Only**

Requirements for Full Accreditation

- **Pass Rates in All Subject Areas At or Above**
 - 75% for English
 - 70% for Mathematics, Science and History/Social Science
- **For high schools only, graduation and completion index at 85 or higher**

Graduation and Completion Index (GCI)

- **The GCI calculation comprises students in the cohort of expected on-time graduates**
 - students who were first-time ninth graders four years earlier,
 - plus transfers in and minus transfers out and
 - students carried over from previous cohorts

GCI Example

Outcome	Calculation		Results
	# of Students	Point Value	# of Students X Point Value
Diplomas	66	100	6,600
GEDs	3	75	225
Certificates of Completion	2	25	50
Students still in School	4	70	280
Dropouts	5	0	0
Totals	80		7,155
			$\text{GCI} = \frac{7,155}{80} = 89$

A GCI of at least 85 is required for full accreditation.

Adjustments to Accreditation Pass Rates

- **Remediation Recovery**
 - Student failed reading or mathematics test in previous year
 - Student participated in a remediation recovery program in the current year
 - If the student passes the SOL test in the current year, the student counts twice in the pass rate calculation
- **Cheating or Parental Refusal**
 - The scores of students who receive a 0 on the test because they cheated or their parents refused for them to test are not counted in the accreditation calculations

Adjustments to Accreditation Pass Rates

- **Expedited Retakes**

If the student passes the expedited retest, the original failing score is replaced with the passing score

- **English Language Learners**

If the student has been enrolled in the Virginia schools for fewer than 11 semesters, the student's score counts in accreditation only if it is passing

Adjustments to Accreditation

Pass Rates

Test scores for students who meet the following conditions count in accreditation only if they pass

- **Transfer Students**

- A student taking an end-of-course test was enrolled from outside the Virginia public schools after 20 instructional hours had elapsed
- A student taking a lower level SOL test was enrolled from outside the school division after 20 instructional days had elapsed

- **“Transient” Students**

- A student was enrolled in the division for less than 50% of the days of membership

Accreditation Ratings

- Fully Accredited
- Partially Accredited:
 - Approaching Benchmark-Graduation and Completion Index
 - Approaching Benchmark-Pass Rate
 - Improving School-Graduation and Completion Index
 - Improving School-Pass Rate
 - Warned School-Graduation and Completion Index
 - Warned School-Pass Rate
 - Reconstituted School
- Accreditation Denied

Fully Accredited

- **Elementary and middle schools are Fully Accredited if students achieve all of the following pass rates:**
 - English — 75 percent or higher
 - Mathematics — 70 percent or higher
 - Science — 70 percent or higher
 - History — 70 percent or higher
- **High schools are Fully Accredited if:**
 - Students achieve pass rates of 75 percent or higher in English and 70 percent or higher in mathematics, science and history; and
 - Attain a point value of 85 or greater based on the Graduation and Completion Index (GCI).

Partially Accredited: Approaching Benchmark-Graduation and Completion Index

“To achieve a rating of *Partially Accredited: Approaching Benchmark-Graduation and Completion Index*, the eligible students in the school must have met the pass rates required for full accreditation in all four content areas (English, mathematics, science and history/social science) and the school must achieve 84 percentage points on the Board of Education's graduation and completion index.”

Guidance Related to the *Partially Accredited* Rating Included in the Revisions to the *Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8VAC 20-131 under the Fast Track Provisions of the Administrative Process Act)

Partially Accredited: Approaching Benchmark-Pass Rate

“A school will be rated as *Partially Accredited: Approaching Benchmark-Pass Rate* if the school does not meet the requirements for full accreditation but the school’s pass rate in each of the four content areas (English, mathematics, science, and history/social science) either: (1) meets the benchmark required for full accreditation or (2) meets the narrow margin criteria.”

Guidance Related to the *Partially Accredited* Rating Included in the Revisions to the *Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8VAC 20-131 under the Fast Track Provisions of the Administrative Process Act)

Partially Accredited: Improving School-Graduation and Completion Index

“A school will be rated as *Improving School-Graduation and Completion Index*, if it fails to meet the requirements for the *Approaching Benchmark-Graduation and Completion Index* rating but 1) the eligible students in the school have met the pass rates required for full accreditation in all four content areas (English, mathematics, science and history/social science) and 2) the school’s Graduation and Completion Index has improved by at least one point from the previous year.”

Guidance Related to the *Partially Accredited* Rating Included in the Revisions to the *Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8VAC 20-131 under the Fast Track Provisions of the Administrative Process Act)

Partially Accredited: Improving School-Pass Rate

“A school will be rated as *Partially Accredited: Improving School-Pass Rate* if the school does not meet the requirements for full accreditation or for *Partially Accredited: Approaching Benchmark-Pass Rate* but the school’s pass rate in each of the four content areas (English, mathematics, science, and history/social science) either: 1) meets the benchmark required for full accreditation, or 2) meets the narrow margin criteria, or 3) has shown sufficient improvement as compared to the pass rate for the previous year.”

Guidance Related to the *Partially Accredited* Rating Included in the Revisions to the *Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8VAC 20-131 under the Fast Track Provisions of the Administrative Process Act)

Partially Accredited: Improving School-Pass Rate

“A school will be rated as *Partially Accredited: Improving School-Pass Rate* if the school does not meet the requirements for full accreditation or for *Partially Accredited: Approaching Benchmark-Pass Rate* but the school’s pass rate in each of the four content areas (English, mathematics, science, and history/social science) either: 1) meets the benchmark required for full accreditation, or 2) meets the narrow margin criteria, or 3) has shown sufficient improvement as compared to the pass rate for the previous year.”

Guidance Related to the *Partially Accredited* Rating Included in the Revisions to the *Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8VAC 20-131 under the Fast Track Provisions of the Administrative Process Act)

Partially Accredited: Improving School-Pass Rate

Mathematics, Science & History/Social Science

If the school's adjusted pass rate for the previous year was:	The school's adjusted pass rate must have increased by at least:
65	2 points
60-64	3 points
50-59	9 points
40-49	10 points
Below 40	15 points

English

If the school's adjusted pass rate for the previous year was:	The school's adjusted pass rate must have increased by at least:
70	2 points
65-69	4 points
60-64	7 points
45-59	11 points
Below 45	15 points

Note: Schools with previous pass rates of 71-72 percent in English and/or 66-67 percent in mathematics, science and history/social science are ineligible for a Partially Accredited: Improving School rating and must meet the criteria for Partially Accredited: Approaching Benchmark or be rated as Partially Accredited: Warned School.

Partially Accredited: Warned School-Graduation and Completion Rate

“A school will be designated as Partially Accredited: Warned School-Graduation and Completion Index if it has failed to achieve Fully Accredited, Partially Accredited: Approaching Benchmark-Graduation and Completion Index, or Partially Accredited: Improving School-Graduation and Completion Index status.”

Revisions to the *Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8VAC 20-131-300 under the Fast Track Provisions of the Administrative Process Act)

Partially Accredited: Warned School-Pass Rate

“A school will be designated as Partially Accredited: Warned School-Pass Rate if it has failed to achieve Fully Accredited, Partially Accredited: Approaching Benchmark-Pass Rate, or Partially Accredited: Improving School-Pass Rate status.”

Revisions to the *Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8VAC 20-131-300 under the Fast Track Provisions of the Administrative Process Act)

Accreditation Denied

A school is rated Accreditation Denied if it fails to meet the requirements for full accreditation for four consecutive years.

Partially Accredited: Reconstituted

Schools that fail to meet the requirements for full accreditation for four consecutive years and receive permission from the state Board of Education to reconstitute. A reconstituted school reverts to accreditation denied status if it fails to meet full accreditation

Technical Assistance

2016-2017 Technical Assistance for Schools/Divisions not Meeting State Accountability Requirements

Technical Assistance Overview for Schools Not Fully Accredited:

- **Focus on continuous school improvement planning**
- **Two sessions on school improvement planning required for all schools that have not been fully accredited for two or more years**
- **Additional technical assistance based on the number of years a school has not been fully accredited.**
- **Technical Assistance Menu provided to schools/divisions**

Technical Assistance for Schools in **First Year** of not being Fully Accredited

- **Academic Review:** led by OSI staff
- **School Improvement Plan (SIP) Development:** technical assistance for SIP development provided by OSI/contractors
- **Technical Assistance Menu Options:** May request from selected menu options (Optional)

Technical Assistance for Schools in **Second Consecutive Year of not being Fully Accredited**

- **Continuous School Improvement Planning Training: Sessions 1 and 2**
- **School Improvement Plan
Submission: OSI/contractor support provided as/if needed**
- **Technical Assistance Menu Options:
May request from selected menu options
(Optional)**

Technical Assistance for Schools in **Third Consecutive Year of not being Fully Accredited**

- **Continuous School Improvement Planning Training: Sessions 1 and 2**
- **School Improvement Plan (SIP) Support and Monitoring: Academic Review Essential Actions Implementation**
- **Support provided to school and division staff to ensure high quality teacher observations (Based on OSI capacity)**
- **Technical Assistance Menu Options: May request from selected menu options (Optional)**

Technical Assistance for Schools Rated Partially Accredited: Reconstituted School

- **Continuous School Improvement Planning Training: Sessions 1 and 2**
- **Development and Implementation of a Reconstitution Agreement**
- **Triannual Meetings/Outcomes from meetings**
- **OSI contractor support**
- **Technical Assistance Menu Options: May request from selected menu options**

NOTE: Partially Accredited: Reconstituted Schools that do not make progress toward full accreditation may/will become Denied Accreditation.

Technical Assistance for Schools Denied Accreditation

- **Technical Assistance Sessions 1 and 2 regarding continuous improvement planning**
- **Implementation of a Corrective Action Plan based on Memorandum of Understanding with the Board**
- **Triannual Meetings/Outcomes from meetings**
- **Asset Mapping**
- **OSI contractor support**
- **Technical Assistance Menu Options: May request from selected menu options**
- **NOTE: Denied Accreditation schools that do not make progress toward full accreditation will meet more frequently with OSI and will be required to attend one or more menu sessions based on need.**

Other Indicators Used in the School Improvement Process

- **Student Attendance**
 - Absences
 - Tardies
 - In school suspension
 - Out of school suspension
- **Student Transfer Data**
- **Discipline Data**
- **Teacher Attendance**
- **Teacher Attrition/Reasons for Leaving**

Use of Other Indicators

- **Data Collected and Monitored for *Denied and Partially Accredited: Reconstituted Schools***
- **Data discussed in triannual meetings**
- **Divisions encouraged to address Student Attendance and Discipline issues to increase instructional time**
- **Teacher Data reviewed to identify patterns that may be addressed**