



Adequate Yearly Progress Frequently Asked Questions

What is Adequate Yearly Progress?

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is one of the cornerstones of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. In Michigan, it's a measure of year-to-year student achievement on the Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) test.

To comply with NCLB, Michigan and other states must have developed target starting goals for AYP and the state must "raise the bar" in gradual increments so 100 percent of the students in the state are proficient on state assessments by the 2013-14 school year.

NCLB also requires other indicators to be used in determining AYP. For elementary and middle schools in Michigan, attendance rates are used. For high schools, graduation rates are used. The Department of Education is still determining how attendance and graduation measures will be defined. It is expected that the 2002-03 AYP status schools receive in June 2003 will include these indicators.

AYP applies to each school building in the state; however, NCLB remedies for schools that do not make AYP for two or more years in a row only apply to those districts and schools that receive federal funds. Because Michigan had an AYP definition in place before 2001-02, Title I schools – those that qualify because of an increased proportion of students that receive free and reduced lunch - that did not make AYP prior to that year may be identified for corrective action as defined in NCLB.

How is AYP determined?

Beginning with 2001-02 data, the State of Michigan will use the federal definition of AYP, which sets initial targets for proficiency (MEAP Levels 1 and 2) on statewide MEAP scores in math and reading. AYP is calculated based on each content area separately (reading/language arts and math). The following table shows the target levels based on 2001-02 MEAP data.

Subject	Percent Proficient
Elementary Math	47
Elementary Reading	38
Middle School Math	31
Middle School Reading	31

School can make AYP in a number of ways.

1. Schools must show all students, including subgroups, meet or exceed the established MEAP proficiency requirements in both math and reading to make AYP.
2. For schools that do not make AYP, or have one or more subgroups that do not make AYP, there is a "safe harbor" provision in NCLB that can allow the school to make AYP if the percentage of students that didn't make AYP declined by at least 10 percent.

To avoid uncharacteristic “swings” in which a single school’s scores would negatively impact its AYP status, schools can average up to three years of MEAP student data to determine the percentage of students scoring proficient in math and reading.

Does AYP apply to high schools at this time?

No. The state is still compiling data for high school AYP results. However, all schools in Michigan will eventually fall under the AYP definition.

What round of MEAP data has the state based its latest AYP calculations?

The most recent calculations were based on MEAP mathematics and reading results from the 2001-02 school year.

Was Michigan one of the first states to implement AYP?

Beginning in 1995, Michigan was one of the first states in the nation to implement AYP.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, requires that schools demonstrate adequate yearly progress in reading and mathematics.

Michigan, however, had required that a school demonstrate adequate yearly progress in mathematics, reading, science and writing. A school that fails to make adequate yearly progress in any one of these subjects for two consecutive years was previously identified for improvement.

Does NCLB mandate an achievement goal for all students?

Yes. One hundred percent of students must be proficient in reading and mathematics by the year 2014.

Michigan will maintain high standards for the achievement of students in mathematics, reading, writing, science and social studies through Education YES!, the state’s new accreditation system.

The number of schools identified for improvement will begin to increase again when AYP is measured for all subgroups of students using 2002-2003 achievement data. The subgroup information will be included in AYP reports this year on an advisory basis only.

The subgroups for which achievement data will be reported are: racial/ethnic groups, students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged students, and limited English proficient students.

Are all schools participating under Title I the only ones falling under the AYP requirement?

All public schools and public school academies will receive an annual adequate yearly progress report based on state assessments and other state indicators. Adequate yearly progress must be included in each school’s and district’s report to the community and the state. However, the requirements associated with failure to make adequate yearly progress such as school improvement status, corrective action, and restructuring apply only to Title I schools in the district.