



Step #1: Data Sources to Identify Performance Levels

This step involves identifying the data sources from both State databases and the State monitoring system, which includes RDA indicators and federally required elements (FREs) with PL assignments.

Results-Driven Accountability Indicators with Performance Levels: Refer to the section, RDA PL Assignments for Program Area Determinations, in <u>Chapter 12</u> Results-Driven Accountability (RDA) and <u>Appendix K</u> of the <u>2023 Accountability Manual</u> for details about the PLs associated with the special education RDA indicators. Please note that some RDA indicators have more than one PL. All PLs for each indicator are utilized for making program area determinations. Federally Required Elements: The State is required to include the following factors, in addition to the RDA indicators, when making annual determinations on the performance of LEAs (<u>Question D-2, QA</u> <u>23-01</u>). The Appendix shows the criteria for assigning PLs to FREs.

- FRE#1 SPP Compliance Indicators: the state performance plan indicators (SPPI) 4b, 9, 10, 11a, 12, and 13 Data for SPPI 4b, 9, and 10 are collected annually by the Public Education Information System (PEIMS). Data for SPPI 11a and 12 are collected annually by the Texas Student Data System (TSDS) Child Find collection. SPPI 13 data are collected annually by the SPP application in the Texas Education Agency Login (TEAL). Please note that post-clarification data are utilized for SPPI 11a, 12, and 13. The compliance targets are set in the 2023 Part-B SPP/APR Measurement Table at 0% for SPPI 4b, 9, and 10, and at 100% for SPPI 11a, 12, and 13. The noncompliance (NC) identification period is from July 1 to June 30 of the preceding school year.
- FRE#2 Timely Submission of Valid and Reliable Data LEAs must submit data that is on time and error free for both the TSDS Child Find collection (SPPI 11 and 12) and the SPP application in TEAL (SPPI 13). The data submission timeline for the TSDS Child Find collection is typically the last Thursday in July by 11:59 PM, but the complete submission timeline is on the TSDS Web-Enabled Data Standards (TWEDS) website under the Data Submission Timeline tab. The data submission timeline for SPPI 8 is indicated in the SPPI Submission Schedule docu 1 213.4f1 0 0 09 0 0 0 1 425.5 346.3t92 reliables



Both RDA PLs and FRE PLs are utilized to calculate PL mean scores for LEAs.

Step #2: Calculating Performance Level Means

This step involves using the following formula to calculate the PL mean for each LEA program:

To apply this formula to the special education PLs and calculate the PL mean, follow three steps:

- 1. Sum all PL scores (typically ranging from 0 to 3 or 4) to get the total PL score (the numerator)
- 2. Count the total number of PLs to get the PL count (the denominator)
- 3. Divide the sum of all PL scores by the total number of PLs to calculate the PL mean score.

Step #3: Identifying Percentile-Based Cut Points and Assigning Determination Levels

The final step involves identifying percentile-based cut points and assigning determinations to LEAs. Percentiles are thresholds below which a given percentage of data lies. Applying the 99th, 95th, and 80th percentile rule to PL mean scores divides LEAs into four categories. The 99th percentile pinpoints the top 1% of LEAs with the highest scores. LEAs with scores at or above the 95th percentile but below the 99th make up the next 4%, with the second-



The preceding graph, Figure 1, provides a visual representation of the relative performance of LEA PL mean scores and their associated DLs. This visual representation illustrates a theoretical data distribution of PL mean scores. The distribution is shown as a bell-shaped curve on the graph with the x-axis representing the PL mean scores and the y-axis indicating the corresponding density.² Dashed vertical lines on the graph demarcate the specific PL mean scores that correspond to the 99th, 95th, and 80th percentiles, separating the distribution into four distinct and nonoverlapping sections of PL mean scores. Each shaded section is a distinct color representing one of four DLs, which correspond to the percentile ranges of the PL mean scores.

Important Note: LEAs should understand the importance of both their PL mean scores and their DLs. While the DLs provide a comparative measure of normative performance, the PL mean scores serve as a criterion for evaluating year-to-year improvements for the same performance levels. Therefore, an LEA might maintain the same DL from one year to the next, even though they have improved by reducing their PL mean score.