

Frequently Asked Questions about Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

AYP refers to **Adequate Yearly Progress** and is an annual measure of student participation and achievement on statewide assessments and other academic indicators. **No Child Left Behind (NCLB)** requires schools to meet standards in three areas to meet AYP:

- Test Participation
- Academic Performance, and
- a Second Indicator

What are the three areas that must be met by every subgroup in a school for the school to make AYP?

- **95% Participation:** For example, if there is a subgroup of 60 special needs students at a school, 57 (95%) must participate in the state assessment or automatically the school does not meet AYP.
- **Annual Measured Objectives (AMO):** Every subgroup must meet AMO on each area of the assessment or the school does not make AYP.
- **Second Indicators:** In addition to every subgroup having to meet the 95% test participation and AMO requirement, each subgroup must meet the requirement of a second indicator. In Long County, the second indicators are attendance for Smiley Elementary School and Walker Middle School. The second indicator is graduation rate for all high schools. To meet attendance requirements, no more than 15% of the students can be absent more than 15 days during the school year.

This year for the Percentages of students that must pass in each subgroup for a school to make AYP increases tremendously! The Bar has been raised as shown below.

Reading/English Language Arts and Math requirements for schools have increased by seven (7) and nine (9) percentage points respectively in grades 3-8 for 2007-08.

Percentages required to make AYP

CRCT (Grades 3-8)

**Georgia High School
Graduation Test
(GHSGT) Grade 11**

	Reading/ELA	Math	English/LA	Math
2006-07	66.70	58.30	84.70	68.60
2007-08	73.30	67.70	87.70	74.90

If any one subgroup does not meet the AMO as shown above, or show at least 10% improvement from the previous year, then the school does not make AYP.

What are the possible subgroups in the Long County School System?

- White Students
- African American Students
- Hispanic Students
- Mixed Race or Other Students
- Special Needs Students
- Economically Disadvantaged Students
- English Language Learners

How are subgroups determined?

If a school has 40 students of a particular subgroup, or 10% of the school population in a subgroup (whichever is greater), then that subgroup is counted for the school and must meet test participation requirements, Annual Measurable Objectives, and attendance requirements (K-8 schools) or increase in graduation rates (high schools) for the school to make AYP.

What happens if a school or school district does not meet AYP?

Schools and districts that do not meet AYP in the first year face no consequences. However, the school and/or district should develop/review its school and/or school district improvement plan. Schools that do not meet AYP in the same subject for two or more consecutive years are placed in Needs Improvement (NI) status with escalating consequences for each successive year. Same subject is defined as two years of not making Reading/English Language Arts

(participation or academic performance) or two years of not making mathematics (participation or academic performance) or two years of not making second indicator.

A Needs Improvement (NI) school is simply a school that has been identified as needing to improve in specific areas. Needs Improvement (NI) schools are NOT "failing" schools. Schools that do not make AYP for two or more consecutive years in the same subject are in need of improvement or are simply under-performing. Students in these schools must be given the opportunity to attend another district school not in Needs Improvement, and the district must provide transportation.

Just as it takes two consecutive years of not making AYP to be identified for improvement under NCLB, it takes two consecutive years of making AYP for a school or district to move out of Needs Improvement status. If an identified school or district makes AYP for one year, it does not proceed to the next level of the school improvement (sanction) process (i.e., offering supplemental services, implementing corrective action, or restructuring, depending on the school's status). It continues to implement the interventions. If the school only makes AYP for one year and then fails to make AYP the next, it must continue implementing NCLB's school improvement consequences.

The following Long County Schools have met AYP for at least two consecutive years:

- Smiley Elementary School
- Walker Middle School

Long County High School met AYP in 2007 and will no longer be a Needs Improvement (NI) school if they meet AYP again in 2008.