

Your Question:

You asked for updated information on state accountability systems. Education Commission of the States' [50-state comparison of state school accountability report cards](#) was last updated in December of 2013.

Our Response:

Education Commission of the States plans to update our 50-state accountability work in 2017. In the meantime, we know that the following states are assigning letter grades to schools. Please be aware that this list may not be all-inclusive, but it does represent our best effort at keeping up with the ever-changing school accountability landscape.

- Alabama passed a law in 2012 creating an A-F system to go into effect in the 2013-14 school year ([H.B. 588](#)), but it doesn't appear that it's been implemented.
- Arizona passed legislation in 2015 ([S.B. 1289](#)) suspending the use of A-F grades in the 2015 and 2016 school years. Legislation passed in 2016 ([S.B. 1430](#)) removed the A-F grading system from state law, instead requiring the state board to adopt the A-F system.
- Arkansas
- Florida
- Indiana has not, to our knowledge, eliminated the use of their A-F system; however, state board of education regulations passed 2015 revise the calculation method for the grades ([511 IAC 6.2-10](#)).
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Michigan passed a law in 2016 ([H.B. 5384](#)) that requires the State Reform and Redesign Office to create an A-F grading system, but only for schools within the geographic boundaries of the restructured Detroit Public Schools. The legislation states that the system will take effect in the 2017-2018 school year, and will remain in effect until it is replaced by a statewide A-F system to be created by the legislature.
- Mississippi
- New Mexico
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Tennessee passed legislation in 2016 charging the state board with developing an A-F system ([S.B. 300](#)).
- Texas' system is to take effect with 2017-2018 school year.
- Utah
- West Virginia's state board is set to approve the A-F system in November.

- Potential additional state:
 - South Carolina has a 'Federal' report card that assigns grades, but their local report cards do not. You will see South Carolina mentioned on some lists.

Moving away from A-F school report cards is:

- Virginia (see [S.B. 727](#) 2015 and Education Week article [here](#))

Additional data & links

Other ECS resources:

- Education Commission of the States' [state policy database](#) contains summaries of enacted legislative in all 50 states and DC. While it is very comprehensive, it should not be considered all-inclusive as we do occasionally miss a bill. I would suggest you start with the pages on [accountability—measures/indicators](#) and [accountability—reporting results](#). Using this you can see most legislative changes that have been made to accountability systems/school report cards since the 2013 report was written.
- [State Exemplars of School Accountability “Report Cards”](#) (July 2014)
- [Rating States, Grading Schools: What Parents and Experts Say States Should Consider to Make School Accountability Systems Meaningful](#) (August 2014)

Outside resources:

- [Making the Grade: A 50-State Analysis of School Accountability Systems](#) (Center for American Progress, May 2016)