



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.

DATE: March 23, 2021

SUBJECT: Waiver Requests of Accountability, School Identification, and Reporting Requirements for School Year 2020-2021

PURPOSE:

To review waiver requests offered by the United State Department of Education (USED) related to accountability, school identification, and reporting requirements for school year 2020-2021.

BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

On October 20, 2020, USED notified states of the opportunity to modify accountability systems to address the missing data from the 2019-2020 school year. On February 22, 2021, USED notified states of further flexibility through a request for a waiver from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) in the areas of: accountability and school identification, transparency and public reporting, and assessments

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is requesting to utilize the flexibility offered by USED to shift long terms goals by one year. Long-term goals are the annual goals that have been set for the interval improvement in performance for each assessment. The administration of the 2020-2021 English Language Arts and mathematics assessments will be moved to the fall 2021 to provide additional instructional time in the spring 2021 as students return to school. Through the waiver, the MSDE will not be required to meaningfully differentiate schools, identify new Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) Schools and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) Schools in fall 2021. The MSDE will continue to support the previously identified CSI and TSI schools. The MSDE will also report on the second technology survey that will be administered in the spring 2021 on student access to technology and internet service. Following State Board action, the MSDE will post for public comment recommendations regarding the waiver and will return to the State Board in April to request approval to submit the waiver.

ACTION:

Request approval to post notice of intention to apply for flexibility from the USED on accountability, school identification, and reporting requirements for school year 2020-2021.

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ATTACHMENT:

State Plan Accountability System Modifications for the 2020-2021 School Year Power Point

State Plan Accountability System Modifications for the 2020-2021 School Year



State Board of Education

March 23, 2021

Modifying State Plan Accountability Systems: 2020-2021 School Year

- On October 20, 2020, USED notified states of the opportunity to modify accountability systems to address the missing data from the 2019-2020 school year.
- On February 22, 2021, USED notified states of further flexibility through a request for a waiver from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) in the areas of:
 - Accountability and School Identification,
 - Transparency and Public Reporting, and
 - Assessments

Accountability and School Identification

Maryland will:

- Not rank and sort schools using data from the 2020-2021 school year;
- Continue to support Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) or Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) schools (no new CSI and TSI schools will be identified); and
- Report data as required including chronic absenteeism.

Modifying State Plan Accountability Systems: 2020-2021 School Year

Based on a review of the options, the MSDE requests a waiver from USED that MSDE would not be required to:

- Meaningfully differentiate schools (no star rating)
- Identify new CSI and TSI schools fall 2021
- Administer science assessments 5, 8, and high school

MSDE would be able to:

- Shift long term goals that have been identified for annual targets by one year.
- Move the administration of spring 2021 English/Language Arts and mathematics assessments to fall 2021

Public Reporting – new requirement

Actions MSDE has already taken:



- MSDE administered a technology survey in the fall and reported on the results to determine student access to technology and internet service.
- MSDE will administer the technology survey again in the spring.

USED requires:

- States to report that to the extent the state or local school system already collects information on students and educator access to technology devices like laptops or tablets and to high-speed internet at home.

Modifying State Plan Accountability Systems: 2020-2021 School Year

Cohort Data, Postsecondary Outcomes

- At A Glance
- Report Card
- Demographics
- MCAP
- Graduation + College Status**



- Graduation Rate**
- Dropout Rate
- Post Secondary Outcomes
- Definitions

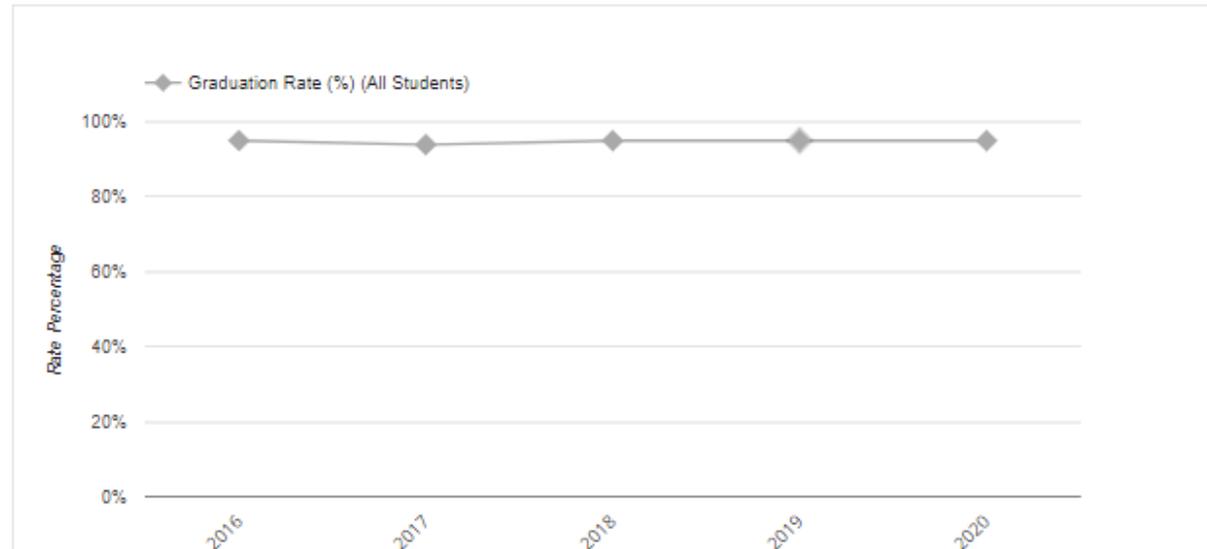
FILTERS

Cohort Type: Gender: Special Services: Race and Ethnicity:

Show: Year Trend

Cohort Graduation Rate Trend Data (2016 - 2020)

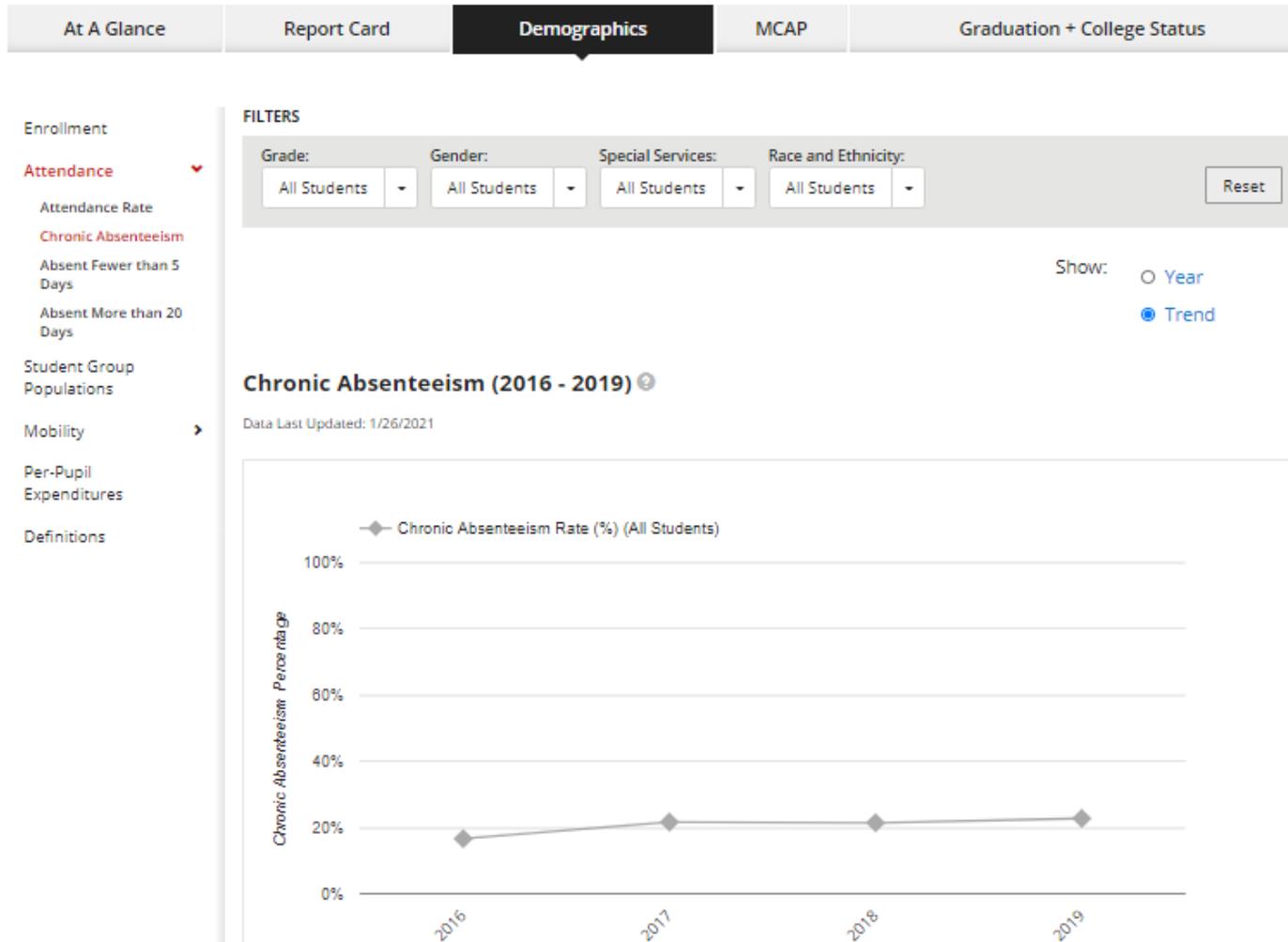
Data Last Updated: 1/26/2021



Maryland will report Cohort and Postsecondary Outcome data

Modifying State Plan Accountability Systems: 2020-2021 School Year

Attendance, Chronic Absenteeism, Per Pupil



Maryland will report Attendance Rate, Chronic Absenteeism and per-pupil expenditure

Recommendation and Timeline

- March State Board Meeting – Request approval of the State Board to post recommendations for public comment
- April State Board Meeting – Share with State Board results of outreach; Request approval of waiver recommendations by the State Board
- April 30, 2021 – Submit waiver request to USED