

# The Art of Collaboration: Continuous School Improvement Through Standards of Accreditation

## ACCREDITATION 101 LINKING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT TO ACCREDITATION

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Putting Montana Students First **A+**

# MAJOR COMPONENTS OF ACCREDITATION & SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

- Meeting minimum standards as outlined in ARM Chapter 55
- Engaging in continuous improvement
- Providing for quality assurance

# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT...

A result of how well all parts of the education system—the district, school, and classroom – work together to meet the needs of students.

Increasing student achievement involves more than improving instruction.

## Meeting Standards:

- Commit and adhere to the appropriate standards for accreditation (ARM Chapter 55)
- Demonstrate compliance to the applicable set of standards
- Yearly analysis of progress and improvement (Annual fall reporting)

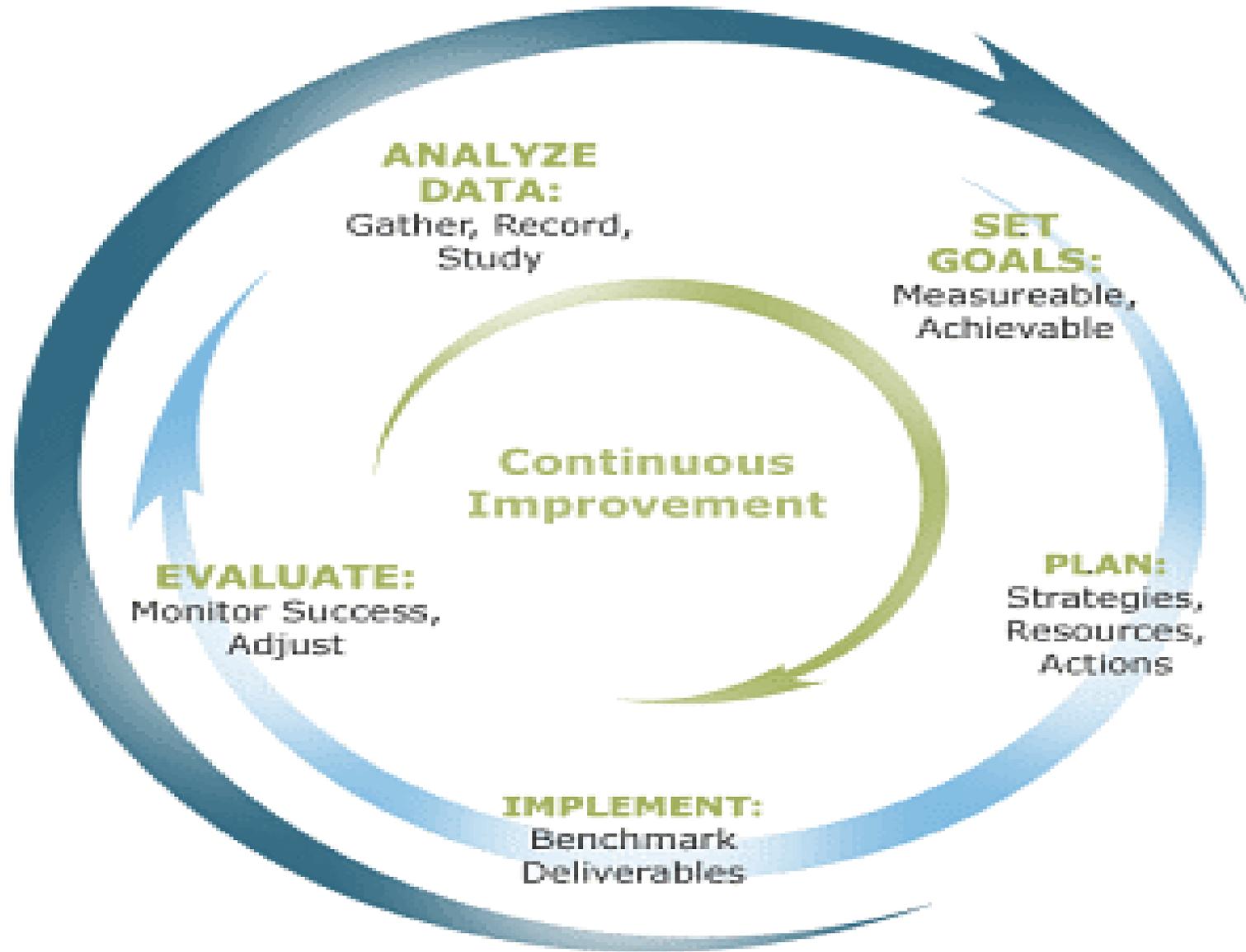
## Engage in a continuous process of improvement: (4 elements)

- VISION - "What future are you pursuing?"
- PROFILE - "What is your current reality?"
- PLAN - "What actions will you take to improve?"
- RESULTS - "What have you accomplished?"

## Quality assurance:

- Delivering on your promise
- Demonstrating institutional integrity
- Documentation of accomplishments
- Using results to drive further recommendations

# The Improvement Life Cycle



## Accreditation Drives School Improvement = Student Achievement

- Internally – provides opportunity for districts to self-assess against a set of rigorous standards
- Externally – equips leadership and stakeholders to tackle areas that may be preventing desired performance levels

# Link Between Accreditation & Student Achievement

- Minimum graduation requirements
- Maximum class sizes for elementary, junior high & high school
- Basic program offerings and courses required
- Baseline policy requirements
- School staffing requirements for principals, superintendents, counselors, librarians, etc.
- Ensuring licensed teachers are in the classroom teaching in their properly endorsed areas.
- Continuous School Improvement Plan annually reported
- Program Area Standards

# Accreditation Status Criteria Reference Guide

## Step 1: Determine Assurance Standards Level

Accreditation Status Criteria Reference Guide			Consecutive Years with this Deviation			
ARM	Title	Description	Regular	Reg MD	Advice	Deficiency
10.55.601(3)	Accreditation Standards: Procedures ( <i>CSIP</i> )	School did not complete Continuous School Improvement Plan				1
10.55.701	Board of Trustees ( <i>Policies</i> )	School does not have required policies		1	2	3
10.55.702	Licensure and Duties of District Administrator – District Superintendent	Superintendent is nonlicensed				1
10.55.702	Licensure and Duties of District Administrator – District Superintendent ( <i>Endorsement</i> )	Superintendent is not properly endorsed			1	2
10.55.703	Licensure and Duties of School Principal	Principal is nonlicensed				1
10.55.703	Licensure and Duties of School Principal ( <i>Endorsement</i> )	Principal is not properly endorsed			1	2
10.55.704(1)	Administrative Personnel: Assignment of District Superintendents	No superintendent assigned to school system				1
10.55.704(1)	Administrative Personnel: Assignment of District Superintendents	Insufficient superintendent FTE assigned to school system		1	2	3
10.55.704(2)	Administrative Personnel: Assignment of District Superintendents ( <i>Curriculum Coordinator</i> )	No curriculum coordinator assigned to school system				1
10.55.704(2)	Administrative Personnel: Assignment of District Superintendents ( <i>Curriculum Coordinator</i> )	Insufficient curriculum coordinator FTE assigned to school system		1	2	3
10.55.704(2)	Administrative Personnel: Assignment of District Superintendents ( <i>Curriculum Coordinator</i> )	Curriculum coordinator is non-licensed				1
10.55.704(2)	Administrative Personnel: Assignment of District Superintendents ( <i>Curriculum Coordinator</i> )	Curriculum coordinator is not properly endorsed			1	2
10.55.705	Administrative Personnel: Assignment of School Administrators/Principals	No principal assigned to school				1
10.55.705	Administrative Personnel: Assignment of School Administrators/Principals	Insufficient principal FTE assigned to school		1	2	3
10.55.707(1)	Teacher and Specialist Licensure	Nonlicensed teacher, specialist, or professional				1
10.55.707(1)	Teacher and Specialist Licensure	Library media specialist not properly endorsed			1	2
10.55.707(4)	Teacher and Specialist Licensure	School Counselor specialist not properly endorsed			1	2
10.55.708	Teaching Assignments	Misassigned teacher			1	2



# Accreditation Status Criteria Reference Guide

Accreditation Status Criteria Reference Guide			Consecutive Years with this Deviation			
ARM	Title	Description	Regular	Reg MD	Advice	Deficiency
10.55.709(1)	Library Media Services, K-12	No library media specialist assigned to school				1
10.55.709(1) (a-f)	Library Media Services, K-12	Insufficient library media specialist FTE assigned to school		1	2	3
10.55.710(1)	Assignment of School Counseling Staff	No school counselor assigned to school				1
10.55.710(1-2)	Assignment of School Counseling Staff	Insufficient school counselor FTE assigned to school		1	2	3
10.55.712	Class Size: Elementary	Class size exceeds the maximum number – no paraprofessional assigned		1	2	3
10.55.713	Teacher Load and Class Size: High School, Junior High, Middle School, and Grades 7 and 8 Budgeted at High School Rates	Class size exceeds maximum number		1	2	3
10.55.714(2)	Professional Development ( <i>Required Hours</i> )	School does not have the minimum of three PIR days devoted to professional development			1	2
10.55.714(3)	Professional Development ( <i>Advisory Committee</i> )	School does not have a Professional Development Advisory Committee		1	2	3
10.55.716(1)(b)	Substitute Teachers ( <i>Long-Term Substitutes</i> )	Nonlicensed long-term substitute				1
10.55.902	Basic Education Program: Middle Grades	School does not meet basic education program requirements			1	2
10.55.902(4)	Basic Education Program: Middle Grades ( <i>Minutes</i> )	Basic education program does not meet the required minutes		1	2	3
10.55.904(2)	Basic Education Program Offerings: High School	School does not meet basic education program requirements			1	2
10.55.904(2)	Basic Education Program Offerings: High School ( <i>Minutes</i> )	Basic education program does not meet the required minutes		1	2	3
20-1-301, MCA	School fiscal year. ( <i>Aggregate Hours</i> )	School does not meet required aggregate hours				1
20-9-344(2), MCA	Duties of board of public education for distribution of BASE aid. ( <i>Submittal of required reports</i> )	School did not complete required reports				1



# Accreditation Status Criteria Reference Guide

## Step 2: Determine Student Performance Standards Level

Student Performance Measures - ARM 10.55.606(3)				
	Regular	Regular MD	Advice	Deficiency
Elem ELA and Math (SBAC)	More than 15% Proficient	10.01% - 15% Proficient	5.01% - 10% Proficient	5% or Less Proficient
HS ELA and Math (ACT)	More than 15% College Ready	10.01% - 15% College Ready	5.01% - 10% College Ready	5% or Less College Ready
Elem/HS Science (CRT)	More than 15% Proficient	10.01% - 15% Proficient	5.01% - 10% Proficient	5% or Less Proficient
HS Graduation Rate	100.0% - 80.0%	79.9% - 73.0%	72.9% - 66.8%	66.7% - 0.0%

\*Schools with 9 or fewer students tested or 9 or fewer students in a graduation cohort will result in a Not Applicable (NA) status for that category.

## Step 3: Use Assurance Standards Level and Student Performance Standards Level to Determine Final Accreditation Status

Final Accreditation Status Determination - ARM 10.55.605 and ARM 10.55.606		
<i>if Assurance Standards</i>	<i>and Student Performance Standards</i>	<i>then Final Accreditation Status</i>
Regular	Regular	= <b>REGULAR</b>
Regular	Regular MD	= <b>REGULAR</b>
Regular MD	Regular	= <b>REGULAR</b>
Regular MD	Regular MD	= <b>REGULAR WITH MINOR DEVIATION</b>
REGULAR WITH MINOR DEVIATION for three consecutive years		= <b>ADVICE</b>
Advice in either Assurance or Student Performance Standards		= <b>ADVICE</b>
ADVICE Status for two consecutive years		= <b>DEFICIENCY</b>
Deficiency in either Assurance or Student Performance Standards		= <b>DEFICIENCY</b>
DEFICIENCY Status for two consecutive years		= <b>Intensive Assistance</b>

Accreditation  
Stimulates  
Continuous Improvement  
Which Stimulates  
Student Achievement



Accreditation



Continuous  
School  
Improvement



All students  
graduate from  
high school  
college- and  
career-ready

# Accreditation/School Improvement

- Level of assurance that quality meets or exceeds standards
- Mechanisms of accountability in place
- Continuous quality improvement process in place
- Improves school cultures
- Improves efficiency
- Accreditation process allows for feedback opportunities

# Annual Accreditation Process

July		
	Week 2	Board of Public Education Meeting • Recommendation of Approval/Denial of Corrective Plans
August		
	Week 1	Digital Content Providers Must Register for Upcoming School Year (first Monday)
	Week 3	TEAMS – Employment Open for Entry
September		
	Week 1	TEAMS – All Screens Open for Entry
	Week 1	CSIP (Continuous School Improvement Plan) Open for Entry
	Week 2	Board of Public Education Meeting
October		
	Week 4	Continuous School Improvement Plan Due (last business day)
November		
	Week 1	TEAMS Report Due
	Week 2	Board of Public Education Meeting
December		
January		
	Week 2	Board of Public Education Meeting
February		
March		
	Week 1	Variances to Standards Applications Due (first Monday)
	Week 2	Board of Public Education Meeting • Recommendation of Accreditation Status of School • Recommendation of Schools to Enter/Exit Intensive Assistance
April		
	Week 1	Final Accreditation Reports Sent to Schools
	Week 1	Corrective Plans Open for Entry
May		
	Week 2	Board of Public Education Meeting • Recommendation of Approval/Denial of Variances to Standards Applications
June		
	Week 1	Corrective Plans Due (June 1)
	Week 1	Digital Content Providers Must Report Districts and Students Served the Previous School Year (first Monday)



# Accreditation Links/Forms

ARM Chapter 55 Standards & Related Administrative Rules

<http://opi.mt.gov/Leadership/Assessment-Accountability/School-Accreditation/Chapter-55>

TEAMS Login, TEAMS Security Form, TEAMS Help

<http://opi.mt.gov/Leadership/Assessment-Accountability/School-Accreditation/TEAMS>

CSIP Login, CSIP Access Request, CNA (Comprehensive Needs Assessment

<http://opi.mt.gov/Leadership/Assessment-Accountability/School-Accreditation/Continuous-Improvement>

Variances to Standards, Initial & Renewal Applications, Approved Applications

<http://opi.mt.gov/Leadership/Assessment-Accountability/School-Accreditation/Variances-to-Standards>

**We're here to help. Contact us.**

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