

Graduation Accountable Rules User Guide

Introduction

The adjusted cohort graduation rates used for accountability purposes and for public reporting are based on accountable school. For most students, the accountable school is the same as their attending school, but for some students, the accountable school is different from the attending school. The [NJSLEDS Reporting Responsibilities](#) document provides a wide range of enrollment scenarios and indicates which school and district should be accountable based on each scenario.

Local education agencies (LEAs) can review each student's accountable school in the New Jersey Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (NJSLEDS) Graduation Student Level Report. LEAs can also review their graduation rate data by accountable school using the NJSLEDS High School Graduation Cohort Status Profile Report.

Using this perspective, the report shows the students that a given district is responsible for tracking graduation according to federal requirements. This perspective varies somewhat from the Attending CDS Perspective (the default for most District Reports), which displays students that are attending school in each district.

This guide will explain how the NJDOE calculates the accountable school for each student using information submitted in Student Management and/or the CDS system.

Graduation Accountable Rules

To determine the accountable district/school for a student, the business rules check to see who should be responsible based on the combination of Resident, Receiving, and Attending Codes, Grade Level, Submitting District, and In District Placement submitted in Student Management. Information in CDS, including state and federal school type, operational status, and grades offered, is also used to determine the accountable district/school.

The following rules apply for determining accountable school and district:

If Attending CDS = Receiving CDS = Resident CDS, follow the steps below:

1. If the following three requirements are all true:
 - a. Attending CDS has a valid Federal and State Type of Regular or Vocational
 - b. Attending CDS has an Operational Status that is not Closed, Future, or Inactive
 - c. Attending CDS offers grades 9, 10, 11, or 12

then **Accountable CDS = Attending CDS**.

Otherwise, proceed to step 2.

2. If the Submitting District has an Operational Status that is not Closed, Future, or Inactive, then:

- **Accountable District = Submitting District**, and
- **Accountable School = Cannot be Determined**

If no, then **Accountable District & Accountable School = Cannot Be Determined**

If Attending CDS, Receiving CDS, and Resident CDS are not all the same, follow the steps below:

3. If the following five requirements are all true:

- a. Either:
 - i. Receiving CDS has a valid Federal and State Type of Regular or Vocational School, or
 - ii. Receiving District Code = 8501 (Department of Children and Families), 8502 (Department of Corrections), or Receiving District Code = 8503 (Juvenile Justice Commission)
- b. Receiving CDS has an Operational Status that is not Closed, Future, or Inactive
- c. Receiving District is a state agency (8501, 8502, 8503) or CDS offers grades 9, 10, 11, or 12
- d. Receiving District = Submitting District
- e. Student's "In District Placement" is Other or NULL

then **Accountable CDS = Receiving CDS**.

Otherwise, proceed to step 4.

4. If the following four requirements are all true:

- a. Receiving school code = "HOM" and Attending CDS has a valid Federal and/or State Type of Vocational School
- b. Attending CDS has an Operational Status that is not Closed, Future, or Inactive
- c. Attending CDS offers grades 9, 10, 11, or 12
- d. Attending District = Submitting District

Then **Accountable CDS = Attending CDS**.

Otherwise, proceed to step 5.

5. If the following requirements are all true:

- a. Attending District = 8504, 8505, 8507, 8509, 8511, 8512, or 8513
- b. Receiving CDS is Juvenile Justice Commission (21-8503-975)
- c. Resident CDS is 21-8909-100 (state-responsible students)
- d. Receiving District = Submitting District

Then **Accountable CDS = Attending CDS**.

Otherwise, proceed to step 6.

6. If the following four requirements are all true:

- a. Resident CDS has a valid Federal and State Type of Regular or Vocational School
- b. Resident CDS has an Operational Status that is not Closed, Future, or Inactive
- c. Resident CDS offers grades 9, 10, 11, or 12
- d. Resident District = Submitting District

Then Accountable CDS = Resident CDS.

Otherwise proceed to step 7.

7. If the Submitting District has an Operational Status that is not Closed, Future, or Inactive, then:
 - **Accountable District = Submitting District, and**
 - **Accountable School = Cannot be Determined**

If no, then **Accountable District & Accountable School = Cannot Be Determined**

Please note: Accountability Rules are subject to change. Any future changes to accountability will be documented in this Guide.