

# Performance Watch Summary

## Designation Guide for Changes through HB 18-1355



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

Colorado’s accountability law was strengthened and clarified through H.B. 18-1355 to ensure all students receive a high-quality education. Within the bill, changes focused on adjustments to the performance framework process and clarifying activities for schools/districts that are on performance watch. This resource focuses on explaining the performance watch process.

Performance Watch describes the overall process of state intervention in the state’s most struggling districts and schools. Beginning in Year 1, a school or district in Priority Improvement or Turnaround (PI/T) is considered to be on the accountability clock. They may not remain in this status for more than five years without directed action by the State Board of Education. There are also added requirements for schools and districts on the accountability clock. The chart below lists the added expectations. For greater detail, see the resources listed at the end of this document.

After receiving two consecutive PI/T ratings, a school or district must receive an Improvement rating or higher for two consecutive years to exit performance watch. If a school, for example, is on Year 2 of the accountability clock and then receives an Improvement rating, the school will not progress further on the clock and will still be considered to be on performance watch in Year 2. If the school receives another Improvement rating or higher the following year, the school will exit performance watch. If the school drops back onto the accountability clock (i.e., Priority Improvement, Turnaround), then the count of years continues where it left off and the school advances to Year 3 of performance watch. For additional scenarios, see the table below.

Note that beginning with the 2019 performance frameworks, school and district plan types will go into effect immediately upon state board approval of the final ratings. This means that the state board will direct an action in the fifth year of a PI/T rating for schools and districts on performance watch. This will shorten the current process (under which schools and districts receive six years of PI/T ratings before the state board directs an action) by a year.

## Summary of Associated Requirements

Description	Clock Status	Summary of Requirements
Earned a Priority Improvement or Turnaround plan type in current year	On Clock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– General UIP requirements, plus additional planning requirements specific to accountability clock (e.g., parent engagement strategies, Turnaround strategy, Year 4 pathways planning)</li><li>– Parent notification and public hearing (each year on clock)</li><li>– Adoption of UIP by local board (each year on clock)</li><li>– Jan 15 UIP submission for CDE review. State Review Panel will review in some years.</li><li>– Community meeting (Year 3)</li><li>– Site visit with the State Review Panel (typically Year 4 and progress monitoring after directed action)</li><li>– Hearing with State Board of Education (Year 5 and subsequent years determined by board)</li></ul>



Earned an Improvement or Performance plan type after at least 2 years of being on accountability clock	On Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– General UIP requirements</li> <li>– Jan 15 UIP submission for CDE review. Biennial flexibility not available.</li> <li>– Adoption of UIP by principal for schools and superintendent or designee for districts. Local policy determines whether local board reviews or adopts plan.</li> </ul>
Received an Insufficient State Data plan type after being on accountability clock in previous year	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– General UIP requirements, plus additional planning requirements specific to accountability clock (e.g., parent engagement strategies, Turnaround strategy)</li> <li>– Parent notification and public hearing (each year on clock)</li> <li>– Adoption of UIP by local board (each year on clock)</li> <li>– Jan 15 UIP submission for CDE review. State Review Panel will review in some years.</li> </ul>

## Sample Scenarios

<b>Legend:</b>	IMP/PER = Improvement or Performance Plan Type	PI/T = Priority Improvement or Turnaround Plan Type	ISD = Insufficient State Data Plan Type
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	2018 Plan Type	2019 Plan Type	Current Year Clock	Performance Watch Status	Accountability Requirements
1	IMP/PER	IMP/PER	N/A	N/A	Improvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Annual UIP Posting Submission by April 15.</li> <li>– General UIP Requirements and Program Requirements (e.g. READ Act).</li> </ul> Performance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Optional UIP Biennial Submission</li> <li>– General UIP Requirements and Program Requirements (e.g. READ Act).</li> </ul>
2	PI/T - Y1	IMP/PER	N/A	N/A	Same as above (#1)  In 2020: If IMP/PER, then same requirements as #1. If PI/T, then on Clock Y1.
3	IMP/PER	ISD	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– UIP Annual Submission (not eligible for biennial flexibility)</li> </ul>



					– General UIP Requirements and Program Requirements (e.g. READ Act).
5	IMP/PER	PI/T – Y1	Year 1	On Clock	<p>Priority Improvement or Turnaround plan type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Notify parents of the plan type, planning process, and host public hearing with the local board.</li> <li>– Include parent involvement strategies and an early childhood needs assessment in the action plan.</li> <li>– Identify more rigorous strategies to address identified needs. Required strategies for Turnaround.</li> <li>– General UIP Requirements and Program Requirements (e.g. READ Act).</li> <li>– Submit the plan to CDE for review on January 15. UIP Annual Submission by April 15.</li> <li>– Plan adopted by local school board.</li> </ul> <p>In 2020: If IMP/PER, then will not be on clock nor on watch. If PI/T, then on clock Y2.</p>
6	PI/T – Y2	IMP/PER	Pauses at Year 2	On Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Submit the plan to CDE for review on January 15.</li> <li>– UIP Annual Posting Submission by April 15. Not eligible for biennial submission even if on Performance.</li> <li>– General UIP Requirements and Program Requirements (e.g. READ Act).</li> </ul> <p>In 2020: If IMP/PER, then school is no longer on watch. If PI/T, then on clock Y3.</p>
7	PI/T - Y1	PI/T - 2	Year 2	On Clock	<p>Same requirements as #5.</p> <p>In 2020: If IMP/PER, then on watch – Y2. If PI/T, then on clock Y3.</p>
8	PI/T - Y2	PI/T - 3	Year 3	On Clock	<p>Same requirements as #5 plus required community meeting in collaboration with CDE.</p> <p>In 2020: If IMP/PER, then on watch – Y3. If PI/T, then on clock Y4.</p>
9	PI/T - Y3	PI/T - 4	Year 4	On Clock	<p>Same requirements as #5, plus including a description of how school/district would implement the actions that the state board may direct at the year 5 hearing in UIP. State Review Panel visit is also scheduled by the spring.</p> <p>In 2020: If IMP/PER, then on watch – Y4. If PI/T, then on clock – Y5.</p>



10	PI/T – Y4	PI/T – Y5	Year 5	On Clock	Same requirements as #5. Hearing with the State Board is scheduled between Nov and Feb (over two meetings). District is encouraged to create a proposal for next steps.  In 2020: If IMP/PER, then on watch – Y5. If PI/T, then on clock – Y6.
11	PI/T 5+	PI/T 6+	Year 6+	On Clock	Same requirements as #5 with the addition of ensuring alignment of the State Board directed action within UIP. Progress monitoring will occur through CDE. The State Review Panel will visit and make recommendations to the State Board at least every two years. The state board may direct a new action.
12	PI/T - 2	ISD	Year 2 HOLD	On Clock	Same requirements as #5.  In 2020: If IMP/PER, then on watch – Y2. If ISD, then on clock – Y2. If PI/T, then on clock – Y3.
13	IMP/PER – On Watch Y2	PI/T – Y3	Year 3	On Clock	Same requirements as #8.  In 2020: If IMP/PER, then on watch – Y3. If PI/T, then on clock – Y4.
14	IMP/PER – On Watch Y2	IMP/PER	N/A	N/A	Same requirements as #1

## Additional Resources and Assistance

For more detailed information about some of these processes and requirements, go to:

- General Information about the accountability system, including links to resources: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/stateaccountability>
- General information about the Unified Improvement Planning process, including information about planning requirements and links to resources: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/uiip>
- General information about the accountability clock, including links to resources: [http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/accountability\\_clock](http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/accountability_clock)

If you have questions about the contents of this fact sheet or need further assistance, contact your assigned support coordinator. You may also contact:

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