



Recruitment of 2025-26 Accountability Work Group Members

Purpose

The Accountability Work Group (AWG) serves as an advisory group to CDE on state and federal policy implementation and practice at the state, district and school levels. This group will consider input from other stakeholders, when possible, in developing recommendations to the department. Members will engage on the various aspects of the Colorado accountability system including: frameworks, improvement planning, public reporting, stakeholder engagement, supports, accountability clock processes, awards, accreditation and studies.

While the AWG has been in operation for many years, the recent Accountability Bill (H.B. 25-1278) formalized the group as a state advisory group. This included requiring specific roles and setting representation and naming the Commissioner of Education as the appointer.

Roles

The department is seeking at least 17 representatives. At a minimum, the Commissioner must appoint:

- Four members who serve as superintendents who represent different regions of the state, including a superintendent who represents a rural school district;
- Five members who serve as school and school district leaders;
- One member who serves as a charter school leader;
- One member who works for a board of cooperative services;
- One member who represents a statewide organization serving school executives;
- One member who represents a statewide organization representing local school boards;
- One member who represents a statewide organization representing educators;
- Two members who represent an education advocacy organization or a civil rights organization; and
- One member who is a parent or who represents an organization focused on family involvement in education.

Preference will be given to individuals who

- Increase geographic representation, congressional district representation, and district setting (urban, rural, small rural)
- Have experience with the accountability clock
- Hold experience working with special populations (e.g., special education, multilingual learners, students experiencing poverty)
- Have experience in postsecondary and workforce readiness
- Have experience in education reporting and/or communications

Applying to Participate on the 2025-26 AWG

The application can be found [here](#) and is due by **Friday, September 5 @ 5pm**. All applicants will be notified of their status by mid-September. Please mark your calendar for the first meeting on Friday, September 26 from 9-11am.

Key Responsibilities

This is a general description of expectations based upon past AWG practices. The group will work on creating bylaws and may update these responsibilities over the next year.

- **Active representation of perspective**
 - Actively engage with other AWG members and CDE staff.
 - Engage in good faith to represent the range of perspectives from the seat from which you lead.
 - Vote on items, if requested.
 - Recognize the role of the AWG as an advisory body that acts to provide non-binding recommendations and feedback to CDE and the Colorado State Board of Education.
- **Input and Reporting**
 - Serve as a liaison to other constituents whose perspectives will be impacted by policy decisions and practices, especially for the groups the seat represents.
 - Gather feedback from constituent groups in anticipation of AWG discussions to best represent your seat. Conversely, share learnings and decisions from AWG with others to support effective feedback loops.
 - Represent the best interests of all students throughout the State of Colorado in discussions.
- **Commitments**
 - Participate in AWG meetings consistently (e.g., at least 75% of meetings).
 - Engage with AWG members and CDE staff in alignment with participation norms.
 - Proactively communicate when role shifts or commitments may not be met (e.g., change in position, district).
 - Understand formal appointments are made by the Commissioner of Education and serve at the will of the Commissioner.
 - Uphold the recommendations of the group and clarify when speaking as an individual.
- **Continuous Improvement**
 - Provide feedback to the department about what is working well with AWG proceedings and opportunities for improvement.
 - Recommend topics or practices that would advance strong policy implementation.

Time Commitment

The bullets below describe the expected AWG structure for the next year. As the group meets and charts a course for the year (e.g., approving bylaws), there could be adjustments.

- **Frequency:** Monthly 2-hour virtual sessions for formal meetings, typically Friday mornings 9-11 am Sept through May. There may be additional time if committing to topical work groups. The first meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 26 from 9-11am.
- **Pre/Post Work:** Approximately 1-2 hours per month (e.g., reviewing materials, providing feedback on drafts, consulting with colleagues)
- **Total Monthly Commitment:** 2-4 hours
- **Term:** Three years

Impact of AWG – Past and Future

In previous years, the AWG has been instrumental in many areas including:

- Accountability policy implementation (e.g., delay on adding On Track Growth and Higher Bar measure in frameworks as the 1241 Task Force was working on its recommendations)
- Layout of performance framework reports (e.g., accountability participation, online performance frameworks)
- Input on design and implementation of streamlined UIP template
- Guiding principles for the request to reconsider process
- Advice on accountability resources, tools and data reporting and visualizations
- Feedback on the accountability clock process

Additional Information about AWG

For more information about the AWG, visit our [website](#). You can also contact Lisa Medler (medler_l@cde.state.co.us; 303-656-6629) or Erin Loften (loften_e@cde.state.co.us; 720-475-0681).