

## **New Hampshire's Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools Definition**

The following provides details as to the information and process used by New Hampshire to identify the persistently lowest-achieving schools.

Definitions from New Hampshire's Rules for Public School Approval (NH RSA 189:25):

- A public school containing any of the grades kindergarten through 8 is classified as an elementary school.
- A public elementary school containing any combination of grades 4-8 may be classified as a public middle school, subject to meeting the rules applicable to all middle schools. (NH RSA 189:25)
- A public school or public academy containing any of the grades 9 through 12 is classified as a secondary, or high school, subject to meeting the rules applicable to all high schools.

Using the above referenced state definitions and in accordance with US Department of Education guidance entitled: "*Frequently Asked Questions Concerning Phase II of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund*" (items B-V-4 through B-V-18), New Hampshire developed the following:

New Hampshire's "persistently lowest-achieving schools" are:

- (a) Any Title I school in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring that —
  - (i) Is among the lowest-achieving five percent of Title I Schools in Need Improvement, Corrective Action, or Restructuring or the lowest-achieving five Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring in the State, whichever number of schools is greater; or
  - (ii) Is a high school that has had a graduation rate as defined in 34 CFR 200.19(b) that is less than 60 percent over a number of years;and
- (b) Any secondary school that is eligible for, but does not receive, Title I funds that —
  - (i) Is among the lowest-achieving five percent of secondary schools or the lowest-achieving five secondary schools in the State that are eligible for, but do not receive, Title I funds, whichever number of schools is greater; or
  - (ii) Is a high school that has had a graduation rate as defined in 34 CFR 200.19(b) that is less than 60 percent over a number of years.

### **IDENTIFICATION PROCESS**

Review of student achievement results. All available student achievement data for the "all students" group from New Hampshire's approved state assessment, the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP), was reviewed for each school on the above-referenced lists. Four years of NECAP data (2005-2008) was reviewed for elementary and middle schools, and two years of NECAP data (2007 and 2008) was reviewed for high schools. As the data available increases in future years, four years of data across all school attendance areas will be used. As the raw student achievement data for the state's

reading and mathematics assessments converts to a 100-point index score system, the index scores in each content area for the “all students” group were added together for each school in order to produce an annual combined score. The index system is consistent with items B-V-8 and B-V-16 through B-V-18 of the Frequently Asked Questions Concerning Phase II of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund document. The annual combined scores were then totaled (four years for elementary or middle schools and two years for high schools) to produce a cumulative achievement score for each school. New Hampshire chose not to weight data used in identifying the persistently lowest-achieving schools.

Selection of schools. For each list, schools were rank-ordered from lowest to highest on the basis of the cumulative achievement score. Schools at the top of each rank-ordered list were determined to be the state’s persistently lowest-achieving. Seven elementary and/or middle schools (5% of 132) from the Title I Schools in Need of Improvement, Corrective Action, or Restructuring list, and five high schools from the Title I Eligible list were selected (as of January 2010).

Based on the most recent four years of data, no high school in New Hampshire (as of January 2010) met the selection criteria for low graduation rate (graduation rate less than 60 percent over a number of years).

*New Hampshire's Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools*

LEA Name	NCES LEA ID	School	NCES School ID
<b>List A (Based on New Hampshire's Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools Definition)</b>			
Manchester School District	3304590	Beech Street School	330459000241
Manchester School District	3304590	Wilson School	330459000263
Manchester School District	3304590	Bakersville School	330459000240
Manchester School District	3304590	Parker Varney School	330459000254
Farmington School District	3303000	Henry Wilson Memorial School	330300000124
Franklin School District	3303090	Franklin Middle School	330309000511
Manchester School District	3304590	Gossler Park School	330459000246
<b>List B (Based on New Hampshire's Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools Definition)</b>			
Milton School District	3300616	Nute High School	330061600544
Farmington School District	3303000	Farmington Senior High School	330300000123
Pittsfield School District	3305730	Pittsfield High School	330573000366
Franklin School District	3303090	Franklin High School	330309000128
Littleton School District	3304380	Littleton High School	330438000229