FY22 SOA Plan Amendment Review and Feedback Process

# Overview

Districts’ plan amendments were reviewed against statutory requirements described in the 2019 Student Opportunity Act and against the guidelines DESE provided to districts for engaging in a meaningful plan development process and submitting a well-documented SOA plan.    These recommendations and guidelines were designed to ensure that districts' SOA plans would effectively communicate to all of the Commonwealth's stakeholders *(i.e., districts' and schools' local stakeholders, the state legislature, the broader education community, and the general public)* that we are making strong collective efforts to close opportunity gaps for student groups—particularly students with disabilities, English learners, students of color, and students from economically disadvantaged communities—and are setting ourselves up to successfully address them through the implementation of evidence-based programs and strategies. Please see additional details below.

The SOA Plan Amendment Review Criteria

SOA plan amendments were reviewed on the following substantive plan elements:

1) Analysis of opportunity gaps and selection of student groups

2) Evidence-based program selection, implementation plan, and metrics for measuring progress

3) Budget

4) Family/caregiver engagement *(i.e., the district’s overall approach to engaging families and caregivers)*

5) Stakeholder engagement, input, and opportunities to provide feedback in SOA plan development and implementation.

For each plan element described above, districts receive feedback about whether it:

* Meets SOA statutory requirements for this element of the plan and reflects DESE's recommendations for a well-developed. *No further action is required.*
* Meets SOA statutory requirement for this element of the plan. The feedback offers recommendations for strengthening this element .  *Districts have the option of addressing recommendations, but they are not required to do so.*
* Does not meet SOA statutory requirements for this element of the plan.  *The feedback detail will indicate what steps the district needs to take to meet statutory requirements.*

#  Timeline

* **Week of May 23:** Districts receive feedback on their FY22 SOA Plan Amendments
* **May 23-June 24:**  SOA Office Hours. [Schedule a 20-30 minute consultation](https://koalendar.com/e/soa-consultation) with one of our SOA team members. Districts can also reach us by email at any time at SOAPlans@mass.gov .
* **Friday June 30:** Due date for submission of required and optional changes to SOA plan amendments
* **On or before July 15:** Plans are posted publicly on DESE's SOA Website