

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Implementation Tasks and Timelines
Chapter 12 of the Acts of 2010 *An Act Relative to the Achievement Gap*
March 2010 Update

Requirement	Action	Proposed Date
Regulations		
Promulgate regulations on School and District Accountability/Assistance	Presented draft regulations on Level 4 school identification for discussion and vote to solicit public comment	January 26, 2010
Promulgate regulations on School and District Accountability/Assistance	Present revised regulation on Level 4 school identification for approval	March 23, 2010
Promulgate regulations on School and District Accountability/Assistance	Presented draft regulations on School and District Accountability and Assistance to the Board for discussion and vote to solicit public comment	February 23, 2010
Promulgate regulations on Charter Schools	Present proposed amendments to Charter School regulations to the Board for discussion and vote to solicit public comment	March 23, 2010
Promulgate regulations on Innovation Schools, including virtual schools	Present proposed regulations on Innovation Schools, including virtual schools, to the Board for discussion and vote to solicit public comment	April 27, 2010
Promulgate regulations on School and District Accountability/Assistance	Vote to adopt final regulations	April 27, 2010
Promulgate regulations on Charter Schools	Vote to adopt final regulations	May 25, 2010
Promulgate regulations on Innovation Schools	Vote to adopt final regulations	June 22, 2010

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Implementation: School and District Accountability and Assistance		
Lowest 20 percent of schools	Develop a single measure to identify schools that score in the lowest 20 percent statewide among schools serving common grade levels, that takes into account student performance data	Completed March 2010
Student academic improvement factor	Develop a plan to implement the inclusion of improvement in student academic achievement data	January 1, 2011
Student academic improvement factor	Implement the inclusion of improvement in student academic achievement data	September 2011
Receiver evaluation	Develop guidelines for the written evaluation of a receiver	June 2011
Level 4 school	Designate Level 4 schools	March 4, 2010 Identified 35 “likely”
Turnaround Plans	Develop guidelines for a Level 4 turnaround plan	March 2010
Coordination with other state agencies	Develop guidelines to assist in facilitating turnaround plans and coordination of other state and local services	June 2010
Annual Review	Determine a format for the annual review of Level 4 schools and the appointment of an external examiner (if needed) for July 1, 2011 implementation by superintendents	January 2011
Commissioner’s Evaluation of the Annual Progress Review	Determine evaluation criteria of the annual performance goals and subsequent action	October 2010
Three Year Review	Determine procedures to conduct a review of the school and criteria to determine whether the school has improved sufficiently, requires further improvement or has failed to improve	October 2012
Level 5 Schools	Develop guidelines for a turnaround plan for a Level 5 school	October 2012
Quarterly Report and Annual Evaluation	Develop a template for quarterly reporting and an annual evaluation of a Level 5 school to the superintendent and school committee	October 2012
Lowest 10 percent of districts	Develop a single measure that takes into account student achievement data	June 2010

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	to determine lowest 10 percent of districts	
Level 5 Districts	Establish guidelines for creating a district turnaround plan	October 2010
Annual Review	Determine a format for the annual review of Level 5 district performance	October 2010
Municipal Fiscal Failure	Establish guidelines for declaring a school district as Level 5 if a municipality has failed to fulfill its fiscal responsibilities	October 2010
Implementation: Charter Schools		
List of districts eligible under cap lift	Determine districts in the lowest 10 percent of all statewide student performance scores	April 2010 Draft
Charter School Application	Revise charter school application	April 2010
Application Approval Criteria	Update criteria for the approval of a charter application	April 2010
Renewal of a Charter	Revise charter renewal checklist	May 2010
Recruitment and Retention Plan	Establish guidelines for recruitment and retention plan	May 2010
Recruitment and Retention Plan	Notify charter schools of requirement to have a recruitment and retention plan in effect for the 2011-2012 school year	May 2010
Third Party Mail House	Authorize a third party mail house for use by the districts and charter school applicants	June 2010
Waitlist	Establish guidelines and waitlist procedures for filling a vacancy	June 1, 2010 for annual reporting
Charter School Net Asset Balance	Set requirements for reporting a charter school's net asset balance at the end of the fiscal year	June 2010
Charter School Annual Audit	Review charter school annual audit guidelines	June 2010
Horace Mann Technical Assistance	Provide technical assistance to school districts interested in developing a Horace Mann Charter School application	April 2010
Dissemination of successful innovation	Disseminate successful innovation programs and provide technical assistance for district replication	Ongoing
Model Policy for Re-entry to School District	Draft policy for school districts regarding the grade placement and eligibility for high school graduation of students leaving a Commonwealth	June 2010

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	charter school and seeking to enroll in a district school	
Charter School Public Hearings	Board member attends public hearing in the school district of the proposed charter school	December 2010 (done in 2009)
Award Commonwealth and Horace Mann charters	Make recommendations to the Board on new charter school applicants based on the revised charter school law	February 2011
Collective Purchasing	Notify charter schools regarding collective purchasing provision	February 2010
Education Collaboratives	Notify charter schools regarding eligibility to join an educational collaborative	February 2010
Charter School Reimbursement	Calculate appropriate payments under the new payment schedule	2012
Implementation: Innovation Schools		
Innovation Plan	Establish guidelines for other measures of achievement that may be used in an innovation plan	June 2010
Annual Evaluation	Establish guidelines for the annual evaluations to be submitted to the commissioner annually	June 2010
Planning and Implementation Grants	Prepare RFPs and administer grant program	Pending funding
Technical Assistance	Provide technical assistance and support to eligible applicants	Pending funding
Best practices	Collect and disseminate best practices that may be adopted by other schools	June 2011
Reports	Subject Matter	Proposed Date
Charter School Study	On the possibility of allowing students living outside of the Commonwealth who are eligible to attend a public school to be eligible to attend charter schools—to the Joint Committee on Education	August 15, 2010
Charter School Cumulative Surplus Revenue Report	On certification of the amounts in excess of 20 percent of the school's operating budget and its capital cost for the fiscal year—to the school	December 1, 2010; annually

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	committee of the sending district(s) and applicable board of selectmen or city council	
Charter School Student Data Collection	On student data: racial, ethnic and socio-economic status and the number of students enrolled with IEPs and those requiring English language learners programs-to the Legislature	December 1, 2010; annually
Inclusion of Growth in Intervention	On the Department's plan to implement the inclusion of improvement in student academic achievement data-to the Joint Committee on Education	January 1, 2011
School and District Intervention	On the implementation and fiscal impact of underperforming and chronically underperforming schools and chronically underperforming districts-to the Legislature	August 1, 2011; annually
School Finance Study	On the status of the public education financing system in the Commonwealth as it currently exists-to the Joint Committee on Education	December 31, 2011
Innovation Schools	On the implementation and fiscal impact of Innovation Schools-to the Legislature	December 31, 2011; annually