Resource Allocation Review

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development
Brittnay Bailey, School Improvement Program Administrator

April 1, 2025
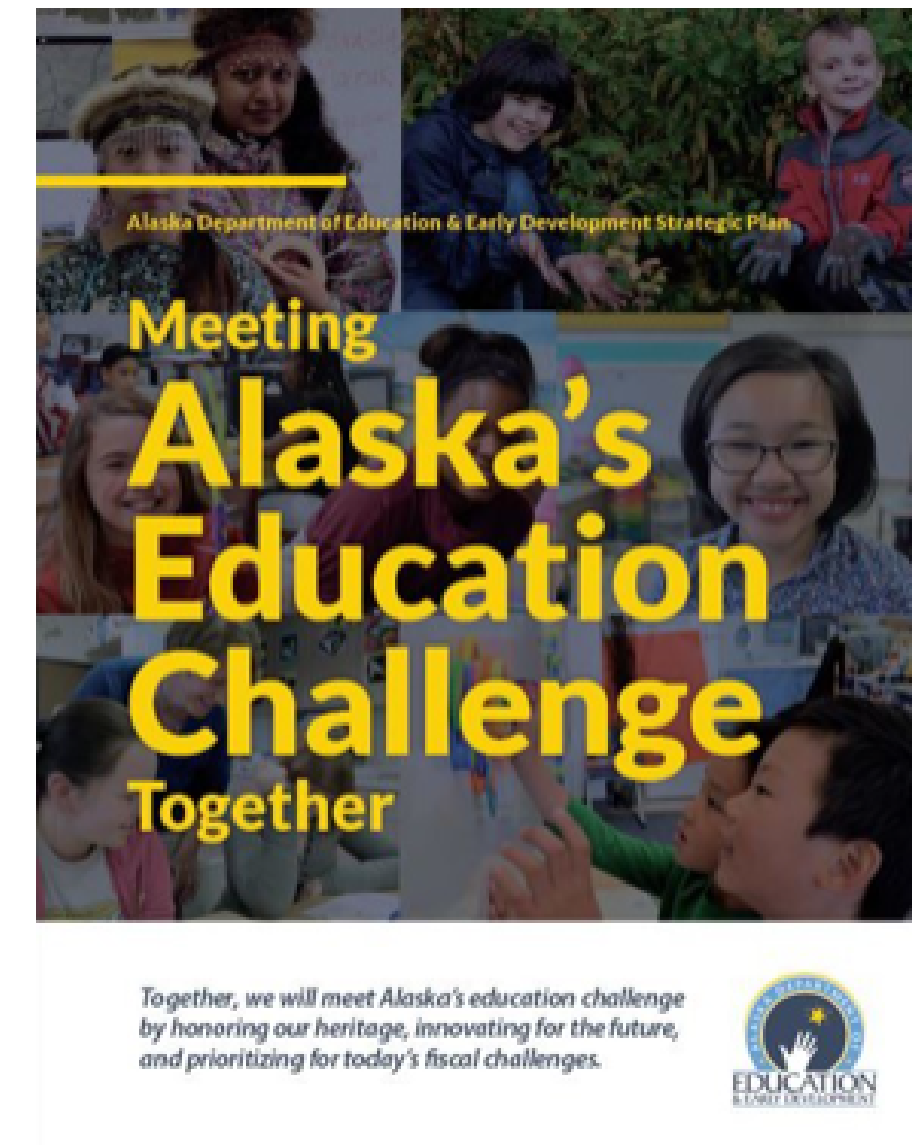
An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day

Mission, Vision, and Purpose

Mission	Vision	Purpose
An excellent education for every student every day.	All students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them. - Alaska Statute 14.03.015	DEED exists to provide **information**, **resources**, and **leadership** to support an excellent education for every student every day.

Strategic Priorities: Alaska's Education Challenge

Five Shared Priorities:
1. Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.
2. Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.
3. Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.
4. Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.
5. Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.
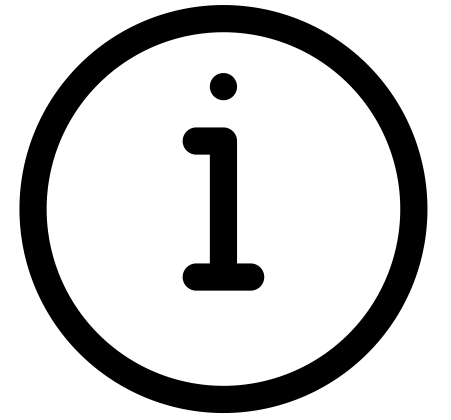

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development Strategic Plan

Meeting **Alaska's Education Challenge** Together

Together, we will meet Alaska's education challenge by honoring our heritage, innovating for the future, and prioritizing for today's fiscal challenges.

education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge

Agenda

- Resource Allocation Review as defined by ESSA
- Selection Criteria
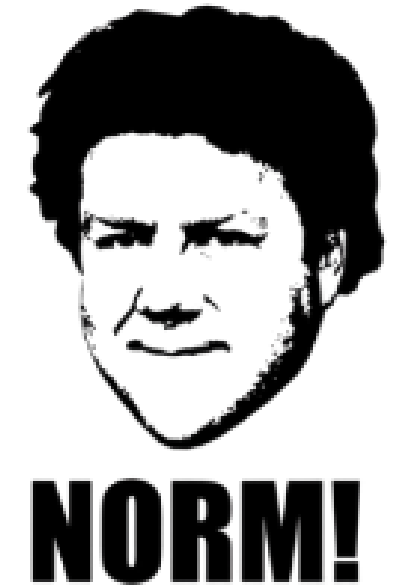- Timeline
- RAR Expectations
  - State
  - LEAs

DISCLAIMER

As this is very new for all of us, there will likely be many questions, and unfortunately not many answers at this moment. To maximize time and effort, we will ask that you put questions in the chat, which will be collected, researched, and responded to in an FAQ later this month.
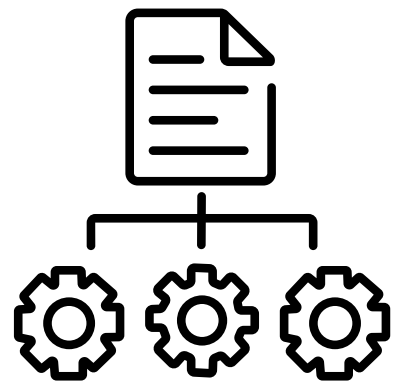
Norms

- Put your questions in the chat
  - Reminder that questions will not be answered in real-time during this information session
- Reach out to your SI Point of Contact if you have general school improvement questions

Resource Allocation Review (RAR)

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires state education agencies (SEAs) to conduct a periodic resource allocation review (RAR) in districts with a substantial number of low-performing schools. The RAR does not offer prescriptive guidance but offers SEAs an opportunity to design a thoughtful process that provides meaningful support to districts and schools. The RAR's primary objective is to enable local education agencies (LEAs) and schools to create connections between identified needs, evidence-based strategies, and resource allocation methods used to support program designs that address resource inequities and create equitable opportunities to improve the education experience of all students.
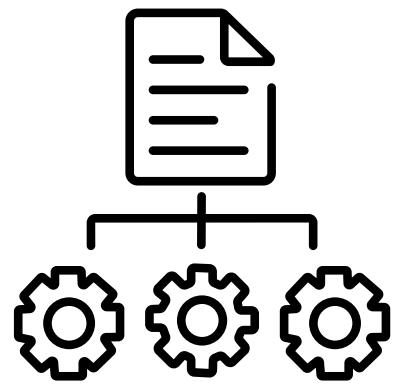
ESSA Section 1111(d)(3)(ii)

RAR Breakdown

Required: SEAs to conduct a <u>periodic</u> resource allocation review in districts with a <u>substantial</u> number of low-performing schools.

- Periodic
  - Annually for three years
  - Once every three years after that (starting Fall 2028 (with CSI 5%))
- Substantial
  - 40% or more schools identified for ESSA support
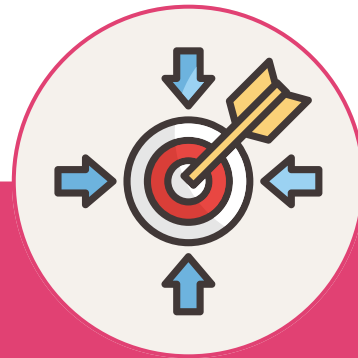 - At least one identified for CSI 5%, MRI, or CSI-TSI support

RAR Breakdown

Objective: Enable districts and schools to create connections between <u>identified needs</u>, <u>evidence-based strategies</u>, and <u>resource allocation methods</u>

- Needs identified through
    - District Strategic Plan
    - District Needs Assessment
    - School Needs Assessment

Evidence-based strategies to support these needs

- Methodology Review
    - What are the district employed methodologies?
    - How might they be impacting identified inequities?

EDUCATION
& EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Resource Allocation Review (RAR)

What the RAR is

A process to align resources to improve student outcomes

What the RAR is not

An evaluation or accountability measure; it does not result in punitive action against a district or school

What the RAR could be

An opportunity to design innovative strategies that leverage resources beyond funding

LEA Selection Criteria for RAR

DEED will identify:

- Up to 5 districts with
  - ○ 40% or more schools identified for ESSA support
  - ○ At least one CSI 5%, CSI-MRI, or CSI-TSI identified school
  - ○ Does not have 100% schools identified

RAR Projected Timeline

Nov 2025: Districts notified of selection for RAR
- Selected districts will identify RAR team (which should include district leader, fiscal director, available school leaders)

Early Dec/Jan: 30 min Orientation Meeting - Data Collection

Jan/Feb: 90 min RAR Discussion Protocol

The objective is to identify needs and adjustments that can be made prior to budgeting and recruitment for the following year
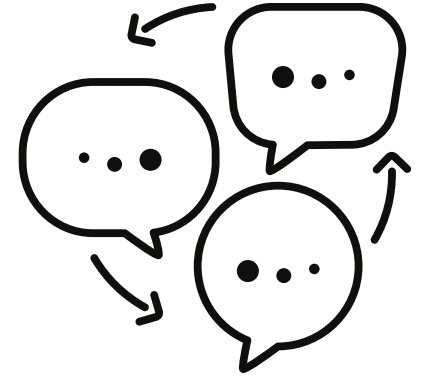
Data Collection

Requested, but not limited to:

- Accountability indicators by student groups (Compass)
- Fiscal data, including spending by program (Title I, CTE, etc)
- Staffing and licensure data
- Academic and behavior data
- Attendance data
- Master schedules
- Instructional minutes

Data should include all schools within the district

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Discussion Protocol

1. SEA invites questions from the LEA and school leader(s) on the data provided.

2. SEA asks LEA leader to briefly describe the LEA's current resource allocation methodology.

3. SEA asks LEA and school leader(s) to reflect on the level of dollar resources allocated to the school.

4. SEA invites reflection on how to better leverage resources to do more for students (including changing the mix of resources, identifying barriers, etc.).

5. SEA invites discussion of possible opportunities and barriers.

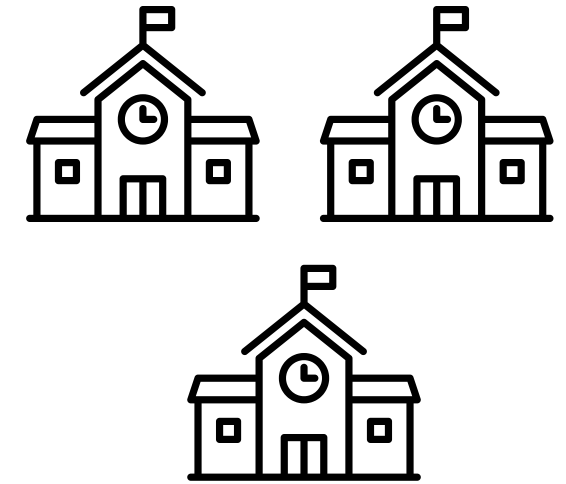6. LEA and school leader(s) reflect on discussion and identify next steps.

State Responsibilities

- Provide a resource tool (working on it)
- Support with state-provided data
  - Connect with other programs and align data needs and requests
- Include clearer resource review portion into SIP and Needs Assessment
- Establish RAR timeline
- Facilitate RAR discussion

LEA Responsibilities

- Current district resource allocation methodologies
- Academic and behavior data
- Attendance data (student and staff)
- Master schedules
- Instructional minutes
- Staffing and recruitment practices

RAR Overview

- The RAR supports LEAs in identifying resource inequities (human, fiscal, time, materials, etc.) and to develop strategies to address those inequities
- The RAR is a team-based inquiry process in which the participants focus on the equitable distribution of available assets within a school and/or district to meet the needs of each student.

Context Matters

- We are not expecting miracles or even huge changes
- This is the start of an enduring process - we will not get it 100% on the first pass
- Above all, this is a reflection, conversation, and opportunity

Upcoming Dates and Events:

- April 8-9: ESEA Workshop in Anchorage

- May 1: SI Spring Convening in Anchorage

- May 2-4: SOR Symposium in Anchorage

- May 15: FY26 Plans and budgets due in GMS

- June 30: FER closure for FY25

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Slides and Recording will be available on the <u>SRS webinars</u> page in the next few days

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