

Alternative Education Campus Work Group 2024-25 Recruitment

Periodically the department engages stakeholders related to the Alternative Education Campus (AEC) policy and practices, including the AEC Performance Framework and AEC review and approval process. In 2015, H.B. 15-1350 created the AEC Accountability Work Group to refine and update the current AEC accountability system. It has been almost 10 years since a group of stakeholders convened. Since that time, there are processes that need to be modernized (e.g., review of new and existing options measures for technical rigor, review distribution of AEC plan types), as well as processes that deserve ongoing stakeholder engagement and continuous improvement (e.g., explore efficiencies on data collection, gather feedback on possible supports). Therefore, the department intends to again engage stakeholders in a review of current AEC framework components, supports and flexibilities. The department is proposing a series of meetings and small work groups to reexamine the AEC Frameworks. All interested parties are encouraged to participate; however, note that the more technical work group will be through invitation.



Proposed Workgroup Topics for 2024-25 School Year

- **AEC Framework Optional Measures** - The group will review all current optional measures to determine validity, quality and equity across AECs. Certain measurement approaches may no longer meet standards for inclusion in AEC Frameworks, as determined by technical validity review.
 - **AEC Framework Comparability** - Current AEC Frameworks are not demonstrating the expected plan type distributions, as seen in traditional SPF/DPF. The department will present proposals on revised cut scores for frameworks to shore up expectations.
- **AEC Designation and Renewal** - The group will provide feedback on data collections, reviews and designation eligibility annually. Feedback is also wanted on audits of submitted data, as well as planned site visits.
- **AEC Supports** - Over time CDE has developed a variety of supports for AECs, including diagnostic reviews, improvement planning supports, grant re-configuration and technical measures assistance. Feedback is needed on the types of additional support that may be beneficial. Consideration will be given for bright-spots, sharing out success in measurement and planning, and cross AEC collaboration.

Who Should Apply to Participate?

Anyone with an interest in AEC accountability is encouraged to participate; although, participation is not mandatory. The department will use these work groups to determine future policy and implementation. This is an opportunity to provide your feedback and get a sense of the direction. We are looking for the following types of representatives:

- **AEC Leaders:** Principals, building staff, current or former.
- **District Accountability and Assessment Leaders:** Staff who support the development and submission of optional measures on behalf of AECs.
- **CDE Staff, Community Partners, Organizations supporting AECs:** Partners in supporting the success of AECs.



Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be a mix of virtual and in-person meetings, with a full group kickoff and closure meeting, and a set of small working groups focused on specific topics.

- **Kickoff Meeting** - Full Group Virtual: December 3, 2024. The focus will be on setting the stage for the work. It would be ideal to have a representative from all districts that have an AEC present.
- **Small Group Work:** January-March
 - **Group 1 - Optional Measures Validity Review, Norming and Differentiation.** This group needs to have representatives with more of a technical background. This will be through invitation only.
 - Meeting 1 - In Person - January 10, 2025
 - Problem definition, review current normative structure
 - Overview of current measure misalignment and recommendations for modifications
 - Review proposals for re-norming, sunseting measures
 - Meeting 2 - Virtual - February 14, 2025
 - Review of measure proposals and feedback
 - Review of re-norming approach and feedback
 - Meeting 3 - Virtual - March 11, 2025
 - Review of negotiation and approval process, timeline modifications
 - **Group 2 -Data Collection, AEC Designation, and Audit Process.** Anyone involved in AEC data collections is encouraged to apply.
 - Meeting 1 - Virtual January 14, 2025
 - Overview of current process, feedback
 - Meeting 2- Virtual February 6, 2025
 - Review proposal for identification, collection, and site visit process.
 - **Group 3 - AEC Supports.** Anyone associated with an AEC and that has ideas on how CDE can best provide support is encouraged to apply.
 - Meeting 1 - Virtual - January 16, 2025
 - Overview of current grant offerings, technical assistance, and diagnostic tools
 - Discussion on current state and federal accountability expectations and related supports
 - Meeting 2 - Virtual - February 11, 2025
 - Discussion on support offerings
- **Final Proposals and Wrap Up** - Full Group Virtual - March 2024. The focus will be on summarizing the small group recommendations and next steps. It would be ideal to have a representative from all districts that have an AEC present. The focus of the meeting will be on recommendations from the three work groups, proposed modifications for 2025-26 and next steps.

Application Process and Contact information

To apply to join the workgroup, [fill out this survey](#) by November 15. For more information about the process, contact Lisa Steffen at steffen_l@cde.state.co.us or 720-498-3020.