The October 2008 Title I regulations require each state to establish a single graduation rate goal and annual targets that reflect continuous and substantial improvement from the prior year toward meeting or exceeding the goal (C.F.R. § 200.19 (b)(3)(i)(A)-(B)). In January 2010, each state submitted its goal and targets for peer review and U.S. Department of Education (Department) approval. The Department then worked with each state to help ensure that its goal and targets complied with the regulations. As of August, 2010, the Department has approved the goal and targets for 49 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.[1] This table shows the goal and targets for each approved state.

The Department approved each state's goal and targets for adequate yearly progress (AYP) determinations based on 2009–2010 and 2010–2011 assessment results. States will use their approved goal and targets as they transition to the regulatory four-year adjusted-cohort graduation rate calculation required for AYP determinations based on 2011–2012 assessment results.

Approved Graduation Rate Goal and Targets

STATE	GOAL	TARGET
Alabama	90	10 percent of the difference between the goal and the previous year graduation rate
Arizona	80	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Arkansas	85	70 percent*
California	90	The difference between the previous year graduation rate and the statewide goal of 90 percent, divided by the number of years between the previous year and 2020
Colorado	80	63 percent* or an increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Connecticut	85	70 percent* or an increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Delaware	90	84 percent* (target increases one and one-half percentage points each year) or improvement of two percentage points (Schools with rates < 84 do not make AYP unless the rate has improved two percentage points from the previous year.)
District of Colombia	85	10 percent reduction in the percentage of non-graduating students from the previous year
Florida	85	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year

[1] New Jersey was previously approved to use high school drop-out rate as its other academic indicator for AYP determinations based on 2009–2010 assessment results. It will submit for Department approval its graduation rate goal and targets for use in AYP determinations based on 2010–2011 assessment results in fall 2010. In order for an amended graduation rate goal and targets to take effect in Alaska, they must become part of state regulation. The required procedures for making changes to its state regulations prevented Alaska from being able to implement an amended graduation rate goal and targets for AYP determinations based on 2009–2010 assessment results. The state has indicated its intent to make the requisite changes with respect to its graduation rate goal and targets for AYP determinations based on 2010–2011 assessment results.

*Target for adequate yearly progress (AYP) determinations based on 2009–2010 assessment results.

STATE	GOAL	TARGET
Georgia	100	80 percent* (target increases five percentage points each year) or 10 percent increase from previous year; 60 percent minimum threshold (Schools with rates < 60 do not make AYP; schools with rates ≥ 60 but < 80 do not make AYP unless they have improved 10 percent from the previous year.)
Hawaii	90	85 percent
Idaho	90	Increase of at least two percentage points from the previous year
Illinois	85	78* (Schools with rates < 78 do not make AYP.)
Iowa	95	80.9* (target increases two percentage points each year) or increase of at least two percentage points from the previous year
Indiana	90	Schools between 80 and 89.9 percent: 90 percent or increase at least three percentage points; schools between 65 and 78.0 percent: 90 percent or increase at least four percentage points; schools below 65 percent: 90 percent or grow at least five percentage points
Kansas	80	Schools < 50 percent: increase of at least five percent of the previous graduation rate; schools > 50 percent but < the goal, increase of at least three percent of the previous graduation rate
Kentucky	98	86.75 percent* (target increases two and one-quarter percentage points each year) or two percentage point increase from the previous year
Louisiana	80	63 percent* (target increases approximately two percentage points each year) or gap reduction (Schools with rates < 63 do not make AYP unless they have met their growth targets.)
Maine	90	80* (target increases three percentage points each year)
Massachusetts	95	70 percent* (target increases five percentage points every other year) or increase of at least two percentage points from the previous year (Schools with rates < 70 do not make AYP unless they have improved two percentage points from the previous year or meet the five year target.)
Massachusetts: 5-year	100	75 percent* (target increases five percentage points every other year) (Schools that do not meet the four-year rate targets may make AYP if they meet the five-year rate target.)
Maryland	90	85.5 percent* (target increases two and one-quarter percentage points every two years) or growth target based on the distance of a school's graduation rate and the goal of 90 percent divided by the number of years left to reach the goal by 2014
Michigan	80	25 percent of the difference between the goal and the previous year graduation rate
Michigan: 5-year	80	School must meet the 80 percent goal to make AYP using the 5-year rate.
Michigan: 6-year	80	School must meet the 80 percent goal to make AYP using the 6-year rate.

*Target for adequate yearly progress (AYP) determinations based on 2009–2010 assessment results.

STATE	GOAL	TARGET
Minnesota	85	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Missouri	85	Schools between 75 and 85 percent expected to improve at least two percentage points per year; schools with rates < 75 percent expected to improve at least five percentage points per year
Mississippi	85	63 percent* (target increases three percentage points in 2011 and then five percentage points every other year) (Schools with rates < 63 do not make AYP unless they meet the five-year target.)
Mississippi: 5-year	85	65 percent* (target increases toward the goal)
Montana	85	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Nebraska	90	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Nevada	85	10 percent reduction in the percentage of students leaving school without a standard diploma
New Hampshire	95	75 percent* (Schools with rates < 75 do not make AYP.)
New Mexico	85	63 percent* (target increases two percentage points each year) (Schools with rates < 63 do not make AYP.)
New York	80	10 percent of the difference between the goal and the previous year graduation rate; at least one percentage point increase required
North Carolina	80	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year
North Carolina: 5-year	80	Increase of three percentage points from the previous year
North Dakota	89	10 percent reduction in non-graduates against the goal from the previous year graduation rate
Ohio	91.2	73.6 percent* (target increases toward the goal) or improvement of two percentage points (Schools with rates < 73.6 do not make AYP unless the rate has improved two percentage points from the previous year.)
Oklahoma	100	67.8 percent* or 10 percent of the difference between the previous year rate and the goal
Oregon	90	65* (target remains 65 for 2009–10 and 2010–11 and then increases three percentage points each year) (Schools with rates < 65 do not make AYP.)
Pennsylvania	85	82.5 percent* or 10 percent of the difference between the goal and the previous year graduation rate (Schools with rates < 82.5 do not make AYP unless their rates have increased by 10 percent of the difference between the goal and the previous year graduation rate.)
Puerto Rico	85	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Rhode Island	90	76.7 percent* (target increases 3.3 percentage points each year) (Schools with rates < 76.7 do not make AYP.)

*Target for adequate yearly progress (AYP) determinations based on 2009–2010 assessment results.

STATE	GOAL	TARGET
South Carolina	88.3	78 percent or an increase of two percentage points from the previous year
South Dakota	85	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Tennessee	90	Individual targets identified by subtracting the 2003–2004 rate from the state goal and dividing by the number of years between 2003–2004 and 2013–2014. If a school does not meet this target, it can also make AYP by meeting all three of the following: 1) graduation rate is within two percentage points of the target; 2) graduation rate is maintained or improved from the prior year, and; 3) overall improvement on the event dropout rate.
Texas	90	75 percent* (target increases each year to reach 90) or 10 percent decrease in the difference between the previous year graduation rate and the goal (Schools with rates < 75 do not make AYP unless they have met their growth targets.)
Texas: 5-year	90	80 percent* (target increases each year to reach 90) (Schools with rates < 80 do not make AYP unless they have met their growth targets.)
Utah	85.7	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Vermont	86	15 percent of the difference between 100 percent the previous year
Vermont: 5-year	86	20 percent of the different between 100 percent and the previous year
Vermont: 6-year	86	25 percent of the different between 100 percent and the previous year
Virginia	80	10 percent reduction in the percentage of non-graduating students from the previous year
Washington	85	73 percent* (target increases three percentage points each year) (Schools with rates < 73 do not make AYP unless the rate has improved four percentage points from the previous year.)
Washington: 5-year	85	73 percent* (Schools with rates < 73 do not make AYP unless the rate has improved four percentage points from the previous year.)
West Virginia	90	10 percent of the difference between the goal and the previous year graduation rate
Wisconsin	85	Increase of two percentage points from the previous year
Wyoming	80	Increase of percentage points based on current graduation rate; increases required range from six percentage points for schools with rates between 65 and 75 percent to 11 percentage points for schools with rates lower than 25 percent

*Target for adequate yearly progress (AYP) determinations based on 2009–2010 assessment results.