

WAC 392-501-707 Authority. The authority for these rules is RCW 28A.657.020, 28A.657.030, and 28A.657.100, which require the superintendent of public instruction to annually:

(1) Identify challenged schools in need of improvement and a subset of such schools that are the persistently lowest-achieving schools in the state;

(2) Recommend school districts for designation as required action districts to the state board of education; and

(3) Make recommendations to the state board of education regarding the release of school districts from being designated as a required action district.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.657.020, 28A.657.030, and 28A.657.100. WSR 10-24-057, § 392-501-707, filed 11/29/10, effective 12/1/10.]

WAC 392-501-710 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to:

(1) Adopt criteria for identifying challenged schools in need of improvement and a subset of such schools that are the persistently lowest-achieving schools in the state;

(2) Establish criteria for recommending to the state board of education school districts for required action; and

(3) Establish exit criteria for districts that receive a required action designation.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.657.020, 28A.657.030, and 28A.657.100.
WSR 10-24-057, § 392-501-710, filed 11/29/10, effective 12/1/10.]

WAC 392-501-715 Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter,
the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Challenged schools in need of improvement" are the lowest achieving schools within the state. Challenged schools in need of improvement include priority schools and focus schools.
- (2) "Schools" are the public schools of the state, including schools that are eligible to use Title I funds for school wide programs, schools that participate in Title I by using Title I funds for school wide programs, schools that are not eligible to use Title I funds, and charter schools.
- (3) "Title I" is Title I, Part A of the elementary and secondary education act of 1965, as amended.
- (4) The "Washington achievement index" is a system developed by the state board of education pursuant to RCW.28A.657.110 to identify schools and school districts for recognition, for continuous improvement, and for additional state support. The Washington achievement index includes an "all students group" category, a "targeted subgroups" category and student

subgroup categories including American Indian, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, White, Two or More Races, low income, students with disabilities, English language learners.

WAC 392-501-720 Process and criteria for identifying challenged schools in need of improvement.

(1) By February 1 of every year, the superintendent of public instruction will identify challenged schools in need of improvement using the following criteria:

(a) Priority schools are the persistently lowest achieving schools in the state. Priority schools are (i) schools in the priority-lowest 5% tier of the Washington achievement index for the all students group in reading, writing, science, mathematics and beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, English language arts, combined for the past three consecutive years based on the composite index score, or (ii) secondary schools that have a weighted-average five-year adjusted cohort graduation rate that is less than sixty percent based on the past three consecutive years.

(b) Focus schools are (i) schools that are in the underperforming tier of the Washington achievement index in one or more student subgroup categories in reading, writing, science, mathematics and, begin-

ning in the 2014-2015 school year, English language arts, combined for the past three consecutive years based on the composite index score, or (ii) high schools that have a five-year adjusted cohort graduation rate that is less than sixty percent among one or more of student subgroup categories for the past three consecutive years.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.657.020, 28A.657.030, and 28A.657.100. WSR 10-24-057, § 392-501-720, filed 11/29/10, effective 12/1/10.]