

On-Site & In-Coding: What to Expect from Accreditation In 2026-2027

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Agenda

1

Vision

*Creating a Coherent
System*

*Pillars of
Accreditation*

2

Cycle

Rotation

*On-Site Evidence
Collection*

3

Visits

*When will visits
happen?*

What to expect?

4

Systems

*Matrix of
Expectations*

5

Improvement

Corrective Action



Vision

What is the vision for Monitoring
& Accreditation?

ADE's Vision for Coherent District & School System



*Districts and schools are best equipped to effectively drive student learning through **actionable data, planning, guidance, and support.***

District and School Letter Grades

Defines the bar for excellence in Arkansas

Standards for Accreditation

Provides **foundational expectations** that create conditions for student success in Arkansas districts and schools.



AR App

Aligns district budgets to **their priorities**, allowing them to select the curriculum, training, and supports that will improve student outcomes based on their district needs.



School Improvement Plans

Provides an **actionable plan** for schools to target and improve student outcomes, based on their identified needs.

Monitoring & Accreditation



Why shift to On-Site & In-Coding Monitoring?



Ensuring all districts in the state are meeting foundational expectations in key areas.



Informing direct support to districts to improve student outcomes.



Moving all districts in Arkansas toward increased success.

Monitoring & Accreditation: Combined by Theme



Standards for Accreditation System

- Academics
- Student Support Services
- District Operations and Fiscal Governance
- Human Capital
- Stakeholder Communication/Family Engagement
- Facilities and Transportation

Total Indicators: 100+



New Standards for Accreditation

- Improving Academic Outcomes
- Safe and Healthy Schools
- Quality Educational Workforce
- District Governance

Total Indicators: 19

Pillars of Accreditation



Improving Academic Outcomes

AR App District Strategic Plan

Use of HQIM & HQPL as identified in AR App

Standards-Aligned Instruction and Course Offerings

Arkansas Academic Standards taught in each class

Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

SPED, ALE, GT, ELL

Science of Reading Literacy curriculum & Dyslexia Services

Assessment

95% of students



Safe and Healthy Schools

Safe and Healthy Schools

Exterior Doors

Student Safety and Engagement

Comprehensive School Safety Assessment

Health Services

Counseling Services



Quality Educational Workforce

Quality Educational Workforce

Licensure Requirements

Educator Mentorship and Annual Ratings

Background Check Requirements



District Governance

Class Size and Teaching Load

Calendar

Fiscal Governance

Written Policies and Plans

Accreditation Cycles

When and how will Districts be
monitored?

The New Accreditation Cycle



SEMI-ANNUAL ACCREDITATION STATUS
Districts must maintain continuous Accredited Status across all years within the five-year accreditation cycle.

SEMESTER 1

Data Monitoring of
Statewide
Information Systems

*Status determined
in December*

SEMESTER 2

Data Monitoring of
Statewide
Information Systems

*Status determined
in April*



Evidence for Monitoring

What will be monitored in
2026-2027

On-Site

What we see in practice

- Instruction
- Safety
- Implementation of AR App goals

In-Coding

What systems report

- eSchool
- eFinance
- AELS
- LEA Profile

On-Site Visits

What will a visit look like?

Preparing for On-Site Visits



What to expect

Physical Logistics



- Provide a key or access badge for all instructional and secured spaces



- Ensure campus maps with room numbers are readily available.



- Calendar sync for activity dates

The Human Element

DESE will hold brief, informal planning conversations with school leadership.

Ensure availability of:



District
Administrator



Building
Administrator

Who for On-Site Visits?



- Coordination

- District Leadership
- Building Leadership

- Interviews

- District Leadership
- Building Leadership
- School Counselor(s)
- Dyslexia Interventionist(s)
- Teachers

- DESE Monitoring Team

- DESE Units

- Accelerated and Gifted & Talented Services
- Learning Services
- Alternative Learning Environment
- School Safety
- English Learner
- Special Education
- Health Services

Systems

What will be monitored for each section?

Note: *All monitoring criteria, interview questions, etc. will be shared with districts*

Improving Academic Outcomes

Academic Standard Aligned Materials and Support

On-Site

- HQIM
- Instruction aligned to AR Academic Standards
- Student work demonstrates engagement with and application of grade-level content

Interview

- District Leader
- Building Leader
- Teacher

In-Coding

- AR App

Sample Question

What professional learning has the district provided in relation to the use of HQIM?

Standards 1-A.7 & 1-A.8



Improving Academic Outcomes

Required Courses and Instructional Time

On-Site

- Required courses provided on-site match the master schedule
- Bell schedule aligns with reported instructional minutes

Interview

- District Leader
- Building Leader
- Teacher

In-Coding

- eSchool Calendar
- eSchool Master Schedule

Standards 1-A.1, 1-A.2, 1-A.3, 1-A.4, 1-C.2, 2-K.1,



Sample Question

How do you ensure that instruction is aligned to AR Academic Standards?

Improving Academic Outcomes

Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

On-Site

- IRPs and MIPs implemented
- 90 min literacy instruction (3rd Grade Retention)
- Special Programs: GT, SPED, ALE, Dyslexia, 504

Interview

- District Leader
- Building Leader
- Teacher
- Student

In-Coding

- Student Success Plans in LAUNCH
- IRPs and MIPs created
- ATLAS Interim and Summative Scores

Standards 2-F.1, 2-F.2, 2-G.1, 2-I.1, 2-I.2, 2-J.1, 2-J.2



Sample Question

Describe your IRP, MIP, SSP, etc. process.

Improving Academic Outcomes

Science of Reading Instruction

On-Site

→AR App Priority 1.3 in practice

1.3 Identify High Quality Supplemental Instructional Materials in the below chart for grades K-12 in steps 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Interview

→Building Leader
→Dyslexia Interventionist
→Teacher
→Student

In-Coding

→AR App
→ATLAS Screening Data
→eFinance Science of Reading coding

Standards 2-H.1, 4-D.3, 4-G.2



Sample Question

How often do you provide reading intervention support?

Improving Academic Outcomes Assessment

On-Site

→95% Participation Plan of
Support in practice for
identified districts

Interview

→Building Test Coordinator
→District Test Coordinator

In-Coding

→Summative Assessment
participation %

Standards 1-C.1, 1-C.1.1, 1-C.1.2



Safe & Healthy Schools

Safe & Healthy Schools

On-Site

→AR App Priority 2.3
Implementation

2.3 What process and data does the district use, by grade band, to identify students as at-risk or in need of additional services beyond academic services (mental health, attendance, behavior, etc.)?

Interview

→Building Leader
→Teacher
→SRO

In-Coding

→AR App
→Cycle Reporting

Standards 6-A.1, 6-A.2



Sample Question

Tell me about your behavior threat assessment team and process.

Safe & Healthy Schools

Student Safety & Engagement

On-Site

- Exterior doors are locked
- Visitor screening process
- Students located when requested

Standards 2-B.2, 2-E.2



Safe & Healthy Schools

Comprehensive School Safety Assessment

On-Site

→AR App Priority 2.1

2.1 How does the district promote and improve a safe and secure environment?
-Which of the following physical security measures has your district implemented?
-How will the district strive to meet, maintain, and exceed the above safety recommendations? -How does the district promote and improve school climate?

Interview

→District Leader
→Building Leader

In-Coding

→School Safety Plan
→AR App

Standards 2-E.2, 6-A.1, 6-A.2



Sample Question

What agency(ies) did you collaborate with to conduct your comprehensive safety assessment?

Safe & Healthy Schools

Health Services

On-Site

- Nurse on-site
- AR App Priority 2.6, 2.7
 - 2.6 Health and Wellness Assurances
 - 2.7 Strategies established from SHI Assessment

In-Coding

- AR App
- Nurse Qualifications
- District Enrollment Ratio 750:1

Standards 1-B.4, 2-C.2, 2-E.1



Safe & Healthy Schools

Counseling Services

On-Site

- Comprehensive School Counseling Plan in Practice

Interview

- Building Leader
- Counselor

In-Coding

- Comprehensive School Counseling Program Plan
- Enrollment to School Counselor Ratio

Standards 2-C.1, 2-C.2, 4-E.1, 4-E.2, 4-E.3



Sample Question

How are referrals or requests submitted and processed?

Quality Educational Workforce

Quality Educational Workforce

On-Site

→AR App Priority 3

Criteria identified as being provided: PD, Mentorship, Coaching, Staff changes, etc.

Standard 4



Quality Educational Workforce Licensure Requirements

On-Site

→ Licensed staff providing instruction

Interview

→ Building Leader
→ Teacher

In-Coding

→ AELS Licensure Code by Course Code
→ AELS Licensure Code by Job Code
→ AELS Check for PLSB violations

**Standards 4-B.1, 4-B.2, 4-C.1, 4-C.2, 4-D,
4-E.1, 4-F.1**



Sample Question

Teacher name verification

Quality Educational Workforce

Educator Mentorship

Interview

- District Leader
- Building Leader

In-Coding

- Division Registration

Sample Question

Tell me about your mentor program.

Standard 4-C.3, 4-C.4, 4-D.4, 4-D.5



Quality Educational Workforce

Annual Ratings

Interview

- District Leader
- Building Leader
- Teacher

In-Coding

- EES Ratings

Standards 4-C.4, 4-D.4

Sample Question

How is timely feedback ensured for all staff?



Quality Educational Workforce

Background Check Requirements

On-Site

→No employee on campus without approved background check or pending documentation

In-Coding

→AELS Background Check

District Governance

Class Size and Teaching Load

In-Coding

→ Course enrollment by
CCMS limit

Standards 1-A.5, 1-A.6



District Governance Calendar

On-Site

→ Bell Schedule reflects the reported number of instructional minutes

In-Coding

→ eSchool Calendar
Instructional minutes
→ Bell Schedule

Standards 1-A.4, 1-A.4.1, 1-A.4.2



District Governance

Fiscal Governance

In-Coding

→ Cycle Reporting

Standards 2-D.1, 3-A.8



District Governance

Written Policies and Plans

Interview

- District Leader
- Building Leader

In-Coding

- Review of policies
- Cycle Reporting
- State Required Information

Sample Question

What actions do you take when addressing student discipline?

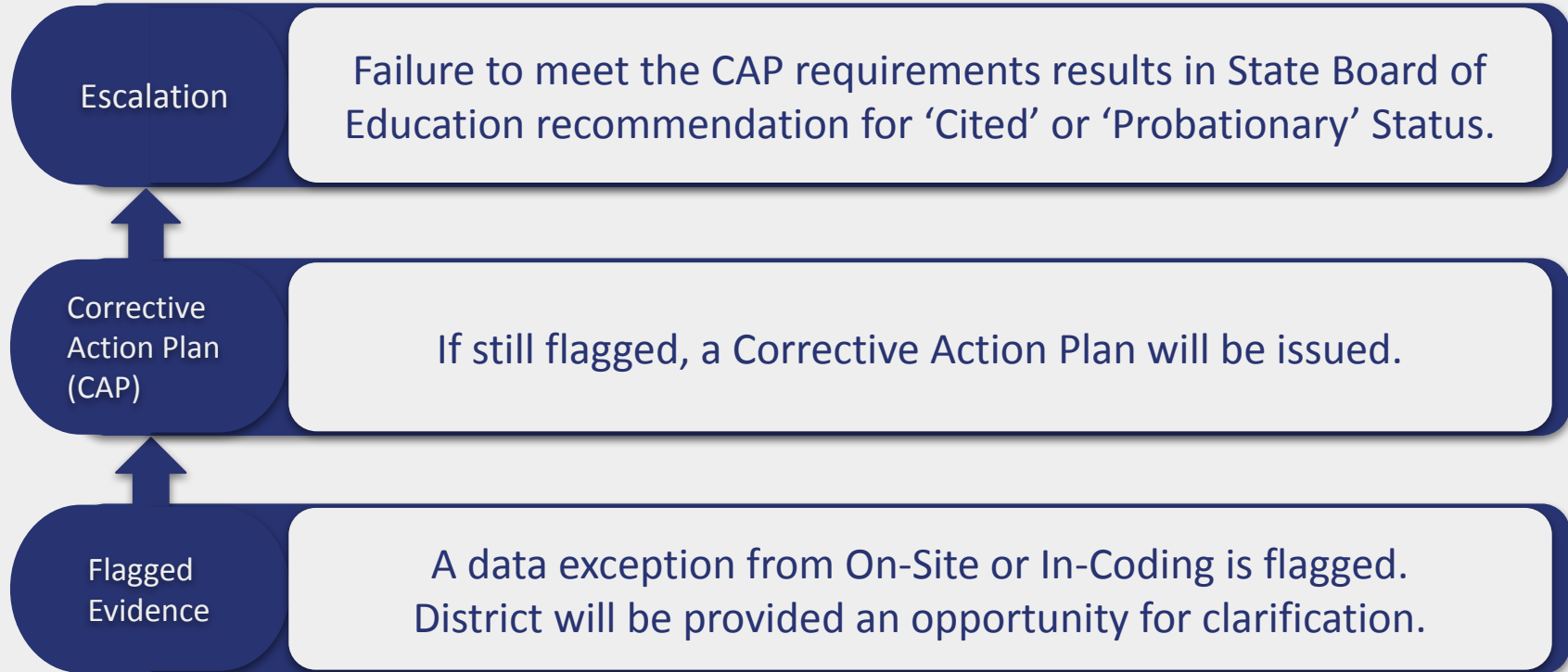
Many Standards and Website Checklist Items



Accreditation Status

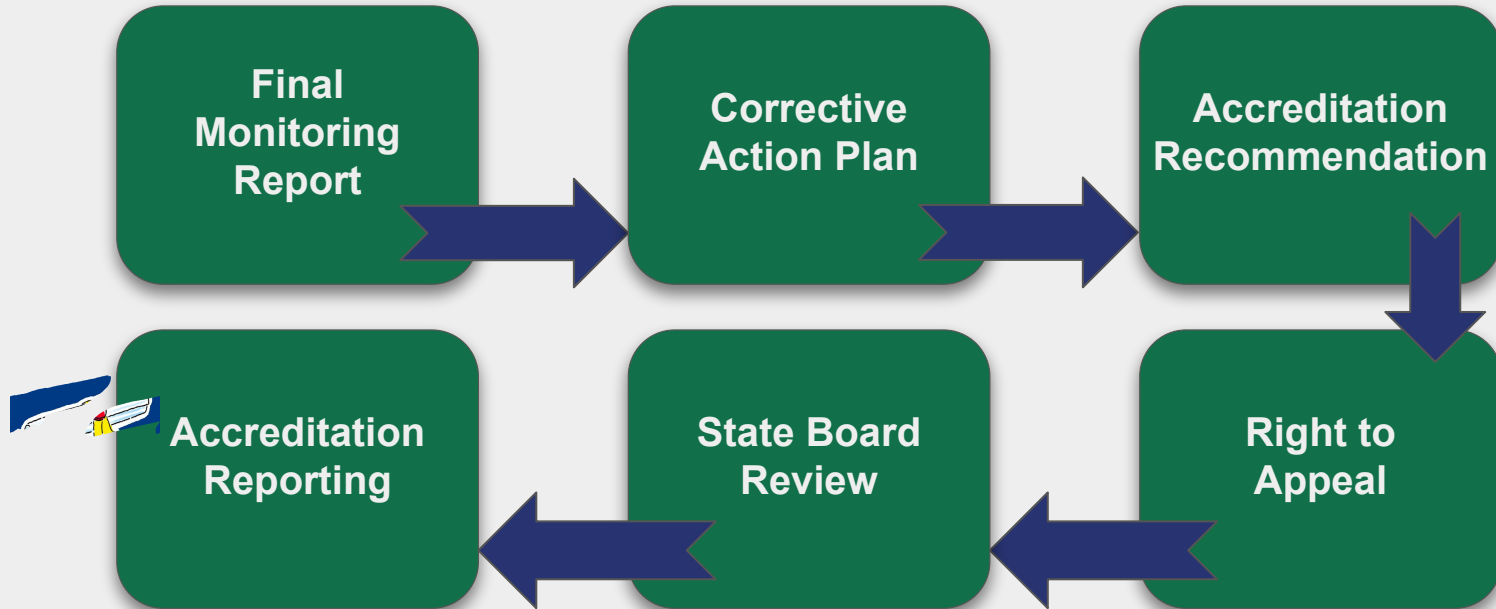
What happens if we need
improvement?

Evidence Collection



Comprehensive Corrective Action Plan (CCAP)

Comprehensive Corrective Action Plans will be sent by the Monitoring & Accreditation Unit.



Probation Status

What happens if we are placed in
Probation Status?

Probation Requirements



State Board of Education Finding of Probation Status

Pursuant to Arkansas Code § **6-15-208**

- ❑ Must publicly disclose the status to parents/guardians of all enrolled students
- ❑ Must be posted on the district's website under State-Required Information
- ❑ Must be published in a local newspaper of general circulation at least once per week for two consecutive weeks

What's Next?

Finalizing Accreditation Manual,
District 5-Year Rotation, and
Support.

Thank you! For questions:

Come see us after the session!



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY
& SECONDARY EDUCATION