
TO: Members of the State Board of Education
Members of the Accountability and Implementation Board

FROM: Carey M. Wright, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Schools 

DATE: June 25, 2024

SUBJECT: LEA Blueprint Implementation Plans Updates

Purpose

The Maryland State Department of Education and the Accountability and Implementation Board staff will provide updates on the Blueprint Implementation Plans submitted by the Local Education Agencies (LEAs) across Maryland and how the State is supporting Blueprint Implementation.

Background

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future is a historic opportunity to transform education and accelerate student achievement for students across Maryland. The Blueprint requires each LEA to develop an Implementation Plan consistent with the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted by the AIB. Implementation Plans shall describe the goals, objectives, and strategies that will be used to improve student achievement and meet the Blueprint for Maryland's Future recommendations for each segment of the student population. MSDE must recommend approval of each plan to the AIB and each LEA's submitted plan must be approved by AIB.

Executive Summary

The presentation will provide updates on the requirements, review process, lessons learned, future timelines, and next steps related to the LEA Blueprint Implementation Plan submission and approval process.

The presentation on will address the following:

- LEA Blueprint Implementation Plan Requirements
- MSDE/AIB Collaboration
- Review Timeline and Process
- Themes and Highlights from Submitted Plans
- Next Steps

Action

No action is required; this information is for discussion only.

Attachments

LEA Blueprint Plan Updates.pdf



Local Education Agencies 2024 LEA Blueprint Implementation Plans

Joint Meeting of the
Maryland State Board of Education and the
Accountability and Implementation Board

June 25, 2024

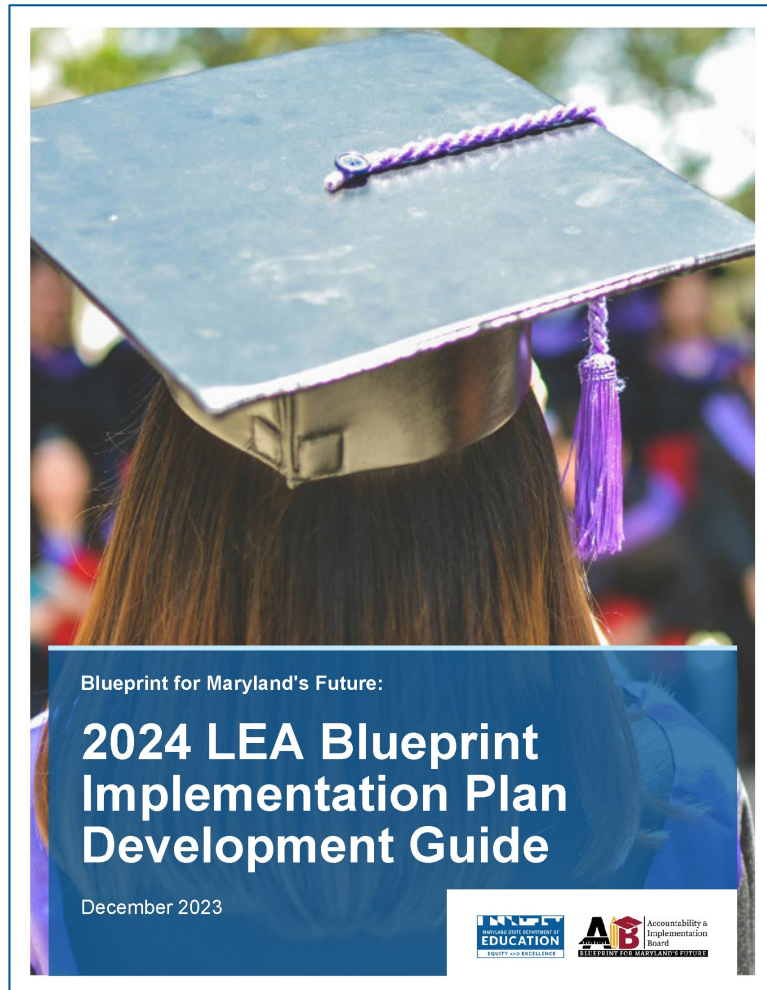
PRESENTED BY

**Maryland State Department of Education
Accountability and Implementation Board**

The LEA Blueprint Implementation Plan

- Education Article §5-404 requires each LEA to develop an Implementation Plan consistent with the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted by the AIB.
- LEA Blueprint Implementation Plans shall describe the goals, objectives, and strategies that will be used to improve student achievement and meet the Blueprint for Maryland's Future recommendations for each segment of the student population.
- Each submitted LEA Blueprint Plan must be approved by the AIB.
 - MSDE must recommend approval of each plan to the AIB.
- LEAs submitted their Initial Blueprint Implementation Plans in March 2023.
- In 2024, LEAs submitted their second Blueprint Implementation Plans in two parts:
 - Part 1 plans (Systemwide Blueprint Implementation) were submitted on March 15, 2024.
 - Part 2 plans (Initiative-specific questions) were submitted on May 1, 2024.

2024 LEA Blueprint Implementation Plan Development Guide



- The 2024 LEA Blueprint Implementation Plan Development Guide contains the questions that the LEAs are asked to respond to in their 2024 Blueprint Implementation Plans
- The Part 1 submission question (Systemwide Blueprint Implementation) asks LEAs to provide an overview of how they are holistically approaching Blueprint Implementation across the district and how the initiatives in each pillar work together.
- The Part 2 submission has 23 specific questions, where LEAs provided detailed responses about specific programs and components of the Blueprint.

2024 LEA Blueprint Implementation Plan Questions

- **Systemwide Blueprint Implementation**
- **PILLAR 1: Early Childhood Education**
 - 01. Access to High-Quality, Full-Day Pre-K
 - 02. A High-Quality, Mixed-Delivery (Public And Private) Pre-K
 - 03. Workforce Development and Pipelines for Pre-K Staff
 - 04. Kindergarten Readiness
- **PILLAR 2: High-Quality and Diverse Teachers and Leaders**
 - 05. A High-Quality and Diverse Teacher Workforce
 - 06. A High-Quality and Diverse Corps of School Leaders
 - 07. National Board Certification
 - 08. Cultivating and Managing Effective Partnerships
 - 09. Educator Compensation
- **PILLAR 3: College and Career Readiness**
 - 10. College and Career Readiness in English Language Arts
 - 11. College and Career Readiness in Mathematics
 - 12. Algebra Readiness and Success
 - 13. High-Quality School Day Tutoring
 - 14. Support for Students to Demonstrate CCR in High School
 - 15. Access to Post-CCR Pathways
- **PILLAR 4: More Resources to Ensure All Students are Successful**
 - 16. Engagement and Comms. with Multilingual learner Families
 - 17. Supporting MLs and Increasing Language Acquisition
 - 18. Improve Education for Students with Disabilities
 - 19. Disproportionate Identification and Disciplinary Practices
 - 20. Effective Community Partnerships
 - 21. Expanding Behavioral Health Support
- **PILLAR 5: Governance and Accountability**
 - 22. Stakeholder Engagement
 - 23. Blueprint Funding and Resources

Collaboration Between MSDE and AIB

- MSDE and AIB staff built an integrated, combined review process, sharing responsibilities in each step of the process.
- A team of 30 MSDE and 6 AIB staff members served as plan reviewers and participated in a multi-day collaborative review process to ensure rating consistency and accuracy. Rating consistency across reviewers was of paramount importance.
- Each component of each LEA Blueprint Implementation Plan was reviewed by at least five reviewers across AIB and MSDE.
- The reviewers rated the submitted plans against the published success criteria and provided feedback for improvement.
- Upon completion of independent reviews of each LEA's submission, MSDE and AIB staff convened to discuss any ratings variances on the Criteria for Success and validate the final ratings and requests for plan revision.

Highlights and Common Themes from Submitted Plans

- After reading the Blueprint Implementation Plans from each of the 24 LEAs across Maryland, a few common themes emerged across multiple LEAs:
 - Dedication to establish or expand partnerships with other organizations and institutions
 - Prioritization of stakeholder outreach and involvement
 - Increased collaboration of LEA staff across different district offices and schools
 - Expanded access to opportunities such as Pre-K, Career Counseling, Dual Enrollment, etc.
 - Continued discussions around financial decisions and resource allocation
 - Focus on identifying and developing additional supports for students who have not yet met the CCR Standard

Next Steps for Revisions and Approval

- In the past week, the combined MSDE and AIB requests for revision were sent to the individual LEA Superintendents and Blueprint Coordinators, in two groups of 12 LEAs each.
 - For each criterion where the LEAs did not meet the published Criteria for Success, guidance on how to revise their response to meet the stated criteria was provided.
- The LEAs are asked to review the feedback and requests for revision and submit updated responses within about 3 weeks of receiving their results, if not sooner.
- MSDE and AIB staff are available to meet with each LEA so all involved can ensure a common understanding of the feedback provided, expectations of the revisions needed, and the process for resubmitting the updated responses.
- When resubmitted, MSDE and AIB staff will review the updated submissions to determine if they meet the Criteria for Success and then either provide additional guidance to the LEA or recommend to the AIB Board that Parts 1 and 2 of the Implementation Plans have met all Criteria for Success.

Ongoing Support and Guidance

- Blueprint Implementation is a continuous and ever-evolving process. The work does not stop when the Implementation Plans are approved.
- MSDE and AIB are dedicated to providing the guidance and support needed to each LEA across Maryland to achieve the Blueprint goals.
- Some of the AIB and MSDE guidance and support initiatives that are forthcoming include:
 - AIB Phase II Technical Assistance Grant, with the focus areas of
 - Resource Allocation/Reallocation and Strategic Budgeting
 - Extension of Phase I Grants for Strategic Facilitators
 - Career Ladder for Educators
 - College and Career Readiness Pathways (CCR)
 - Prekindergarten Expansion in a Mixed Delivery System
 - CCR Supports Guidebook
 - Expert Review Team visits, focused on literacy and math instruction
 - Community Schools Guidebook
 - Ongoing collaboration opportunities between LEAs and State agencies

Questions and Discussion