

Ratings for Special Schools

THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS: PALMETTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Students to Be Included in the Rating

High school eligible students who have participated in the educational program for a minimum of one hundred days during the fiscal year are to be included. All Palmetto Unified programs are to be reported as one school.

Criteria for the Rating

- GED completion rate: This is calculated by the number of successful completers divided by the number of students enrolled in the GED program. Those who completed the GED prior to one hundred days are to be included in the calculation;
- Career and technology program completers: This is calculated by the number of program completers (federal definition) divided by the number of students enrolled in the career and technology program; and
- Pre-test and post-test gains on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE): This average gain from the pretest to the posttest is calculated by adding the gains of individual students and dividing by the total number of students.

Calculation of the Absolute Performance Rating

Assign points (one through five) for each criterion in the following manner:

Table 38
Absolute Performance Ratings Criteria

Criterion	Points Assigned				
	5	4	3	2	1
GED Completion %	81–100	61–80	41–60	20–40	19 or less
Career and Technology Completers %	81–100	61–80	41–60	20–40	19 or less
Pretest-Posttest TABE Gains	0.80 or more	0.60–0.79	0.40–0.59	0.20–0.39	Less than 0.20

Add the points and divide by three to yield an index. The index determines the school's Absolute Rating.

Table 39
Absolute Performance Level Ratings

Rating	2010 and beyond
Excellent	3.8 or higher
Good	3.5-3.7
Average	3.2-3.6
Below Average	3.0-3.2
At Risk	Less than 3.0

Growth Rating

Using the absolute performance indices, calculate annual gains based on current year minus previous year.

Table 40
Palmetto Unified Growth Ratings

Rating	Growth Index
Excellent	Gains of .3 or above
Good	Gains of .2 to .29
Average	Gains of .1 to .19
Below Average	Gains of .01 to .09
At Risk	No gain or a loss

Schools with Absolute Ratings of Excellent in Two Adjacent Years

If a school is rated Excellent for absolute achievement for both the current and the previous years, the school will receive a Growth Rating of Good. If the school’s growth index for all students is a positive number (i.e., greater than zero), the school’s Growth Rating will be elevated to Excellent. The performance growth of the groups also will be reported for these schools. Schools achieving an absolute index of 4.75 or higher for two consecutive years will be awarded an Excellent Growth Rating.

DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE (DJJ)

Students Included in the Rating

GED: Students who are age 16 and earn a passing score on the Pre-GED are designated “eligible” to take the GED. Seventeen and eighteen year old students who register to take the GED also are considered eligible. These students are not required to take the Pre-GED.

High School Credits Earned: High school students who earn Carnegie units during the school year,

MAP Gains: Middle and high school students who are assessed in reading and math using the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) program. Students who have attended middle or high school for at least 90 school days will be included in the assessment.

Middle School Classes Passed: Middle school students who complete the four content area courses during the school year.

Calculations will be based on the DJJ School District calendar year. (August 1st through July 31st)

Criteria for the Rating

GED: The percentage of students who pass the GED will be calculated by dividing the number of students who passed the GED by the total taking the test during the school year.

High School Credits: The average high school credits earned will be calculated by dividing the total number of Carnegie units earned by the number of students who completed the courses.

MAP Gains: Pre-post test scores will be calculated for reading and math. The percentage of students who make gains will be calculated by dividing the number of students who made gains by the total number of students tested.

Middle School Classes Passed: The average for the four main content area classes passed will be calculated by dividing total classes passed by the number of the students who completed the courses (science, social studies, lang. arts, math).

**Table 41
Calculation of the Index – DJJ**

Note: Each criterion is weighted as indicated in parentheses

Criterion	5	4	3	2	1
GED Completion Rate (.25)	50% +	45-49%	40-44%	35-39%	Below 35%
HS Credits Earned (.5)	5+	4+	3+	2+	less than 2 credits
MAP Gains/ Reading (.05)	75%+	60-74%	45-59%	30-44%	Below 30%
MAP Gains/Math (.05)	75%+	60-74%	45-59%	30-44%	Below 30%
Middle School Classes Passed (.15)	4	3	2	1	No credits earned (SC./Math/Eng/SS)

**Table 42
Absolute Performance Level Ratings – DJJ**

Rating	2010 and beyond
Excellent	3.8 or higher
Good	3.5-3.7
Average	3.2-3.6
Below Average	3.0-3.2
At Risk	Less than 3.0

Growth Rating

Using the absolute performance indices, calculate annual gains based on current year minus previous year.

**Table 43
Department of Juvenile Justice Growth Ratings**

Rating	Growth Index
Excellent	Gains of .3 or above
Good	Gains of .2 to .29
Average	Gains of .1 to .19
Below Average	Gains of .01 to .09
At Risk	No gain or a loss

Schools with Absolute Ratings of Excellent in Two Adjacent Years

If a school is rated Excellent for absolute achievement for both the current and the previous years, the school will receive a Growth Rating of Good. If the school's growth index for all students is a positive number (i.e., greater than zero), the school's Growth Rating will be elevated to Excellent.

The performance growth of the groups also will be reported for these schools. Schools achieving an absolute index of 4.75 or higher for two consecutive years will be awarded an Excellent Growth Rating.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND (SCSDB)

Students to Be Included in the Rating

Elementary, middle or high school students who are enrolled in the school as of the forty-fifth day of instruction and are present in the school on the first day of testing will be included in assessment measures.

Criteria for the Rating

- ❑ **Brigance Inventory Gains:** For the Brigance Inventory, students make a gain if they improve their scores on three out of the four subtests given each IEP year.
- ❑ **Mastery of Individualized Education Plan (IEP) Objectives:** Mastery is documented through categorical scores in English Language Arts and Math assessments.
- ❑ **State Assessment Results:** The results of the Palmetto Achievement of State Standards (PASS) tests, the South Carolina Alternative Assessment (SC-Alt) in core subject areas are used as criteria. The state assessment results will be included in accordance with the table outlining point values in calculating the Absolute Rating.

**Table 44
Criteria for the Rating – SCSDB**

School Population Category	Assessment/Test Results
Elementary Students	PASS Test Scores SC-Alt Assessment Scores
Middle and High School Students	PASS Test Scores SC-Alt Assessment Scores

Calculation of the Index

Table 45
Absolute Ratings Criteria for the S.C. School for the Deaf and the Blind

Criterion	Points Assigned				
	5	4	3	2	1
% of students making gains on three of four or more Brigance subtests	94 – 100%	85 – 93%	75 – 84%	65 - 74%	Less than 65%
% of students exhibiting Mastery of IEP Objectives	94 – 100%	85 – 93%	75 – 84%	65 - 74%	Less than 65%
% of students scoring MET or above on PASS or 2 and above on SC-Alt	91–100%	81 – 90%	60 – 80%	50 - 59%	Less than 50%

Table 46
The South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind Absolute Performance Level Ratings

Absolute Rating	2010	2011
Excellent	3.40 or higher	3.40 or higher
Good	3.18 - 3.39	3.18 - 3.39
Average	2.65 - 3.17	2.65 - 3.17
Below Average	2.32 - 2.64	2.32 - 2.64
At Risk	2.31 or Below	2.31 or Below

To calculate the growth rating, the absolute index for the previous year is subtracted from the absolute index for the current year. Ratings are assigned in accordance with difference between the two years as outlined below:

Table 47
S.C. School for the Deaf and the Blind Growth Ratings

Rating	Growth Index
Excellent	0.4 or above
Good	0.3
Average	0.1 to 0.2
Below Average	0.00
At Risk	-0.1 or less

THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS (GSSM)

Students to Be Included in the Rating

Students enrolled in the school as of the forty-fifth day of instruction and continuing through the spring testing period are to be included.

Criteria for the Rating

- ❑ Advanced Placement Passing Rate: The percentage of students scoring three or above on Advanced Placement examinations.
- ❑ Freshman year GPA: The mean grade point average of students in the fall semester of their freshman year (these data are to be reported on students graduating in the previous year).
- ❑ SAT: The mean SAT performance of graduating seniors.

Calculation of the Index

Table 48
Absolute Ratings Criteria for the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics

Criterion	Points Assigned				
	5	4	3	2	1
AP Passing Rate (.45)	87 or greater	81–86	75–80	69–74	Less than 69
Freshman GPA (.35)	3.5 or greater	3.3–3.49	3.1–3.29	2.9–3.09	Less than 2.9
Mean SAT (.20)	1300 or greater	1260–1299	1170–1259	1120–1169	Less than 1120

Note: Each criterion is weighted as indicated in parentheses.

Table 49
Absolute Performance Level Ratings – GSSM

Rating	2009	2010 and beyond
Excellent	3.8 or higher	3.8 or higher
Good	3.5-3.7	3.5-3.7
Average	3.2-3.6	3.2-3.5
Below Average	3.0-3.2	3.0-3.2
At Risk	Less than 3.0	Less than 3.0

The index determines the school's Absolute Rating.

Growth Rating

Using the absolute performance indices, calculate annual gains based on current year minus previous year.

Table 50
Governor’s School for Science and Mathematics Growth Rating

Improvement Rating	Growth Index
Excellent	Maintenance of Excellent absolute status or gains of .15 or more
Good	Maintenance of Good absolute status or gains of .10
Average	Gains of .06–.09
Below Average	Gains of .01–.05
At Risk	No gain or a loss

Schools with Absolute Ratings of Excellent in Two Adjacent Years

If a school is rated Excellent for absolute achievement for both the current and the previous years, the school will receive a Growth Rating of Good. If the school’s growth index for all students is a positive number (i.e., greater than zero), the school’s Growth Rating will be elevated to Excellent. The performance growth of the groups also will be reported for these schools. Schools achieving an absolute index of 4.75 or higher for two consecutive years will be awarded an Excellent Growth Rating.

WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL

Students to Be Included in the Rating

All students who are enrolled in the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School for any of the three three-month program periods each fiscal year are to be included.

Criteria for the Rating

- ❑ **GED completion rate:** This is calculated by the number of students who successfully complete the GED test divided by the number of students eligible to take the GED test.
- ❑ **Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) gains:** This is calculated by determining the percentage of students not eligible to take the GED who achieve a five-month gain in math and reading as measured by pre- and post-TABE results. Students must attain the gain in each of the content areas to qualify as meeting the criterion.
- ❑ **The Educational Phase:** The number of students completing the Educational Phase of the semester is divided by the number of students entering the Educational Phase.
- ❑ **Post-Secondary Skill Completion:** A percentage of educational phase completers who have completed a set of post-secondary skill tasks.

Tasks Include:

1. Completion of an Individualized Graduation Plan.
2. Completion of a vocational education class.
3. Receive a Work Keys Card.
4. Participate in work experience.

5. Have a tentative post-secondary educational, military, or work placement upon graduation.

Calculation of the Absolute Performance Rating

Assign points (one through five) for each criterion in the following manner:

Table 51
Absolute Ratings Criteria for the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

Criterion (Weight)	Points Assigned				
	5	4	3	2	1
GED Completion Rate (25%)	81–100%	61–80%	41–60%	20–40%	Below 20%
TABE Reading Gains (12.5%)	81–100%	61–80%	41–60%	20–40%	Below 20%
TABE Math Gains (12.5%)	81–100%	61–80%	41–60%	20–40%	Below 20%
Educational Phase (25%)	86–100%	71–85%	55–70%	40–54%	Below 40%
Post-Secondary Skill Completion (25%)	100% at 2 of the five tasks, with 50% at more than 3 of the 5 tasks and 10% at more than 4 of the 5 tasks	100% at 2 of the five tasks, with 50% at more than 3 of the 5 tasks and less than 10% at more than 4 of the 5 tasks	100% at 2 of the five tasks, and less than 50% at more than 3 of the 5 tasks.	90–99% at 2 of the five tasks.	Below 90% at 2 of the 5 tasks.

Assignment of Value to Achievement Index

Calculate the achievement index by multiplying the points for each criterion listed above by the appropriate weight, summing the products, and rounding to the nearest tenth of a point.

Table 52
Absolute Performance Level Ratings – Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

Performance Level	Achievement Index, 2001 and beyond
Excellent	4.0 or above
Good	3.6–3.9
Average	3.3–3.5
Below Average	3.0–3.2
At Risk	Below 3.0

Growth Rating

Subtract the achievement index for the prior year from that of the current year to calculate annual gains (growth index).

Table 53
Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Growth Rating

Rating	Growth Index
Excellent	0.4 or greater
Good	0.3
Average	0.1–0.2
Below Average	0.0
At Risk	-0.1 or less

Schools with Absolute Ratings of Excellent in Two Adjacent Years

If a school is rated Excellent for absolute achievement for both the current and the previous years, the school will receive a Growth Rating of Good. If the school's growth index for all students is a positive number (i.e., greater than zero), the school's Growth Rating will be elevated to Excellent. The performance growth of the groups also will be reported for these schools. Schools achieving an absolute index of 4.75 or higher for two consecutive years will be awarded an Excellent Growth Rating.

FELTON LABORATORY SCHOOL

This kindergarten through eighth-grade school receives a report card using the same criteria and information used for public schools within local school districts or the SC Public School Charter District.