

(II) "GRADUATION RATE FORMULA" DOES NOT INCLUDE STUDENTS WHO GRADUATE ON TIME WITH A GED OR OTHER CERTIFICATE NOT ALIGNED WITH STATE STANDARDS.

(5) (I) "ON TIME" MEANS ON OR BEFORE THE CONCLUSION OF A FOUR-YEAR COHORT'S FOURTH YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL.

(II) "ON TIME" INCLUDES A SENIOR SUMMER SESSION IN A JURISDICTION THAT OFFERS SENIOR SUMMER SESSIONS.

(6) (I) "TRANSFER OUT" MEANS A STUDENT WHO THE COUNTY BOARD CONFIRMS, VIA WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION, HAS ENROLLED IN ANOTHER HIGH SCHOOL OR OTHER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FROM WHICH THAT STUDENT IS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE A REGULAR MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

(II) "TRANSFER OUT" DOES NOT INCLUDE A STUDENT ENROLLED IN:

1. A GED PROGRAM; OR
2. AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT DOES NOT ISSUE OR PROVIDE CREDITS TOWARD A REGULAR MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

(B) THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION IS TO:

(1) INITIATE A PROCESS BY WHICH THE STATE MAY ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF COLLECTING, MAINTAINING, ANALYZING, AND PUBLICLY REPORTING DATA RELATING TO THE GRADUATION RATES OF STUDENTS IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS AS AN ESSENTIAL STEP IN ADDRESSING GAPS IN EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AMONG A DIVERSE STUDENT POPULATION; AND

(2) EXPLICITLY DELINEATE THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT AND THE COUNTY BOARDS IN THIS REGARD.

(C) (1) BEGINNING ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, ~~2010~~ 2011, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, A COUNTY BOARD SHALL:

(I) COLLECT, MAINTAIN, AND ANALYZE GRADUATION RATES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ~~SCHOOL DISTRICTS~~ LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS, AND THE STATE; AND

(II) REPORT THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH TO:

1. THE PUBLIC IN THE AGGREGATE AND DISAGGREGATED BY AMERICAN INDIAN, AFRICAN AMERICAN, HISPANIC, WHITE, ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER, STUDENTS WHO ARE LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT, STUDENTS WHO RECEIVE FREE AND REDUCED PRICED MEALS, AND STUDENTS WHO RECEIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES; AND

2. THE DEPARTMENT.