**2013-2014 LEA Determinations**

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) §616, States are required to make annual determinations about the performance of the LEAs using the following categories:

- Meets Requirements,
- Needs Assistance,
- Needs Intervention, and
- Needs Substantial Intervention.

As implied, these categories represent various intensities of required technical assistance and/or intervention. States are required to make a determination using these categories for every LEA within the state on an annual basis.

In response to public comment and proposed changes outlined in the *Report on the Texas Education Agency’s Efforts in Implementing the Provisions of Rider 70 - A Report to the 84th Texas Legislature from the Texas Education Agency, January 2015 (Rider 70 report)* submitted in December 2014 to the 84th Texas Legislature, the state has issued a transitional year report for the required annual determinations about the performance of the LEAs, based on data collected during the 2013-2014 school year in order to meet its obligation under the IDEA §616.

LEA Determination letters were mailed to LEAs the week of March 20th.

Because the School Year 2013-2014 determination is considered a transitional year report, all determination letters indicate “Information Only” in the page 1 heading. No additional technical assistance requirements beyond those already taken through Performance Monitoring and Interventions (PMI) activities during this school year will be required.

Flexibility in MOE reduction is applicable to the determination as required under IDEA §616(f) (34 CFR §300.608(a)). If the LEA’s determination is Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention, the LEA is not eligible to voluntarily reduce MOE for the 2015-2016 fiscal year based on the flexibility option of 34 CFR §300.205.

As discussed in the March 2 TETN and outlined in the *Rider 70 report* found at: [http://tea.texas.gov/Reports_and_Data/Legislative_Reports/Legislative_Reports/](http://tea.texas.gov/Reports_and_Data/Legislative_Reports/Legislative_Reports/), beginning in the fall of 2015 the annual determinations will be unified with the PBMAS staging process each fall and result in one unified staging/determination for each district in the analysis.

Also attached is a copy of the School Year 2013-2014 Local Educational Agency (LEA) Determinations Methodology. Footnotes 1 and 3 reference the transitional year and methodology specifically as it pertains to movement toward the unified staging/determination process.