§ 200.44 Public school choice.

(a) Requirements. (1) In the case of a school identified for school improvement under §200.32, for corrective action under §200.33, or for restructuring under §200.34, the LEA must provide all students enrolled in the school with the option to transfer to another public school served by the LEA.

(b) Requirements. If the LEA identifies a school for restructuring in accordance with §200.34, the LEA must do the following:

(1) Provide all students enrolled in the school with the option to transfer to another public school in accordance with §200.44.

(2) Make available supplemental educational services in accordance with §200.45.

(3) Prepare a plan to carry out one of the following alternative governance arrangements:

(i) Reopen the school as a public charter school.

(ii) Replace all or most of the school staff (which may include, but may not be limited to, replacing the principal) who are relevant to the school’s failure to make AYP.

(iii) Enter into a contract with an entity, such as a private management company, with a demonstrated record of effectiveness, to operate the school as a public school.

(iv) Turn the operation of the school over to the SEA, if permitted under State law and agreed to by the State.

(v) Any other major restructuring of a school’s governance arrangement that makes fundamental reforms, such as significant changes in the school’s staffing and governance, in order to improve student academic achievement in the school and that has substantial promise of enabling the school to make AYP. The major restructuring of a school’s governance may include replacing the principal so long as this change is part of a broader reform effort.

(4) Provide to parents and teachers—

(i) Prompt notice that the LEA has identified the school for restructuring; and

(ii) An opportunity for parents and teachers to—

(A) Comment before the LEA takes any action under a restructuring plan; and

(B) Participate in the development of any restructuring plan.

(5) Continue to comply with §200.39(c).

(c) Implementation. (1) If a school continues to fail to make AYP, the LEA must—

(i) Implement the restructuring plan no later than the beginning of the school year following the year in which the LEA developed the restructuring plan under paragraph (b)(3) of this section;

(ii) Continue to offer public school choice and supplemental educational services in accordance with §§200.44 and 200.45; and

(iii) Continue to comply with §200.39(c).

(2) An LEA is no longer required to carry out the requirements of paragraph (c)(1) of this section if the restructured school makes AYP for two consecutive school years.

(d) Rural schools. On request, the Secretary will provide technical assistance for developing and carrying out a restructuring plan to any rural LEA—

(1) That has fewer than 600 students in average daily attendance at all of its schools; and

(2) In which all of the schools have a School Locale Code of 7 or 8, as determined by the National Center for Education Statistics.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1810–0581)

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6316(b)(8))

in which the LEA administered the assessments that resulted in its identification of the school for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring.

(3) The schools to which students may transfer under paragraph (a)(1) of this section—
   (i) May not include schools that—
      (A) The LEA has identified for improvement under §200.32, corrective action under §200.33, or restructuring under §200.34; or
      (B) Are persistently dangerous as determined by the State; and
   (ii) May include one or more public charter schools.

(4) If more than one school meets the requirements of paragraph (a)(3) of this section, the LEA must—
   (i) Provide to parents of students eligible to transfer under paragraph (a)(1) of this section a choice of more than one such school; and
   (ii) Take into account the parents' preferences among the choices offered under paragraph (a)(4)(i) of this section.

(5) The LEA must offer the option to transfer described in this section unless it is prohibited by State law in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section.

(6) Except as described in §§ 200.32(d) and 200.33(c), if a school was in school improvement or subject to corrective action before January 8, 2002, the State must ensure that the LEA provides a public school choice option in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section not later than the first day of the 2002-2003 school year.

(b) Limitation on State law prohibition. An LEA may invoke the State law prohibition on choice described in paragraph (a)(3) of this section only if the State law prohibits choice through restrictions on public school assignments or the transfer of students from one public school to another public school.

(c) Desegregation plans. (1) If an LEA is subject to a desegregation plan, whether that plan is voluntary, court-ordered, or required by a Federal or State administrative agency, the LEA is not exempt from the requirement in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(2) In determining how to provide students with the option to transfer to another school, the LEA may take into account the requirements of the desegregation plan.

(3) If the desegregation plan forbids the LEA from offering the transfer option required under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, the LEA must secure appropriate changes to the plan to permit compliance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(d) Capacity. An LEA may not use lack of capacity to deny students the option to transfer under paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(e) Priority. (1) In providing students the option to transfer to another public school in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section, the LEA must give priority to the lowest-achieving students from low-income families.

(2) The LEA must determine family income on the same basis that the LEA uses to make allocations to schools under subpart A of this part.

(f) Status. Any public school to which a student transfers under paragraph (a)(1) of this section must ensure that the student is enrolled in classes and other activities in the school in the same manner as all other students in the school.

(g) Duration of transfer. (1) If a student exercises the option under paragraph (a)(1) of this section to transfer to another public school, the LEA must permit the student to remain in that school until the student has completed the highest grade in the school.

(2) The LEA's obligation to provide transportation for the student may be limited under the circumstances described in paragraph (i) of this section and in §200.48.

(h) No eligible schools within an LEA. If all public schools to which a student may transfer within an LEA are identified for school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring, the LEA—

(1) Must, to the extent practicable, establish a cooperative agreement for a transfer with one or more other LEAs in the area; and

(2) May offer supplemental educational services to eligible students under §200.45 in schools in their first year of school improvement under §200.39.

(1) Transportation. (1) If a student exercises the option under paragraph
§ 200.45 Supplemental educational services.

(a) Definition. “Supplemental educational services” means tutoring and other supplemental academic enrichment services that are—

(1) In addition to instruction provided during the school day;

(2) Specifically designed to—

(i) Increase the academic achievement of eligible students as measured by the State’s assessment system; and

(ii) Enable these children to attain proficiency in meeting State academic achievement standards; and

(3) Of high quality and research-based.

(b) Eligibility. (1) Only students from low-income families are eligible for supplemental educational services.

(2) The LEA must determine family income on the same basis that the LEA uses to make allocations to schools under subpart A of this part.

(c) Requirement. (1) If an LEA identifies a school for a second year of improvement under §200.32, corrective action under §200.33, or restructuring under §200.34, the LEA must arrange, consistent with paragraph (d) of this section, for each eligible student in the school to receive supplemental educational services from a State-approved provider selected by the student’s parents.

(2) Except as described in §§200.32(d) and 200.33(c), if a school was in school improvement status for two or more consecutive school years or subject to corrective action on January 7, 2002, the State must ensure that the LEA makes available, consistent with paragraph (d) of this section, supplemental educational services to all eligible students not later than the first day of the 2002–2003 school year.

(3) The LEA must, consistent with §200.48, continue to make available supplemental educational services to eligible students until the end of the school year in which the LEA is making those services available.

(4)(i) At the request of an LEA, the SEA may waive, in whole or in part, the requirement that the LEA make available supplemental educational services if the SEA determines that—

(A) None of the providers of those services on the list approved by the SEA under §200.47 makes those services available in the area served by the LEA or within a reasonable distance of that area; and

(B) The LEA provides evidence that it is not otherwise able to make those services available.

(ii) The SEA must notify the LEA, within 30 days of receiving the LEA’s request for a waiver under paragraph (c)(4)(i) of this section, whether it approves or disapproves the request and, if it disapproves, the reasons for the disapproval, in writing.

(iii) An LEA that receives a waiver must renew its request for that waiver on an annual basis.

(d) Priority. If the amount of funds available for supplemental educational services is insufficient to provide services to each student whose parents request these services, the LEA must...