

## Weighted Achievement Score: Measure of Academic Achievement

A weighted achievement measure is used to incorporate academic achievement into the school performance system. To calculate schools' weighted achievement scores point values are assigned to each of the four academic achievement levels on Arkansas's grade level assessments for math and English language arts as described below:

### *Point Values Assigned to Academic Achievement Levels on Arkansas Grade Level Assessments*

Achievement Level ACT Aspire	Achievement Level MSAA	Points Earned for Each Achievement Level
In Need of Support	Level 1 (L1)	0.00
Close	Level 2 (L2)	0.50
Ready	Level 3 (L3)	1.00
Exceeds: Step one: Number of L4 $\leq$ Number of L1	Level 4 (L4)	1.00
Exceeds: Step two: Number of L4 $>$ Number of L1	Level 4 (L4)	1.25

Weighted achievement is intended to incentivize the movement of students from the lowest achievement level to the next level to earn partial points, then to grade level proficiency, and further, to exceeding grade level proficiency. Schools can earn partial points for students close to grade level proficiency, a single point for students at grade-level proficiency, and extra points for students exceeding grade level proficiency for the number of students exceeding that are greater than the number in the lowest achievement level. The table below demonstrates how positive movement of students from lower achievement levels to higher achievement levels produces higher weighted achievement scores.

## How Point Values for Student Achievement Levels Total Weighted Achievement Points Earned

In Need of Support/Level 1 (L1)	Close/Level 2 (L2)	Ready/Level 3 (L3)	Exceeding/Level 4 (L4)	How L4 Points Work: For #L4 ≤ #L1 point value /student = 1.0 For #L4 > #L1 point value /student = 1.25	Point Totals by Level	Total Points Earned	Total Possible Points (based on 1 point per student test)	Weighted Achievement (WA) Score: (Points Earned/Points Possible)*	Points Earned for Students Simply Meeting Ready/Exceeds*
Point Value/ Student = 0	Point Value/ Student = 0.5	Point Value/ Student = 1.0	Point Value/ Student = 1.0 or 1.25						
				#L1 ≥ #L4 so L4s count as 1.0	L1 = 0.0 L2 = 4.5 L3 = 5.0 L4 = 2.0	11.50	21	(11.50/21)*100 = 54.76	(7/21)*100 = 33.33
				#L1 = #L4 so L4s count as 1.0 L4 = 3*1.0 = 3	L1 = 0.0 L2 = 3.5 L3 = 8.0 L4 = 3.0	14.50	21	(14.50/21)*100 = 69.00	(11/21)*100 = 52.38
				L4 - L1 > L1 2 L4s count as 1.0 3 L4s count as 1.25 L4 = (2*1.0) + (3*1.25) = 5.75	L1 = 0.0 L2 = 3.5 L3 = 7.0 L4 = 5.75	16.25	21	(16.25/21)*100 = 77.38	(12/21)*100 = 57.14

\*Multiply by 100 to Scale Value of Proportion for Index

Row one represents year one, row two is year two, and row three is year three. These rows each show an example of the number of students at each of the four achievement levels on the state assessment (columns one-four) for the same school over three years (rows one, two, and three). When schools help students attain higher achievement levels those schools earn more points. Also, schools that help students move from lower to higher achievement levels compared to their achievement levels in prior years earn more points. The weighted achievement score (column nine) is the percentage of points a school earned for students at each achievement level out of 100 possible points. Schools may earn over 100 percent when more students attain the higher achievement levels compared to the lower achievement levels.

### Inclusion Rules for Weighted Achievement

Students completing a full academic year (not highly mobile) and completing the math and/or English language arts assessments (ACT Aspire or alternative assessment) are included in the weighted achievement calculation.

For schools that test 95 percent or more of students enrolled in the school the denominator for weighted achievement will include the number of math and English language arts tests of full-academic year students (not highly mobile) for the school. If a school does not test 95 percent of enrolled students the denominator for weighted achievement will be 95 percent of the students expected to test in math and English language arts.