The U.S. Department of Education (USDE) denied a waiver in 2018 requesting a one year pause on ELP evaluation due to TELPAS that year

As the focus of ESSA is on ambitious State-designed long-term goals, with interim measures toward the goals, TEA is in alignment with USDE guidance that growth toward targets is a requirement. Meeting the target or showing growth is a requirement under ESSA. If a group remains stagnant below the interim target, or their performance slides backwards to the point they are below the interim target, they are flagged as not meeting expectations as they are not progressing toward the long-term goal.