The No Child Left Behind Act requires the annual determination of whether schools, districts, and states have made adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward the goal of having all students meet rigorous state academic standards by the 2013-2014 school year. Each year, the performance of all students in the school and district, as well as subgroups of students, is measured against annual performance targets.

A school or district that does not meet AYP should not be labeled as failing. The designation of not meeting AYP signals that the school or district as a whole, or one or more subgroups of students, is not "on track" for meeting the national goals for student achievement by the target year of 2014. The school or district as a whole may have strong academic performance, but the designation may be based on a single factor or a single subgroup.



