



# RESOURCES

---

## Frequently Asked Questions

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## 1. Where does the data in Texas School Guide come from?

All of the data that appears on the school profiles comes directly from the Texas Education Agency, or was calculated using data from the Texas Education Agency. For example, demographic data and test scores come directly from the Texas Education Agency, but the C@R graduation rate, Rankings, Letter Grades, and Indexes were calculated using specific CHILDREN AT RISK formulas. You can read more about this in the methodology section online at <http://173.45.238.175/content/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/2016-School-Rankings-Methodology1.pdf>

Information in the Parent Action Guides comes from a variety of sources, including school and district websites, online resources, community partners, and CHILDREN AT RISK research. Visit the various links that are cited throughout this resource for a more in depth look at the information.

## 2. What year is the data in Texas School Guide from?

The data used on the school profiles comes from the 2014-2015 school year. The information and resources included in the Parent Action Guides were created and/or updated in 2016, but may reflect general school deadlines from the 2015-2016 school year.

## 3. Why isn't my school included in this guide?

Texas School Guide only includes traditional public schools and charter schools that contain grades between Kindergarten and 12th Grade. It does not include private schools or alternative schools. If your school is a public or charter school that is not included, it may be a new school that wasn't included in 2014-2015 Texas Education Agency reports or it may be an early education campus (CHILDREN AT RISK excludes EE-EE, EE-PK, and PK-PK campuses).

## 4. What is the "PEG" program?

In 1995, the Texas Legislature created the Public Education Grant (PEG) program [TEC §§29.201 - 29.205]. The PEG program allows parents whose children attend schools on the PEG list to request that their children transfer to schools in other districts or other non-PEG schools within their district. A list of PEG-designated schools is provided to districts annually. By February 1, districts must notify each parent of a student in the district assigned to attend a school on the PEG list. Based on the February list, parents may request a transfer for the following school year. (For example, the list provided to parents by February 1, 2015 allows for transfer requests for the 2015-16 school year).

## 5. What is a "PEG" school?

A PEG School is one in which:

- 50 percent or more of the students did not pass any of the state assessment subjects in any two of the preceding three years (2013, 2014, or 2015),
- Or a school that was rated by the state as "Improvement Required" in 2013, 2014, or 2015.

Through the PEG program, districts receive a slightly higher allocation of funding from the state for each PEG-transferred student. (The additional funding is equal to 10% of the adjusted basic allotment, which varies by school). For more information, visit the Texas Education Agency's website at <http://tea.texas.gov/PEG.aspx>.

## 6. Where can I find the most current "PEG" list?

The PEG list is released at the beginning of each year and can be found on the Texas Education Agency Website. For the most recent list, visit <http://tea.texas.gov/PEG.aspx>.

## 7. What should I do if I think my child might have a special education need?

There are many different reasons that students can qualify for special education services. Public schools are required to provide services to students who qualify. Visit the Resources for Students with Special Needs section in the Parent Action Guides and the table on the following pages to learn more about special education opportunities within your school district and to find special education resources available in your community.

## 8. What about school safety?

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I determine if a school has the right “climate” for my student? In this edition, CHILDREN AT RISK has included ways that you can identify a positive school climate, including questions you can ask, in the School Climate section of the Parent Action Guides.

CHILDREN AT RISK has also included a report of discipline violations by campus on our website at [www.texaschoolguide.org](http://www.texaschoolguide.org) in the Resources section. You can view the number of violations per category (example: school related gang violence or controlled substances/drugs). You can compare your school’s number to other schools in the district to get a sense of the school climate.

## **9. Why do Dallas and Fort Worth school profiles have additional information?**

CHILDREN AT RISK has been ranking public schools across Texas for more than 10 years. The Rainwater Charitable Foundation out of Fort Worth funded CHILDREN AT RISK to collect extra information about Dallas and Fort Worth schools.