

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports



Ohio PBIS Recognition
Application Manual

2024-2025



Department of
Education &
Workforce

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Application Process for 2024-2025 PBIS Recognition

Ohio's Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Recognition System provides an opportunity to celebrate schools for their quality and fidelity of PBIS implementation. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce appreciates the time and effort of building PBIS teams in building and sustaining behavioral supports. The Department encourages schools to showcase their great work and apply for a 2024-2025 PBIS Building Recognition Award. This document is a resource for schools and districts to help prepare and collect required materials and data components for PBIS Recognition prior to applying. The Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Building Recognition Application Survey Link to apply will be available on the [PBIS Recognition Webpage](#) beginning April 1, 2025.

Application Requirements and Instructions

PBIS IMPLEMENTATION ELIGIBILITY

- Buildings/programs in their first year of PBIS implementation are only eligible to apply for Bronze Level recognition.
- Buildings/programs in their second year of PBIS implementation or beyond are eligible to apply for Bronze, Silver, or Gold Level recognition.

REQUIRED FIDELITY TOOLS

- The Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI) and Self-Assessment Survey (SAS) 4.0 are required for Recognition and can be found at www.PBISApps.org.
- Schools may choose to use the newly released [TFI 3.0](#) or the [TFI 2.1](#) to measure fidelity. Applicants will be required to indicate in the application which TFI tool was used to measure fidelity, to ensure proper application scoring.
- Schools are encouraged to seek support and utilize an External Facilitator to complete the TFI and TFI Walkthrough; however, this is not required for Recognition.

REQUIRED STATE LEVEL DATA

- Student Progress Measure: The Department will retrieve each building's Student Progress Measure data in September. This data includes: In-school Suspension, Out-of-school Suspension, In-School Alternate Discipline Class/Program/Building, Expulsion, Emergency Removal by District Personnel, and Removal by a Hearing Officer data from the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school year.

- Schools that do not demonstrate meeting the Student Progress Measure Requirements will not be eligible for recognition. Additional details are included in the State Level Data section and Recognition Rubric section of this manual.
- Chronic Absenteeism Indicator: Silver and Gold Recognition requires schools to have a Chronic Absenteeism Rate aligned with either the 2024-2025 Interim Goal of 16.4% **or** demonstrate a rate of improvement relative to the previous years' Chronic Absenteeism Rate. Additional details are included in the State Level Data section of this manual and in the [Student Attendance Technical Assistance Guide](#) pages 7-10.

RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION FINDINGS REPORT

- If your district has a Findings Report with a violation from a restraint or seclusion complaint you must email pbisohio@education.ohio.gov by September 15, 2025, the following:
 - Documentation showing the Corrective Action Plan was completed and the complaint resolved; **or**
 - Provide an explanation and evidence that the district's violation does not apply to your school building.
- Any restraint and seclusion findings report must be resolved to be eligible for Recognition.

STEPS TO APPLY

- Use this manual to prepare required application materials and data prior to applying.
- Access the PBIS Recognition Survey link at [PBIS Recognition | Ohio Department of Education and Workforce](#) between April 1- April 30.
- Input all required responses and upload required documentation within the survey link, prior to submitting.
- Only PDFs, Word doc/x, and JPEGs will be accepted (**no links to documents**). Do not submit entire handbooks; only the documentation that is required per the scoring rubric.
- Remember to redact ANY student information.
- If you would like assistance completing the application, regional consultants at local State Support Team and Educational Service Centers can help schools and districts to collect required information.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- Applicants **will not** be able to save the information input into the survey link to revisit or submit later. Applicants must be prepared to complete the Recognition survey in its entirety and submit before logging out of the survey link.
 - The estimated time to complete the Application Survey is 30 minutes.
- Applicants are permitted to submit multiple responses if needed. If a survey

application was submitted in error or has inaccurate information, and is remedied in a later submission, please email pbisohio@education.ohio.gov to ensure the proper application is reviewed. If no email is received, the last survey submission received by the Department will be used for Recognition scoring.

- Application questions or to report a technical issue with the application can be directed to pbisohio@education.ohio.gov.

Building Recognition Application Questions

The information requested in the sections below closely aligns with the PBIS Building Recognition Application Survey questions. Buildings can use this information as a resource to collect and record responses ahead of time. This document is solely a resource and not intended for submission.

BUILDING DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

The information provided in this section will be utilized to identify the program and the preferred contacts for all Recognition correspondences sent by the Department.

Award for which you are applying	Circle One: Bronze/Silver/Gold
County	
State Support Team Region (For assistance visit State Support Teams Ohio Department of Education and Workforce)	
School District	
District IRN (For assistance visit OEDS)	
School Name	
Building IRN (For assistance visit OEDS)	
School Principal/Program Director Name	
School Principal/Program Director Email	

PBIS Contact Name	
PBIS Contact Email	
Indicate all grade levels that are a part of the building/program PBIS application for recognition.	
Total Student Enrollment	
Total Number of Schools within the District	

School Profile Template 2024-2025

This section provides school discipline data to demonstrate the impact and effectiveness of PBIS implementation on school behavior. School profile data will be reviewed along with Student Progress Measure data reported to EMIS. (Early Childhood Programs who do not report this data will be exempt from the Student Progress Measure; however, they must still provide the School Profile information).

Category	Total for Current Academic Year
<i>(Early Childhood only):</i> Number of Behavior Incidents	
Number of Minor Referrals	
Number of Major Referrals	
Number of In-School Suspensions	
Number of In-School Alternative Discipline Class/Program/Building	

Number of Days for In-School Alternative Discipline Class/Program/Building	
Number of Out-of-School Suspensions	
Number of Days for Out-of-School Suspensions	
Number of Students with One or More Out-of-School Suspensions	
Number of Expulsions	
Number of Days for Expulsions	
Number of Emergency Removal by District Personnel	
Number of Days for Emergency Removal by District Personnel	
Number of Removal by a Hearing Officer	
Number of Days for Removal by a Hearing Officer	
Previous School (2023-2024) Year Chronic Absenteeism Rate (Data can be found at Student Recovery Dashboards Ohio Department of Education and Workforce)	

Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI)

The TFI section documents PBIS implementation fidelity. Applicants may choose to use either the TFI 2.1 or the TFI 3.0. In addition to reporting the overall score, applicants will be required to upload the Walkthrough Tool Interview and Observation Form data sheet (TFI 2.1 Pg. 28/ TFI 3.0 Pg.67-69).

Tiered Fidelity Inventory Version	Circle One: TFI 2.1 or TFI 3.0
Tier 1 TFI Score	Percentage of Implementation
Tier 2 TFI Score (only needed for Silver)	Percentage of Implementation
Tier 3 TFI Score (only needed for Gold)	Percentage of Implementation
Percentage of Staff that list 67% of expectations	
Percentage of Students that list 67% of expectations	
Percentage of Staff that give acknowledgements	
Percentage of Students that receive acknowledgements	

Self-Assessment Survey (SAS)

The SAS score summary will provide the status and need for improvement of effective behavior support systems within the school. Applicants will record the total score summary percentages for the Current Status and Priority for Improvement for each of the four systems areas. Total score summary percentages may be provided by PBISApps.

<p>Date Administered: _____ (Must be within the last 12 months)</p> <p>1. Tier 1 School-Wide Systems</p> <p>Current Status: In Place: _____ Partially In Place: _____ Not In Place: _____</p> <p>Priority for Improvement: High: _____ Medium: _____ Low: _____</p> <p>2. Tier 1 Classroom Systems</p>

Current Status: In Place: _____ **Partially In Place:** _____ **Not In Place:** _____

Priority for Improvement: High: _____ **Medium:** _____ **Low:** _____

3. Tier 2 Systems: (Only Required for Silver and Gold)

Current Status: In Place: _____ **Partially In Place:** _____ **Not In Place:** _____

Priority for Improvement: High: _____ **Medium:** _____ **Low:** _____

4. Tier 3 Systems: (Only Required for Silver and Gold)

Current Status: In Place: _____ **Partially In Place:** _____ **Not In Place:** _____

Priority for Improvement: High: _____ **Medium:** _____ **Low:** _____

Targeted Interventions Reference Guide Map (Silver and Gold Award Only)

This section will document how the school addresses and plans for the function-based support needs for students. Applicants applying for Recognition at the Silver level will be required to upload their Targeted Interventions Reference Guide Map (TFI 2.1 pg. 30/TFI 3.0 Pg.72)

Tier 3 Support Plan Worksheet (Gold Award Only)

This section will document that the school is reviewing and assessing the quality of the behavior plans for students identified as requiring Tier 3 supports. Applicants applying for Recognition at the Gold level will be required to upload their Tier 3 Support Plan Worksheet (TFI 2.1 Pg. 31/TFI 3.0 Pg.73-76).

Discipline Policy

The Discipline Policy section documents school policy regarding suspension, expulsion, removal, and permanent exclusion. This section describes how schools share their discipline policies with students and families, emphasizing a comprehensive approach that includes, but is not limited to, exclusionary discipline.

Applicants must provide both:

1. The Board Discipline Policy as required by [Ohio Law](#).
2. Student and/or Family Handbook sections, newsletter, website etc. communicating specific school or district discipline policies

Applicants will have the option to either:

- Upload copies of the required Discipline Policy materials into the application (only applicable sections should be included and not entire handbooks).
- Copy and paste the required Discipline Policy materials directly into a response box within the application.

State Level Data

State level data is determined by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce and does not require the applicant to submit evidence or materials as part of their Building Recognition Application Survey.

Student Progress Measure (All Recognition award levels):

The Department will retrieve each building’s Student Progress Measure data from the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school year which includes the following Discipline Data reported to EMIS: In-school Suspension, Out-of-school Suspension, In-School Alternate Discipline Class/Program/Building, Expulsion, Emergency Removal by District Personnel and Removal by a Hearing Officer. The Discipline Data divided by enrollment determines the Discipline Rate for each school year. The Discipline Rate comparison between the current school year and the previous school year determines if the Student Progress Measure requirements for Recognition were met. Schools that do not meet the Student Progress Measure criteria will not be eligible for Recognition. Early Childhood (Preschool) Programs are exempt from the Student Progress Measure component and will receive a “N/A” not applicable for this rubric criterion. [Ohio Law](#) requires that no school or district issue out-of-school suspensions or expulsions to students in pre-kindergarten grades through three.

Recognition Level	“Yes” Student Progress Measure Met	“No” Student Progress Measure Not Met
Bronze, Silver, and Gold *Early Childhood Programs receive a N/A for this criterion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decrease in Discipline rate from previous year to current year• No change in Discipline rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase in Discipline rate above 5 absolute value points *Note: Not Eligible to

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in Discipline rate below 5 absolute value points 	receive Recognition for the 2024-2025 school year.
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Chronic Absenteeism Indicator (Silver and Gold award levels):

Schools applying for Silver and Gold Recognition must meet the [Chronic Absenteeism Indicator](#). The indicator can be met through one of two ways:

- The school met the interim goal for 2024-2025 of a Chronic Absenteeism rate of 16.4% or less.

OR

- The school meets the improvement standard of reducing Chronic Absenteeism. The improvement standard is relative to the starting point of the school. If the school or district’s prior year chronic absenteeism rate is less than 36.7%, then the school or district can meet the indicator by reducing their rate by 3 percent, also known as relative improvement. If a school or district’s prior year chronic absenteeism rate is 36.7% or higher, they can meet the indicator by improving their rate by 1.1 percentage points, also known as absolute improvement.

Early Childhood (Preschool) Programs are exempt from the Chronic Absenteeism Indicator component and will receive a “N/A” not applicable for this rubric criterion. Preschool is not considered “compulsory school aged.”

Recognition Level	“Yes” Chronic Absenteeism Indicator Met	“No” Chronic Absenteeism Indicator Not Met
Silver and Gold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024-2025 Chronic Absenteeism Rate is 16.4 % or less. Chronic Absenteeism Rate in 2023-2024 was 36.7% or higher and improved by 1% or more in 2024-2025 school year. Chronic Absenteeism Rate in 2023-2024 was less than 36.7% and improved by 3% or more in 2024-2025 school year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic Absenteeism rate for 2024-2025 is higher than the 2024 interim goal of 16.4% and did not decrease by the minimum percentage required for absolute improvement based upon a comparison of the 2023-2024 rate to the 2024-2025 rate.

		Note: Not eligible to receive Silver or Gold Recognition for the 2024-2025 School Year.
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PBIS Building Recognition Scoring Rubric

PBIS Recognition Applications will be scored in a Yes/No (Y/N) format. Applicants must receive a “Yes” for each of the required Recognition criteria to be eligible for Recognition award. Applicants that receive a “No” for any of the Bronze Recognition criteria will not be eligible for award. If a “No” is received for Silver or Gold Recognition criteria, the application will automatically be reviewed for a lesser criteria award.

Bronze:

Recognition Criteria	Description	Scoring Rubric
Tier 1-Tiered Fidelity Inventory (2.1 or 3.0)	Score demonstrates fidelity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TFI 2.1: 21/30-70% or higher TFI 3.0: 40/80-50% or higher 	Y: TFI 2.1= 70% or higher Y: TFI 3.0= 50% or higher N: Score below fidelity minimum.
Tiered Fidelity Inventory Walkthrough Tool (TFI 2.1 Pg.28/ TFI 3.0 Pg. 67-69)	Scores demonstrate fidelity TFI 2.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of staff list 67% of expectations 70% of students list 67% of expectations 90% of staff give acknowledgements 50% of students receive acknowledgements 	Y: Percentage scores meet minimum to demonstrate fidelity. N: Percentage scores do not meet minimum to demonstrate fidelity.
Self-Assessment Survey (SAS)	SAS completed within the past 12 months and score summary provided.	Y: Complete SAS score summary provided in Recognition Application Survey. N: SAS Score summary incomplete.
Discipline Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board Discipline Policy School Policy describes 	Y: Complete discipline policy provided in Recognition Application Survey

	<p>how schools share their discipline policies with students and families, emphasizing a comprehensive approach that includes, but is not limited to, exclusionary discipline.</p>	<p>N: Discipline policy incomplete or not included in application.</p>
<p>Student Progress Measure Data (determined by the department from EMIS data, no additional evidence required).</p> <p>*Early Childhood programs that do not report this discipline data will not be assessed on this measure. This will be scored as N/A</p>	<p>Discipline Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In-School-Suspension ● Out-of-School Suspension ● In-School Alternate Discipline Class/Program/Building ● Expulsion ● Emergency Removal by District Personnel ● Removal by a Hearing Officer <p>*This will be a comparison of 2023-2024 Discipline Rate Data to the 2024-2025 Discipline Rate Data.</p>	<p>Y: Discipline Rate decrease or remains the same.</p> <p>Y: Discipline Rate marginal increase (change does not increase overall rate by more than 5)</p> <p>N: Discipline Rate increase exceeds the allowable margin</p> <p>*Discipline Rate is determined by the number of Discipline Incidences Reported / Total Enrollment.</p>

Silver: (In addition to all bronze criteria)

Recognition Criteria	Description	Scoring Rubric
Tier 2-Tiered Fidelity Inventory (2.1 or 3.0)	<p>Score demonstrates fidelity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TFI 2.1: 18/26-70% or higher ● TFI 3.0: 30/60-50% or higher 	<p>Y: TFI 2.1= 70% or higher</p> <p>Y: TFI 3.0= 50% or higher</p> <p>N: Score below fidelity minimum.</p>
Targeted Interventions Reference Guide Map (TFI 2.1 Pg. 30/TFI 3.0 Pg.72)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Targeted Interventions Reference Guide Map Completed ● Process to select Tier 2 interventions matched to student need and function of behavior 	<p>Y: Completed Targeted Interventions Reference Guide Map is uploaded into Recognition Application Survey.</p> <p>N: Targeted Interventions Reference Guide Map incomplete.</p>
Chronic Absenteeism Indicator	Chronic Absenteeism Indicator	Y: School meets indicator by either the Interim Goal

(determined by the department from EMIS data, no additional evidence required). *Early Childhood programs that do not report this attendance data will not be assessed on this measure. This will be scored as N/A		Standard or the Improvement Standard pathway. N: Chronic Absenteeism Indicator not met.
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Gold: (In addition to all bronze and silver criteria)

Recognition Criteria	Description	Scoring Rubric
Tier 3-Tiered Fidelity Inventory (2.1 or 3.0)	Score demonstrates fidelity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TFI 2.1: 24/34-70% or higher TFI 3.0: 38/76-50% or higher 	Y: TFI 2.1= 70% or higher Y: TFI 3.0= 50% or higher N: Score below fidelity minimum.
Tier 3 Support Plan Worksheet (TFI 2.1 Pg.31/TFI 3.0 Pg. 73-76)	Complete the Support Plan review of 3 randomly selected Tier 3 plans created in the last 12 months for students needing behavior support.	Y: Complete and upload Tier 3 Support Plan Worksheet to Recognition Survey Application N: Tier 3 Support Plan Worksheet incomplete.

PBIS District Recognition

School districts are eligible to apply for PBIS Recognition at the district level based upon the percentage of buildings within the district that received Recognition. Eligibility Requirements are outlined in the table below:

District Recognition Eligibility Requirements

Total number of Schools within the District	Percentage of Schools within the District that received Building Recognition
1-10	60%
11-40	40%
41+	20%

Eligible districts can apply for Recognition by completing a PBIS District Recognition Application Survey, available October 2025. The survey will request demographic information, district PBIS goal(s), and require the district to demonstrate how it supports PBIS building implementation.

PBIS Recognition Timeline

- **March 3, 2025:** Schools can use the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Recognition Manual and visit [PBIS Recognition](#) for instructions and resources to prepare in advance for the Recognition Application.
- **April 1, 2025-April 30, 2025:** PBIS Recognition Award Application Survey is available on the PBIS Recognition webpage for schools to apply for Recognition.
- **May 1, 2025- May 31, 2025:** Department completes initial application reviews to ensure correct application materials are submitted. Schools will have the opportunity to amend application if errors are located.
- **September 15, 2025:** Restraint and seclusion findings report must be resolved to be eligible for Recognition.
- **September 15, 2025 -October 1, 2025:** Department reviews state level data to determine building Recognition Award status.
- **October 15, 2025:** Department notifications sent to all building applicants.
- **October 13, 2025-October 22, 2025:** District Application Survey available for eligible districts to apply.
- **November 2025:** Department notifies districts of award status

Conclusion

PBIS Recognition information is located at [PBIS Recognition | Ohio Department of Education and Workforce](#). The Department encourages applicants to contact their local [State Support Team](#) or [Educational Service Center](#) for support in completing the application process. Please contact pbisohio@education.ohio.gov with any questions about PBIS Recognition Requirements or the PBIS Building Recognition Application.