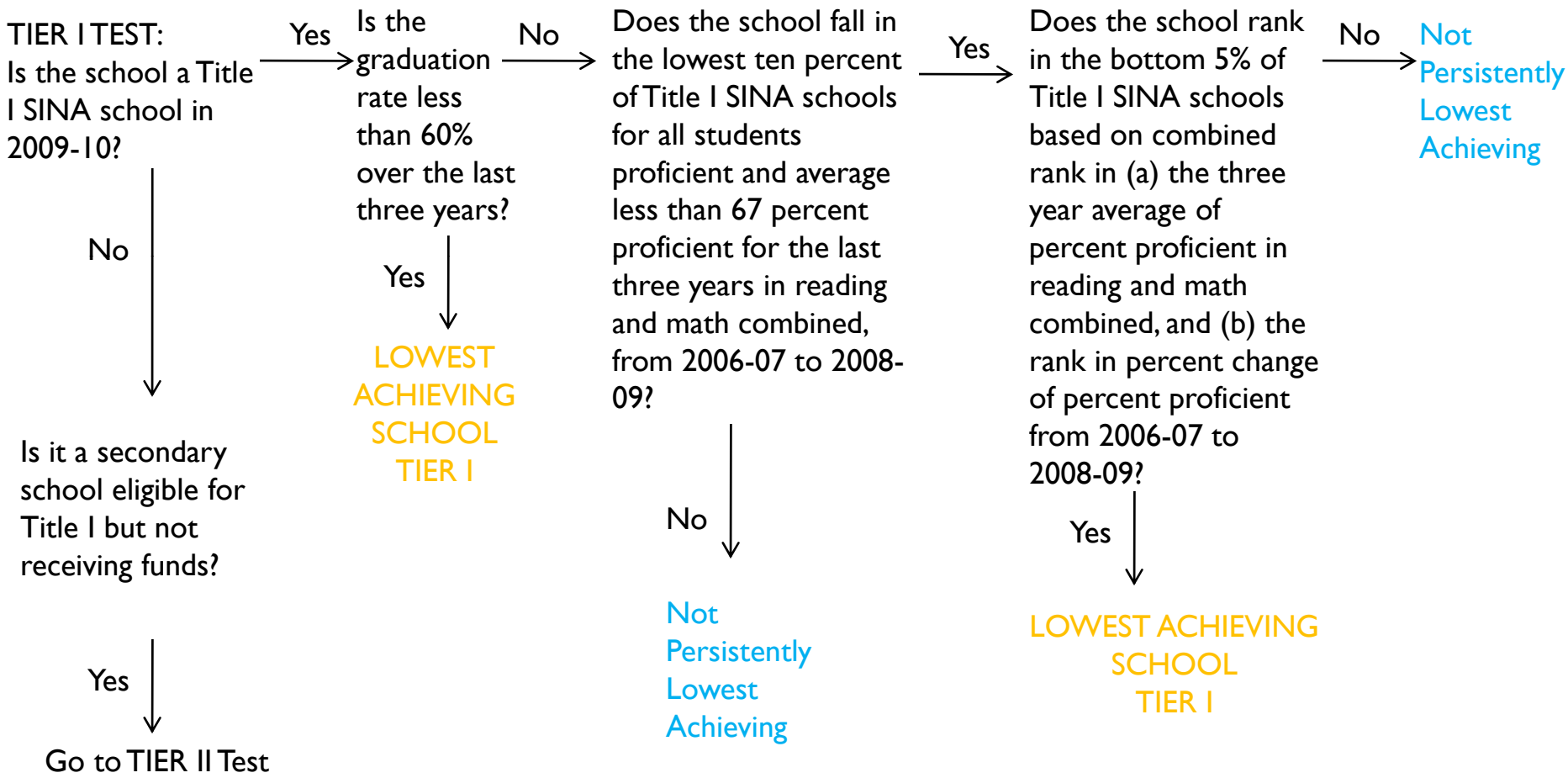
Defining Persistently Lowest Achieving Schools



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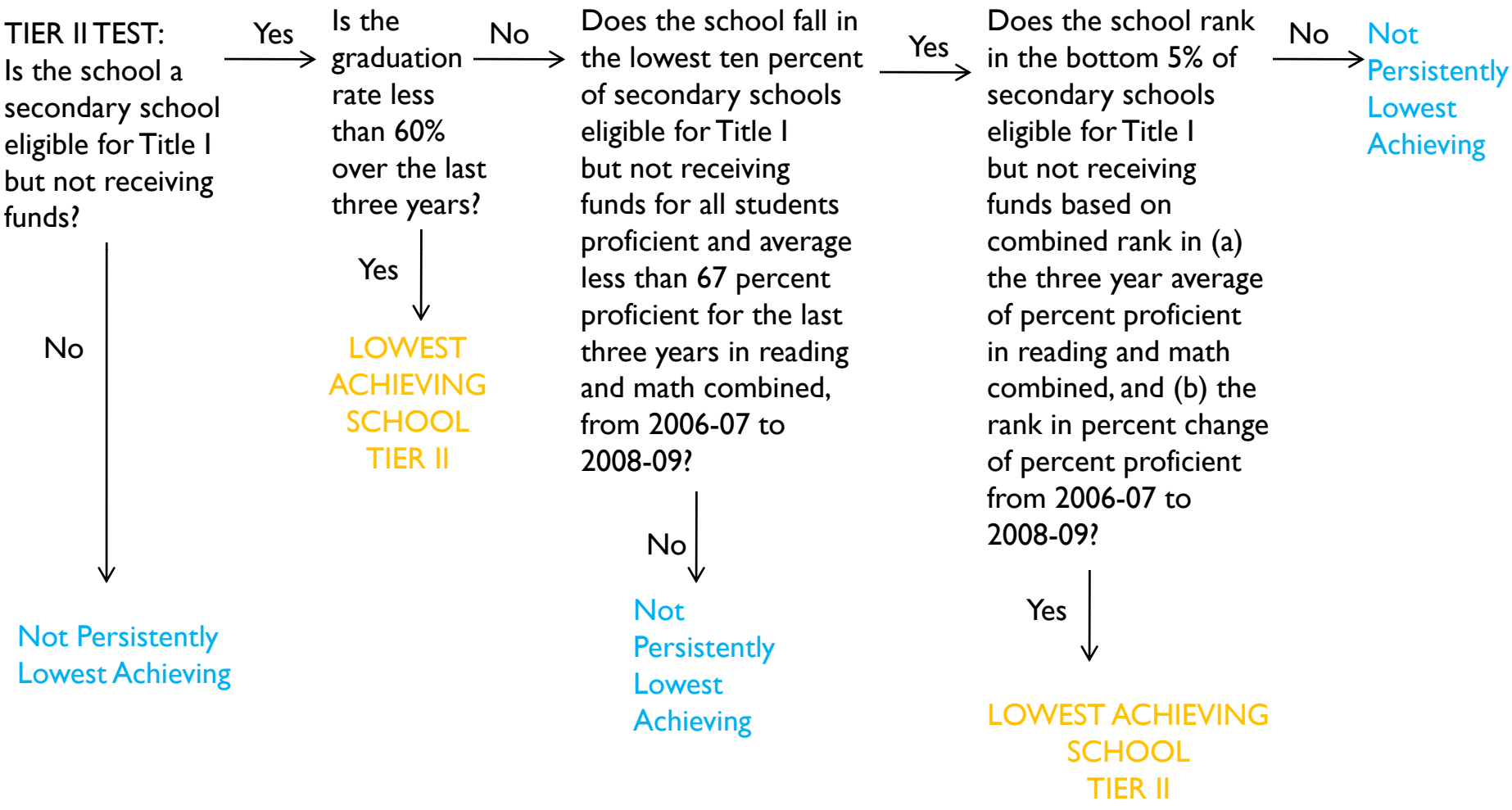

Step 1: Measuring Percent Proficient

$$\text{Percent proficient in reading and math} = \left(\frac{(\text{n proficient reading} + \text{n proficient math})}{(\text{n tested reading} + \text{n tested math})} \right) * 100$$

Step 2: Three-Year Average

$$\text{Average} = \left(\frac{(\%\ \text{prof } 2009 + \%\ \text{prof } 2008 + \%\ \text{prof } 2007)}{3} \right) * 100$$

Only schools that are in the bottom ten percent of the Tier I or II groups (Title I SINA schools or secondary school eligible for Title I but not receiving funds) and average below 67 percent proficient for the last three years are considered in the next step.

Step 3: Measuring Change

$$\text{Change} = \left(\frac{(\%\ \text{proficient } 2009 - \%\ \text{proficient } 2007)}{(\%\ \text{proficient } 2007)} \right) * 100$$

Step 4: Proficiency Change Ranking

Each school in the bottom ten percent of the Tier I or II groups and average below 67 percent proficient for the last three years is ranked (the groups are ranked separately) in ascending order of the percent change in percent proficient.

School	Proficiency Change	Change Rank
B	-14.90	1
A	0.34	2
C	5.62	3

Step 5: Proficiency Ranking

Each school in the bottom ten percent of the Tier I or II groups and average below 67 percent proficient for the last three years is ranked (the groups are ranked separately) in ascending order of the three year average of percent proficient.

School	Average Proficiency	Proficiency Rank
A	35.90	1
B	45.00	2
C	64.87	3

Step 6: Multiply Ranks

The proficiency and change ranks are multiplied to determine the final ranking. The lowest five percent of each Tier I and II group (or five, whichever is greater) are determined to be Persistently Lowest Achieving Schools.

School	Proficiency Rank	Change Rank	Final Rank
A	1	2	2
B	2	1	2
C	3	3	9