



Arizona State Board of Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 2017

State Board of Education Adopts A-F School Accountability Plan

After a two year hiatus allowing for a transition to higher academic standards and a new assessment, the State Board of Education adopted a new A-F School Accountability plan effective for the 2016-2017 school year. The new plan adopted by the Board complies with the requirements of A.R.S. §15-241 and the accountability provisions of ESSA, while recognizing the opportunity to measure the quality of a school and its effectiveness across a broader range of measures than in the past.

The K-8 plan provides for multiple indicators weighted as follows: proficiency at 30%, growth at 50%, English Language Learners' growth and proficiency at 10% and acceleration/readiness at 10%. The 9-12 plan provides for multiple indicators weighted as follows: proficiency at 30%, growth at 20%, English Language Learners' growth and proficiency at 10%, graduation rate at 20% and college and career readiness at 20%. These indicators also include multiple measures of student performance. The attached tables detail the indicators and measures.

To aid in the effort, the State Board of Education appointed an ad hoc committee, consisting of 13 members from a wide range of stakeholders, including Board members, superintendents, teachers, parents, educational policy advocates, a charter school representative, and a representative from the Governor's office. In connection with its recommendations made to the Board, the committee identified the following purposes in adopting an A-F School Accountability Plan 1) fairness and equity; 2) student-level focus; 3) transparency, ease of understanding, and ease of communication; and 4) incentives to action.

The Accountability Advisory Group (AAG), facilitated by the Arizona Department of Education, also provided technical assistance to the committee and recommendations. The AAG consisted of assessment, accountability and data administrators from a variety of LEAs, charter schools and the Arizona Charter Schools Association. In addition, the State Board of Education facilitated 17 public hearings across the state and collected nearly 1700 survey responses from the public.

In adopting the new A-F School Accountability plan effective for the 2016-2017 school year, the State Board of Education indicated that it will engage in a timely review of the impacts of the adopted plan.

Arizona 2016-2017 K-8 A-F School Accountability Plan
adopted by the State Board of Education on April 24, 2017

Category	Component	Weight	Points/ Percentage
Proficiency	<p>Az MERIT English Language Arts and Math and AIMS Science Proficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 credit for minimally proficient (MP) • .6 for partially proficient (PP) • 1 for proficient (P) • 1.3 for highly proficient (HP) <p>3 Years Full academic year (FAY)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 points for 3 years • 10 points for 2 years • 5 points for 1 year 	30%	30%
Growth	<p>Student Growth Percentiles on Az MERIT English Language Arts and Math (SGP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are classified as low (1-33), average (34-66) or high (67-99) SGP • Points are awarded based on their performance level the prior year (MP, PP, P, HP) and their growth level in the current year 	25%	50%
	<p>Student Growth to Target on Az MERIT English Language Arts and Math (SGT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are assigned a target to scale score needed to reach proficiency within 3 years or eighth grade, whichever comes first. • Points are awarded based on students reaching their annual target, with lower performing students reaching their target receiving the most points. 	25%	
English Language Learners*	<p>Proficiency on AZELLA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on school's percentage of students proficient compared to the state's average ELL proficiency 	5%	10%
	<p>Growth on AZELLA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on school's change in performance levels compared to the state's average change in performance levels the prior year. 	5%	
Acceleration/ Readiness	<p>Grades 5, 6, 7, 8 High School AzMERIT Math</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increases in students scoring proficient or higher • Schools achieving a proficiency rate of 25% or higher <p>Decrease Grade 3 English language arts minimally proficient students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A school's current year minimally proficient percentage is less than the school's prior year minimally proficient percentage OR • A school's current year and prior year minimally proficient percentage equals 0 <p>Decrease chronic absenteeism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A school's current year chronic absenteeism percentage is less than the school's prior year chronic absenteeism percentage OR 	10%	10%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A school's current year and prior year chronic absenteeism percentage equals 0 <p>Inclusion of students with high incident and low incident disabilities in general education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools with 7% or more of their population in special education, n count of at least 20, and with students in special education spending 80%+ of their day in the general education classroom receive points depending on the students' classification <p>Improved growth of subgroups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A school's subgroup scores show improvement from the prior year's state average for the subgroup OR • A school's subgroup scores are equal to or better than the state's target for the subgroup. 		
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*Schools with an *n* count of less than ELL students are not eligible for ELL points and will have letter grades calculated based on a 90/90 scale

**Arizona 2016-2017 9-12 A-F School Accountability Plan
adopted by the State Board of Education on April 24, 2017**

Category	Component	Weight	Points/ Percentage
Proficiency	Az MERIT English Language Arts and Math and AIMS Science Proficiency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 credit for minimally proficient (MP) • .6 for partially proficient (PP) • 1 for proficient (P) • 1.3 for highly proficient (HP) 1 Years Full academic year (FAY) • 30 points for 1 year 	30%	30%
Growth	Student Growth Percentiles on Az MERIT English Language Arts and Math (SGP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are classified as low (1-33), average (34-66) or high (67-99) SGP • Points are awarded based on their performance level the prior year (MP, PP, P, HP) and their growth level in the current year 	10%	20%
	Student Growth to Target on Az MERIT English Language Arts and Math (SGT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are assigned a target to scale score needed to reach proficiency within 3 years • Points are awarded based on students reaching their annual target, with lower performing students reaching their target receiving the most points. 	10%	
English Language Learners*	Proficiency on AZELLA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based school's percentage of students proficient compared to the state average ELL proficiency 	5%	10%
	Growth on AZELLA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on school's change in performance levels compared to the state's average change in performance levels the prior year. 	5%	
High School Graduation Rate	Cohort 2015 4-year graduation rate x .10	10	20%
	Cohort 2014 5-year graduation rate x .08	8	
	Cohort 2013 6-year graduation rate x .05	5	
	Cohort 2012 7-year graduation rate x .01	1	
College and Career Readiness	Schools self-report data report for grade 12 graduating students to generate an overall score. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A school's College and Career Readiness (CCR) A-F Point total will be determined by averaging the CCR A-F points from that year's graduates. • A student who accumulates 1 Indicator Point = 7.5 CCR A-F Points, scaled to 20% weighting. • A student who accumulates 2 Indicator Points = 15 CCR A-F Points, scaled to 20% weighting. • A student who accumulates less than 1.0 Indicator points = 0 • A student who accumulates 1 point of Red Indicators AND 1 point of Blue Indicators will generate 2 bonus CCR A-F points. • A school that increases the percent or has 85% of post-secondary enrollment and/or military service of prior year's graduates will generate 1 bonus point. 	20%	20%

Value	Indicators		
1.25 Blue	Earns a Grand Canyon Diploma or International Baccalaureate Diploma		
1.25 Red	Completes a CTE sequence and passes the Arizona Technical Skills Assessment for that sequence		
.5 per exam Blue	Passing score on AzMERIT Algebra 2 or ELA 11		
.35 per exam Blue	Meets cut score on ACT English, math, reading or science exam		
.5 per exam Blue	Meets cut score on SAT English or math exam		
.5 per exam Blue	Meets cut score on any AP exam		
.3 Red or Blue	Completes the FAFSA		
.5 per course Red	Passes a college level career pathway (CTE) course for which college credit can be earned with an A, B, or C (i.e. dual enrollment and concurrent enrollment)		
.5 per course Blue	Passes a college level English, math, science, social studies, or foreign language course for which college credit can be earned with an A, B, or C (i.e. dual enrollment and concurrent enrollment)		
.25 per course Red	Completes a CTE course with an A, B, or C (outside of completed sequence referenced above) –		
.5 Red	Meets benchmarks for ASVAB		
.5 Red	Meets benchmarks for ACT WorkKeys		
.35 per exam Blue	Meets cut score on ACCUPLACER, ALEKS, COMPASS (or any nationally recognized college placement exam currently used by an Arizona institution), or Cambridge IGCSE English, reading, writing, math, social studies, science, or foreign language exam		
.5 per exam Blue	Meets cut score on CLEP, Cambridge A or AS, or IB English, math, social studies, science, or foreign language exam		
.5 per credential, certificate, or license Red	Earns an Industry-Recognized Credential, Certificate, or License No more than one point may be awarded in this indicator.		
1 Red	Completes well-defined Work-Based Learning (i.e. internship) of at least 120 hours		
1 Blue	Meet all 16 Arizona Board of Regents program of study requirements		

*Schools with an *n* count of less than ELL students are not eligible for ELL points and will have letter grades calculated based on a 90/90 scale