



## Arizona State Board of Education

1700 W. Washington Street  
Executive Tower, Suite 300  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
Phone: (602) 542-5057  
Website: [azsbe.az.gov](http://azsbe.az.gov)



**March 31, 2020**

The Board held a special meeting to implement measures prescribed in HB 2910; signed by the Governor in response to COVID-19.

### **Awarding Academic Credit and High School Diplomas**

The Board adopted emergency rules regarding the issuance of academic credit and high school diplomas for the 2019-2020 school year. The entire rule can be viewed [here](#) and a summary is below.

When deciding how to award academic credit and high school diplomas, schools should first base the decisions on the entire school year, including any educational opportunities provided during closures. School districts and charter schools determine what the educational opportunities are and how they are delivered. Examples may include independent study and online instruction.

If schools are unable to provide educational opportunities during the closure, then schools may look to the student's progress prior to the closure. Specifically, if the student already met the competency requirements for the course or was on track to graduate prior to the closure, then the school may award the credit or diploma. How to make this determination is at the discretion of the school district or charter school.

Regarding the Civics Test Graduation Requirement, students are still required by statute to receive a 60% or better on the Civics Test. As a reminder, students may take the assessment in a form and manner determined by the school district or charter school. Schools should not withhold diplomas from a student that is unable to take the assessment due to barriers created by the public health emergency.

These rules are intended to clarify pathways to award credit and diplomas as the result of the closures. Schools retain the authority to decide whether to issue diplomas or credit to students. However, schools may not base these decisions solely due to missed instructional time as the result of the closure.

### **Remote School Learning Opportunity Plan Form**

HB 2910 requires local education agencies (LEA) to offer educational opportunities, as determined by the LEA, during the school closure in order to receive continued formula

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*President: Lucas Narducci*

*Vice President: Dr. Daniel Corr*

*Superintendent of Public Instruction: Kathy Hoffman*

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funding. The Board and ADE are required to adopt the manner in which LEAs attest to providing educational opportunities.

To accomplish this, LEAs must do the following by April 15, 2020:

- Fill out a [form](#) for each school or LEA.
- On the form, LEAs will attest to the educational opportunities they are providing to students via a signature by the LEA's superintendent, school leader or their designee.

The Remote School Learning Opportunity Plan form can be accessed here: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dz39okbrFIGckwXDRB7hzoquqfayYbc-eyq0Bw\\_ZItM/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dz39okbrFIGckwXDRB7hzoquqfayYbc-eyq0Bw_ZItM/edit).

Following the end of the school year, the Board will follow-up with schools on the Plans submitted.

### **Assessment and Accountability**

Pursuant to HB 2910:

- Statewide assessments are canceled for the 2019-2020 school year. This includes AzM2, AIMS Science, MSAA. Additional information will be provided regarding the Menu of Assessments in the 2019-2020 school year. Please contact assessment at the Arizona Department of Education for more information: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/>
- For the 2019-2020 school year, schools will receive the same letter grade as they received in the 2018-2019 school year. Notably, schools are not subject to the 3D = F statute.

The Board also approved requests to the federal government to waive requirements regarding assessment and accountability and expect a prompt response.

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