

ACCOUNTABILITY & RESEARCH

THE GRADER

December 2021 Edition

INCOME ELIGIBILITY 1 & 2 GUIDANCE	2
PROPERLY EXITING 12TH GRADERS WITH 'SC' YEAR-END STATUS	3
REPORT CARD ROLLOVER	3
PUPIL WITHDRAWAL MONITORING	4
ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL APPLICATION INFORMATION AND TIMELINE	6
FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION REPORT COMING IN EARLY JANUARY	7
APPROVAL OF THE 2021-2022 STATE ACCOUNTABILITY A-F MODELS	7
TIMELINE	8



CONTACT

Achieve@azed.gov

(602)542-5151



Income Eligibility I & II Guidance

Articles over the last three years in The Grader shared information regarding the various measure of poverty and how they work together and when they do not. It is important to remind everyone that Income Eligibility I & II must be entered in the SIS system for the individual students in order for them to be counted in any of the publicly reported Accountability data sets.

A recent check completed in preparation of this year's October 1 Enrollment reports show that Income Eligibility reporting is down 14.8% from the 2020-2021 school year and down 28% from the 2019-2020 school year.

The requirements for LEAs to report student level Income Eligibility I and II indicators have not changed. Accountability, other programs, and grants each consume the Income Eligibility I and II indicator data for various purposes; this includes the P-EBT program. Schools should enter student-level, October 1 data in AzEDS by the tentative January 18th deadline to reflect the most accurate, student-level information.

More information Income Eligibility I and II reporting can be found in the following guidance documents issued by ADE:

- [Guidelines To Determine Eligible Students FY22.pdf \(azed.gov\)](#)
- [11 30 2021 Joint Guidance to LEAs around Income Eligibility Submissions](#)

SPECIAL NOTE: Income Eligibility I and II Indicators are not utilized for P-EBT benefit determinations only when a school participates in one of the Special Provision Options of the NSLP; students attending these schools are automatically eligible for P-EBT. If you have questions regarding this, please contact ADE Health and Nutrition - PEBTInbox@azed.gov



Properly Exiting 12th Graders with ‘SC’ Year-End Status

Twelfth grade students that finish the school year and **do not graduate** should be withdrawn with the Year-End code ‘SC’. Year-End codes ‘R’ and ‘P’ are not applicable to 12th grade students, and if used will cause these students to fail integrity in AzEDS. Integrity failures can cause issues with reporting as well as funding. Please ensure that correct Year-End codes and withdrawal codes are being used. Full descriptions of these codes can be found in our [Graduation, Dropout, and Persistence Technical Manual](#).



Report Card Rollover

ADE is working on updating the Arizona School Report Cards to display data from the 2020-2021 school year. The rollover is planned for December 20, 2021. We also plan on releasing Version 4.0, which has the following additions, updates, or changes:

GENERAL WEBSITE UPDATES

- Enhanced comparison reporting
- High Contrast display options
- CTED data
- COVID data impact narratives continued
- School, LEA, and State Comparison Tables

Although some of these items have already been deployed, there are some brand new features planned.

SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS

School characteristics is still touted as one of the most valuable pieces of information found on our school report cards. In order for this to be up to date, LEAs or schools must submit this information through the School Report Card Admin found on ADEConnect. If you do not see this option, you must reach out to your Entity Administrator and request that they assign this role to your account. Accountability staff cannot do this for you. Instructions for completing school characteristics are available here:

- [Full Guide to Update School Characteristics in SRC Admin found on ADEConnect](#)
- [Abbreviated Guide to Update School Characteristics in SRC Admin found on ADEConnect](#)

School characteristics can be updated whenever a school chooses to do so. Our analytics show an average of 10,000 hits per month over the last 90 days. Don't be one of the schools to have those sections blank when parents are searching!



Pupil Withdrawal Monitoring

Throughout the school year, schools will be randomly selected to participate in this year's pupil withdrawal monitoring. Schools from LEAs identified as participating in Title I Programmatic Cycle 4 Monitoring this year are more likely to be selected. The next round of schools' Superintendents/Charter Holders and federal program personnel (where applicable) will be notified on January 1st. Future schools will be notified on the first business day of each month from January to March.

The monitoring is specific to the "Official Notice of Pupil Withdrawal" form. A link to that document, which includes "Guidance and Procedures", can be found [here](#). Using the proper withdrawal codes ensures the accurate reporting of graduation, dropout, and persistency rates.

Schools that serve students in grades 6 through 12 may want to review the [Graduation, Dropout, and Persistence Rate Technical Manual](#) to understand how exit codes affect these measurements.

Schools that are selected can expect the following steps for the monitoring:

- District and Charter Holders will be notified via their federal program personnel and Superintendents.
- Contacts on whom to work with for the monitoring will be established.
- Materials will be shared on the process to include help documents, contacts, and forms to be used.
- A technical review will be conducted.
- Schools not meeting a threshold of 95% accuracy during the technical review will go through further analysis.
- If the second analysis does not result in an 80% accuracy or higher threshold, the schools will be asked to meet additional criteria for the following year.



Self-Reported Data Monitoring

We will be conducting a basic monitoring of Self-Report spreadsheets used for A-F Letter Grades components. This includes CCRI for Traditional and Alternative schools, as well as Credits Earned and On-Track to Graduate for Alternative schools. A small sample of Traditional 9-12 schools will be selected at random to provide their completed CCRI spreadsheet from the 2020-2021 school year. Additionally, a small sample of Alternative 9-12 schools will be selected at random to provide their completed 2020-2021 school year spreadsheet for CCRI, Credits Earned, and/or On-Track to Graduate. The person who submitted the points for 2020-2021 school year (indicated in ADEConnect) will receive a direct notification from our team along with a due date by which they will be required to provide their completed spreadsheet.

Schools that are selected for Self-Report Data Monitoring were notified December 1st.



Alternative School Application Information and Timeline

All schools serving Grades 6-12 that would like to be considered for Alternative School status for the 2022-2023 school year must complete and submit the Alternative School Application. **Schools operating a Dropout Recovery Program (DRP) must apply for Alternative School status.** The application window is scheduled to open on February 14, 2022 and close on March 31, 2022. The following information will be required in the application:

- **The mission statement as of October 1, 2021 that clearly identifies its purpose is to serve a specific student population that will benefit from an alternative school setting**
- Supporting documentation of the mission statement such as the school improvement plan, a student-parent handbook, marketing materials, etc.
- Quantitative data regarding the number of students who would meet required alternative student criterion (i.e., those who have a documented history of disruptive behavior issues, the number of students who have dropped out and are now returning, etc.)
- The total number of students enrolled as of October 1, 2021
- School information such as the entity ID, school address, and superintendent's name

More information about Alternative Schools and requirements can be found on our [Alternative Schools](#) page. Please keep in mind that schools must apply each year to be considered for alternative school status even if they have been previously approved.



Four-Year Graduation Report Coming in January

Cohort 2021's 4-Year Graduation Rate will be published in January of 2022. While reporting the 4-Year Graduation Rates in January will not change any part of A-F and Federal Accountability calculations, it allows ADE Accountability to publish timely graduation data to stakeholders and policymakers. As such, it is very important that schools have completed any data corrections or summer/fall graduations for students in Cohort 2021 by the end of December 2021.



Approval of the 2021-2022 State Accountability A-F Models

The December Arizona State Board of Education (SBE) meeting will be held on December 13, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. It will include the proposed changes to the 2021-2022 State Accountability models for K-8 Traditional, 9-12 Traditional, Non-Typical Traditional and Alternative School models. Arizona Online Instruction (AOI) schools will be following the traditional models with specific modifications for their school characteristics.

You can view the materials and the details for the agenda when posted at this location: <https://azsbe.az.gov/public-meetings> .

In addition, if you would like to watch the meeting on YouTube, please use this link to access SBE's YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsNwAaD9tyciKskyp0R2e5A> .

The main considerations are:

- Keeping the models as close as possible to the 2020-2021 accountability component model which will allow comparison to prior year data in order to identify possible changes and/or improvements to the prior year performance
- Gathering data on the change in assessment platform for 3-8 and statewide administration of ACT in 11th grade, while working towards a statewide five-year plan for accountability
- Monitoring the continuing COVID-19 impact on components
- Evaluating the AOI school performance on the traditional models with future cut-point modeling



Timeline

Below are important dates and deadlines for Accountability. Please check [The Examiner](#) (Assessment’s newsletter) for the most up to date information on assessments.

<p>December 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12/1 Begin Self-Reported Data Monitoring • 12/13 Arizona State Board Meeting • 12/20 Arizona School Report Card Rollover
<p>January 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/18 Income Eligibility AzEDS student level data entered for inclusion in Accountability October 1 reporting • Ongoing Pupil Withdrawal Monitoring • Ongoing A-F Self-Report Monitoring • Cohort 2021 4-Year Graduation Rate Report
<p>February 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing Pupil Withdrawal Monitoring • Ongoing A-F Self-Report Monitoring • 2/14 Alternative School application window opens