

Arizona's K-2 A-F Letter Grade Model



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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RESEARCH & EVALUATION



Purpose for Today's Discussion

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- Technical & Policy changes relating to 2012 A-F Letter Grade Calculations
- Components of the Small School A-F Letter Grade Model
- Appeals process
- ADE timelines for data correction, preliminary classifications, appeals, and final determinations

What's New for 2012?

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- Legislative Changes
- 95% Tested Rules
- A-F model refinements
- ELL Reclassification Criteria
- Small School Parallel Model

Legislative Changes

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AZ LEARNS-LEGACY “F” LETTER GRADES

What's New for 2012 – AZ LEARNS replaced & 'F' Letter Grades

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Senate Bill 1458 (*Laws 2012, Ch. 67*) impacts accountability in two important ways:

- **The law replaces the AZ LEARNS-Legacy Achievement Profiles with A-F Letter Grades.**
 - ADE will no longer calculate AZ LEARNS Achievement Profiles for schools
 - Entities will be held accountable only to A-F Letter Grades beginning in 2012
- **Schools/LEAs can be assigned a letter grade of 'F' beginning with the labels issued for the 2011-2012 school year**
 1. If the entity was required to participate in the mandatory school improvement process pursuant to A.R.S §15-241 in 2010 and 2011 *and* ...
 2. is assigned a letter grade of 'D' for the first time in July 2012

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95% TESTED

What's New for 2012 - 95% Tested Rule for AIMS & AIMS A

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Schools are required to test all students

- In alignment with the US Department of Education's approval of Arizona's request for flexibility from ESEA, one important component included in the A-F system is a 95% Tested requirement
- The new rule requires schools/LEAs to test 95% of students taking **AIMS & AIMS A** in the current year
- Pursuant to federal requirements, the 1% cap will be applied at the LEA level

95% Tested Rule

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- A single schoolwide measure (Reading & Math combined)

Students Tested

Students Enrolled

- Includes students in Grades 3-8 and Grade 10 for AIMS & AIMS A
- Both FAY & non-FAY students are included
- **Tested** = students with a test record and an enrollment record
 - Valid test score
 - Enrolled on Test Date (HS) or on first day of testing window (ES)
- **Enrolled** = students enrolled on test date with enrollment record, with or without test record

What's New for 2012 – Consequences of Failing to Test 95%

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Percentage of Students Tested	Maximum Letter Grade Allowed	Eligible Points
95% or higher	A	200+
85-94%	B	139
75-84%	C	119
Less than 75%	D	99



The 95% Tested rule applies to ALL A-F Accountability Models

ADDITIONAL GROWTH POINT

What's New for 2012 – Additional Point in the Growth Component

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- The A-F Letter Grade models are set up so that a school/LEA can earn up to 100 points in the Growth portion and an additional 100 points on the Composite side of the model
- The growth portion of the model, however, is made up of percentiles which range from 1-99
- **All schools will receive one (1) additional point** allowing for the growth points to reach a total possible of 100 points to equate the two sides of the model

AIMS A

What's New for 2012 – Inclusion of AIMS A

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- Students taking AIMS A will be included in the Composite portion of all A-F Letter Grade models
- Students participating in AIMS A who have demonstrated proficiency (i.e. *Meets* or *Exceeds*) in the current year will be accounted for in the percent passing calculation

ELL RECLASSIFICATION RATE

What's New for 2012 – ELL Reclassification Rate Criteria

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Criteria	2012	Previous
Minimum N-count for Eligibility	Schools serving 10 or more ELL students school-wide will be included	Schools serving 16 or more ELL students school-wide
Eligibility for ELL Additional Points	Must test at least 95% of ELL students with a demonstrated ELL need on AZELLA during end-of-year testing*	
Enrollment	FAY students <u>only</u>	Continuously enrolled for 150 or more days in ELL program
Additional Inclusion	ELL students withdrawn by parent request are <u>included</u> in the ELL reclassification rate calculation	Previously excluded from the calculation
30% Reclassification Rate = 3 points		

*Pursuant to *A.R.S §15-756 (B)*, which mandates the assessment of English language proficiency of all pupils with a primary or home language other than English

A-F Letter Grade Accountability System: **The K-2 Model**



The K-2 A-F Letter Grade Model



On-Target Score
100 points possible

On-Target

- Percentage of students at or above Stanford 10 scale score Benchmarks in Grade 2 that predict proficiency on AIMS in 3rd grade

Composite Score
100 points possible

Academic Outcomes

- Percentage of Grade 2 students at or above 5th stanine on Stanford 10
- Percent ELL students reclassified

Composite Score + **On-Target Score** = **A-F Letter Grade**
(100 points possible) + (100 points possible) = 200 points possible

Composite Score – The K-2 Model

Percent Passing

- Norm-referenced Stanford 10 test used to determine the percentage of students passing in the current academic year
- A student is defined as '**passing**' if he or she scores **at or above the 5th stanine**
- Reading and Mathematics are calculated separately, averaged and equal to a point value between 0-100

ELL Reclassification Points

- Calculated same as traditional model

On-Target Score – The K-2 Model

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This is a measure indicating the degree to which students in Grade 2 are **on-track** to grade-level proficiency on AIMS Reading and Mathematics in Grade 3

“Which scale score on Stanford 10 Grade 2 Reading and Mathematics best predicts proficiency on AIMS Grade 3 Reading and Mathematics?”

- The 2010 Stanford 10 Grade 2 scores were regressed on their 2011 Grade 3 AIMS scores to create a predictor model establishing a benchmark on Stanford 10 Grade

SAT10 Math Benchmark - 577 scale score

SAT 10 Reading Benchmark - 580 scale score

- Reading and Mathematics percentages are averaged and equal to a total point value between 0-100

Calculating a Final Letter Grade – Example School

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A-F Component		Total Points
Percent Passing Points		80
Additional Points	ELL Reclassification	3
Total Composite Points		83
On-Target Points		50
Total A-F Points:		133
Final Letter Grade:		B

LEA Letter Grades – Growth + Composite

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- **Growth** Points will be averaged
- **Percent Passing** points will be calculated at the LEA level
 - 1% cap applies at the LEA level for students taking AIMS A
- **ELL Reclassification Rate** points will be calculated at the LEA level
 - 95% Tested and n-count of at least 10 students district wide
- **Graduation** Points will be averaged
- **Additional Points** will be averaged across schools (Academic persistence, graduation rate, dropout rate)
- **Final Letter Grade = Growth points + Composite points**
 - Total Points on a 200-point A-F Letter Grade Scale

Important Dates for 2012 Accountability Cycle

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Event	Date
Preliminary Release on Common Logon	June 19, 2012
Substantive Appeals Window Opens	June 19, 2012
Substantive Appeals Window Closes	June 30, 2012
Program Membership Data Corrections Close	June 30, 2012
Grad Rate/Dropout Rate Data Corrections Close	June 30, 2012
Embargoed Release of Final A-F Letter Grades	July 24, 2012
Public Release	July 25, 2012

Substantive Appeals

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- The ***Appeals Application*** on the Common Logon is meant **only for substantive appeals** for *preliminary* A-F Letter Grades
- Substantive reasons for an appeal involve those **circumstances outside of an entity's control that adversely affected student performance** on AIMS and AZELLA.
 - Entities may not appeal the A-F Letter Grade formulae
 - Entities may not appeal the 95% tested rule unless the inability to test 95% or more of the students was due to unique circumstances outside of the school's control.
 - Entities may not appeal individual students' scores.
- Substantive appeals submitted via email will not be accepted and will not be included in the appeals process

Data Corrections

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- Statistical appeals *are no longer accepted via the Appeals Application*. Instead, we are providing a *Data Corrections Window* for SAIS corrections to AZELLA (all ELL-related data) and for AIMS SAIS ID corrections
- All data corrections must be done via SAIS file upload, SAIS Online, or the SAIS ID corrections application and do not require notification being sent to ADE. **All deadlines are at 5:00 p.m. MST.** *Please make sure all data corrections are done well ahead of the deadline*

A-F Letter Grades – Additional Information for Schools/LEAs

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Beginning in 2012, the AIMS Download files will also include the following data:

- Prior Year AIMS Performance Level by subject
- Prior Year AIMS Scale Score by subject
- Prior Year SGP (SGP_ALL)
 - Beginning 2012, a single SGP variable will be provided
- Prior Year Bottom 25% Indicator

Schools will also have access to a separate application to download a roster of the current year's Bottom 25% percent that will be included in the following year's A-F letter grade calculation

- Tentatively available in early Fall 2012

Thank You

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