

Arizona State Board of Education

Application for Arizona Online Instruction (AOI) Schools and Programs



Application for 2011 – 2012 School Year

School District¹ Application for
Arizona Online Instruction (AOI) Schools and Programs

Application Package Deadline:

Close of business on **February 11, 2011.**

Applications should be sent to:
State Board of Education
1535 W Jefferson St, Bin # 11
Phoenix, AZ 85007
stateboardinbox@azed.gov

Who is eligible to apply: Any school district

Application Package:

- Single original paper submission of Application Package, including Appendix and Statement of Assurances
- Electronic copy of entire submission.

Evaluation Process:

The Board will develop an evaluation team that will meet and score the application.

Consideration:

After each application has been scored on the established criteria, the Board will be provided with a copy of the application package, the results of the scoring, and the current fiscal and academic compliance of the applicant. It is anticipated that final consideration of each application will occur at the Board's meeting on April 25, 2011.

¹ Interested charter schools must make application through the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools.

1.

Cover Page

Name of District applying to add a school or program

LEA CTD (County, Type, District code)

Name of proposed AOI school or program

Proposed grade levels of AOI school or program (may not be grade levels outside of current authority)

Name of District Contact, including mailing address, phone number and email address

Name of AOI school or program administrator, including mailing address, phone number and email address

Mission of the District

Mission of the proposed AOI school or program

2.

Introduction (4 page maximum):

The Introduction must be specific, concise, and provide the reader with a sense of the educational intent of the school/program and a rationale for that intent. The following elements must be included in the narrative:

Needs Analysis: Provide an explanation of the need or interest for the proposed school's model for the selected community/population to be served. Include a description of the community, or the target population, and explain how the selected community/target population will benefit from the school.

Educational Philosophy: Identify the principles or concepts fundamental to the proposed school's instructional strategies.

Summary of Instructional Program: Describe the design of courses, delivery methods, and inclusion of course offerings beyond core requirements.

Implementation: Describe how the AOI School/Program will be integrated within the current school system.

Governance and Leadership: Identify the roles, responsibilities and experience of those that oversee the development, implementation, assessment, and accountability of the program.

Accessibility: Describe the accessibility of AOI courses and any limitations in access for your target population. Specify the technology requirements students will need to access AOI courses including bandwidth requirements.

Enrollment: Describe what measures will be taken to ensure all enrolled students reside in Arizona. Describe how the AOI program will monitor students concurrently enrolled in AOI and another school and what the AOI school/program will do to ensure a shared apportionment of no more than 1.0.

3.

Describe the depth and breadth of curriculum choices.

A list of course offering with descriptions must be included as an appendix.

Evaluation Criteria:

The extent to which:

- The AOI High School/Program offers a comprehensive academic program that provides the minimum course of study and competency requirements for graduation from high school, based on their current cohort year requirements.
- The AOI School/Program offers a variety of comprehensive courses to meet State Board of Education Academic Standards for the identified student population.
- The AOI School/Program offer concurrent, dual, Honors, or AP credit.
- The course offerings/content prepare students for post-secondary success in the world of work, technical school or college.

4.

Describe the variety of educational methodologies employed by the school and the means of addressing the unique needs and learning styles of targeted pupil populations.

Evaluation Criteria:

The extent to which:

- The AOI program's educational methodology includes computer assisted learning systems, virtual classrooms, virtual laboratories, electronic field trips, electronic mail, virtual tutoring, online help desk, group chat sessions and non-computer based activities performed under the direction of a certificated teacher.
- Various learning styles are addressed in the delivery methods.
- Modifications to content delivery by course or by lesson can be made.
- Methods provide synchronous and asynchronous support to AOI students.
- Learner support systems with methods of communication are included.
- Selected methodologies exhibit knowledge of current online delivery best practices and the ability to implement and evaluate these practices.

5.

Describe the availability of an intranet or private network to safeguard pupils against predatory and pornographic elements of the internet.

Evaluation Criteria:

The extent to which:

- The provision of Learning Management Systems (LMS) and Content Delivery Systems (CDS) that ensure user security through password protected access are described.
- The type and quantity of external links used in the course content are described, if external links are required as part of the content delivery and student learning process and how links are chosen, screened, and updated to ensure adequate protection.
- A means for students to identify and report problems with external links.

6.

Describe the availability of filtered research access to the Internet.

Evaluation Criteria:

The extent to which:

- The AOI school/program identifies safe research practices for the student.
- The AOI school/program makes various avenues available to AOI students to support research requirements included in the course content and course requirements.

7.

Describe the availability of private individual electronic mail between pupils, teachers, administrators and parents in order to protect the confidentiality of pupil records and information.

Evaluation Criteria:

The extent to which:

- The AOI school/program has an internal email communication system available within the CDS that is only available to the student and any staff, parent, guardian or other stakeholder that plays an integral part in monitoring and supporting the success of the student.
- Any communications between staff, student, and parents is logged and secure.

8.

Describe the selection and training for online teachers.

Evaluation Criteria:

The extent to which:

- The AOI School/Program has established a system of ongoing professional development and monitoring for teachers in an online environment.
- Faculty members are required to exhibit competency in the use of the LMS so that the technology itself does not interfere with the instructional process and create barriers to student academic success.
- Instructors will be minimally highly qualified as defined by NCLB for charter holders and must also be appropriately certified for school districts.

9.

Describe the school's current partnerships with universities, community colleges and private businesses.

Evaluation Criteria:

The extent to which:

- Community partnerships encompass the goals of post secondary transition by fostering partnerships with universities, community colleges, private business, career track organizations, community organizations, and vocational/technical schools.
- Community partnerships have been established.
- Partnerships will enhance the school experience for AOI students.

10.

Describe the services offered to developmentally disabled populations.

Evaluation Criteria:

The extent to which:

- The AOI School/Program will identify special education students and meet the requirements of IDEA.
- The content and the content delivery system can be modified to meet the accommodation and modification requirements for Special Needs Students.
- Special Needs Students will receive onsite support when the need is identified.

11.

Describe the policies and procedures to ensure the academic integrity of the AOI School/Program.

Evaluation Criteria:

The extent to which:

- Policies and procedures establish a process for evaluating whether a pupil with declining academic achievement should be allowed to continue to participate in the AOI School/Program.
- The AOI School/Program will ensure/monitor student progress for at least one year's growth annually.
- Courses offered exhibit formative assessment of student competency.
- The AOI School/Program will ensure academic integrity for exit outcomes for each course/grade offering.

12.

Statement of Assurances:
See Attached.