



State of Arizona
Department of Education
Research and Evaluation

Quick Guide to Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is the accountability system mandated by the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). AYP provides a single-year snapshot of school and district/charter holder performance.

AYP determinations are calculated for both schools and districts/charter holders (entities). There are two possible AYP determinations: an entity can either meet AYP or not meet AYP.

The No Child Left Behind Act requires that every public school and district/charter holder in a state be evaluated on three measures:

1. Progress toward meeting the goal of 100 percent proficiency in state standards;
2. Percentage of students assessed; and
3. Additional indicators of school performance. NCLB mandates that for high schools (entities serving grades 9 through 12) this indicator be the graduation rate. The additional indicator for elementary schools (entities serving grades 3 through 8) is attendance rate.

In order to meet AYP, schools and districts/charter holders must meet the objectives for all three measures for all students for all subject/grade combinations and for every applicable subgroup within each subject/grade combination. NCLB requires *all* public schools and districts/charter holders in the state to be given an AYP determination based on the same criteria.

NCLB specifies the following subgroups be evaluated: the five major ethnic groups—Hispanic, White, African-American, Asian-Pacific Islander, and Native American—English Language Learners (ELL), students with disabilities (SPED), and students from low-income families.

Proficiency

NCLB requires that every student in Arizona meets or exceeds the state standards in reading/language arts and mathematics—that is, passes AIMS—by the year 2013-2014. To further this goal, the state must set annual measurable objectives (AMOs) for each grade and subject evaluated. In Arizona, the grades evaluated by AIMS are three through eight, and high school. The annual measurable objectives describe yearly growth in fractions of students passing AIMS. These objectives are necessary for Arizona to reach the 100 percent requirement by 2013-2014. To make AYP, an entity must reach the AMOs for both mathematics and reading/language arts in each grade it offers and in all applicable subgroups.





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Percentage of students assessed

In order for a school or district/charter holder to make adequate yearly progress it must assess 95 percent of students enrolled at the time of testing for each subject, in every grade offered, including each applicable subgroup.

Additional indicators

To meet adequate yearly progress, an entity serving high school grades must have a four-year graduation rate of 80 percent, or show a 2 percentage-point improvement in the graduation rate over the previous year.

For entities serving elementary school grades, the performance goal is an attendance rate of 90 percent, or show a 1 percentage-point improvement in the attendance rate over the previous year.

If you have any questions that have not been addressed in this guide, please contact Research and Evaluation via email: Achieve@azed.gov or by phone: 602-542-5151.

