

AZCSP 2020-24 Application Eligibility and Other FAQs

Thresholds for eligibility for the four application categories have been added to provide enrollment clarity for application eligibility.

General statement on Enrollment: Schools whose applicants exceed the enrollment space available (oversubscribed) must use a lottery to determine enrollment. Lottery spaces cannot be reserved for disadvantaged students. The lottery must be free and open to all. After the lottery has been completed and the school's enrollment determined, the school must meet the 40% enrollment threshold for **one** of the categories of disadvantaged students listed in the AZCSP 2019-21 application. Federal lottery standards are different from Arizona legislation; federal rule prevails.

Q & A

1. **A school serving at least 40% racially and ethnically diverse students:**

Q: Are you looking for a mix of ethnicities or a percentage by ethnicities?

A: If a school chooses this category, a threshold of 40% must meet racial ethnic categories by a combination of any of the following categories: Black, Latino, American Indian, and Pacific Islander.

2. **A school serving at least 40% economically disadvantaged students eligible for federal lunch program support:**

Q: How do you define economically disadvantaged?

A: The US Department of Education uses a 40% Free and Reduced Lunch subsidy threshold for Title I designated schools. Charter entities that choose this category and apply for the grant will have to track student Free and Reduced Lunch subsidy eligibility and meet that threshold.

3. **A school serving at least 40% students with identified disabilities per IDEA:**

Q: What is the definition of this group - students with Individual Education Plans and students with 504 classroom accommodations?

A 1: ADE does not track Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act at the state level. 504 Classroom Accommodation plans are kept at the school's office.

A2: ADE does track Special Education (IDEA) at the state level. If a school chooses to use this category, 40% of students must have verified IEPs or 504 plans on file at the school.

4. **A school serving at least 40% English Language Learners:**

Q: Define ELL.

A: To have membership in the ELL subgroup, a student must be labeled as ELL or labeled as Fully English Proficient (FEP) for fewer than three years.

Ineligible Schools

1. **Arizona Online Schools (AOI):** A charter school which applied to and is approved by Rio Salado Community College for AOI status is funded by the Arizona Department of Education School Finance as an AOI school. It is ineligible for the AZCSP grant even though it may have a brick and mortar component.
2. **Alternative School:** A charter school which applies to and is approved by the Arizona Department of Education for Alternative Schools status is ineligible for the AZCSP grant.