

The Grader

Pupil Withdrawal Audit—10 Day Requirement

ADE Accountability will be working with our Title I Program to complete required audits on the “Official Pupil Withdrawal Forms”. 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.

ADE Accountability has received questions regarding what will actually be audited. Here are the main items that will be reviewed:

- Focus will be on students who have exited and withdrawn from your school/LEA/Charter Holder in the previous 12 months
- A random sample from the previous year’s withdrawn students will be the base of the requested documentation
- “Official Pupil Withdrawal Form” will be reviewed to ensure it was completed, properly filled out, and retained
- Required support documents for certain withdrawal codes will be reviewed
- Review that official signatures were obtained

We are currently underway working with schools/charters/LEAs in shoring up the audit process and will provide more details before broader outreach occurs.

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Income Eligibility 1 & 2

Recent articles over the last two years in the Grader shared information regarding the various measure of poverty and how they work together and when they don't. It is important to remind everyone that Income Eligibility 1 & 2 must be entered in the SIS system for the individual students to have them count in any of the public reposted data sets. A recent review of these two data points compared to the same time last year shows these numbers are significantly down.

Since we are all aware that schools are feeding more students than ever during this pandemic, we wanted to provide a quick reminder to enter this information for individual students in your Student Information System.

A joint memo titled: [Submitting Income Eligibility I and II and FRL for FY21](#) can be accessed by clicking the title link.

A-F Self-Reporting Data Application Reopening on ADEConnect

On September 28th, the AZ State Board determined that the A-F Self Reporting Data application should be reopened in order to provide schools with additional time to submit their self-reported data components (CCRI, Credits Earned, and On-Track to Graduate). We strongly encourage schools to submit their data in order to verify and check for accuracy as well as for future accountability purposes.

At this time, the application has been officially reopened and can be accessed through the ADEConnect home page. It will close on **December 23rd, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.** After this deadline, schools will no longer be able to submit data for the 2019-2020 school year.

Because the A-F Self Reporting Data application is new this year on ADEConnect, a guide for accessing the application and submitting data has been created and can be downloaded [here](#). The document can also be found on our Resources Page on [Accountability's website](#). For additional questions or concerns, please contact Achieve@azed.gov.



Accountability and the EL A-F Component

Accountability has identified two challenges in the A-F calculation this year. OELAS provided flexibility that allowed LEAs and Charter Holders to utilize temporary entrance procedures to provide services for eligible EL students. It is the expectation that LEAs will administer AZELLA Placement Test to eligible students as soon as practical. This has created integrity issues in a few cases that are being addressed, but has resulted in a few delays in our data system.

The second accountability challenge with EL calculation is that schools are held accountable based on EL FAY students. Students that go between an online school and a brick and mortar school, because of reactions to COVID, will break the FAY status at both schools. ADE Accountability is working with the Accountability TAC teams on how to address this. If you want to learn more, watch the November Special State School Board meeting [here](#).

FAFSA Data

As a part of the U. S. Department of Education's FAFSA Completion Initiative, the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education (ACPE) is authorized to share limited information about individual student's FAFSA application statuses to authorized high school and district personnel.

Interested high schools or district administrators must sign a data-sharing agreement with the ACPE and designate an Authorized User. Authorized Users will receive a User ID, a user guide, a training webinar, and secure access to Senior cohort data.

For more information or to obtain your data-sharing agreement, please contact the ACPE at (602) 258-2435 or email acpe@azhighered.gov.

Announcing!

State Board Meeting

The State Board of Education (SBE) meeting was held Monday, November 16, 2020 where the board discussed A-F Accountability for the 2020-2021 school year. Additional information on the special meeting can be found [here](#).

The SBE will be working on a statement of support and values regarding this years accountability. This will be shared during the SBE meeting on December 14th at 10:00 a.m. Use this [link](#) to review the agenda or attend the meeting.

Accountability Timeline for 2020-2021

Date	Activity
November/December 2020	School Report Cards will reflect enrollment, graduation, etc.
December 23, 2020	Self-Reported Data Application Closes @ 5pm



Introduction to New Accountability

Welcome New Staff Members



Tommy Kukic

Office Manager

Tomislav “Tommy” is originally from Croatia, and has lived in Arizona since 2015. He is currently pursuing a Computer Information Systems degree at ASU. In his free time he enjoys hanging out with his friends, hiking and playing tennis.