# ACCOUNTABILITY & RESEARCH

# THE GRADER

## June 2021 Edition

## CONTACT

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# Income Eligibility 1 & 2 Guidance

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 do not. It is important to remind everyone that Income Eligibility 1 & 2 must be entered in the SIS system for the individual students in order for them to be counted in any of the public reported Accountability data sets.

The requirements for LEAs to report student level Income Eligibility I and II indicators has not changed. Accountability, other programs, and grants will each consume the Income Eligibility I and II indicator data for various purposes; this includes the P-EBT program.

More information on the P-EBT program and Income Eligibility I and II reporting can be found in the following guidance documents issued by ADE.

- [Submitting Income Eligibility I and II and FRL for FY21](#)
- [Revised School Year 2021 P-EBT and Student Data of Public and Non-Public Schools](#)
- [P-EBT in SY20-21](#)
- [Reporting Income Eligibility I and II indicators for  while operating a Special Provision Option of the National School Lunch Program](#)

**SPECIAL NOTE:**   Income Eligibility Indicators I and II are not utilized for P-EBT benefit determinations only when a school participates in one of the Special Provision Options of the NSLP; students attending these schools are automatically eligible for P-EBT, contingent upon the learning model reported for the school.

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# Static File Inquiries and Data Correction Windows

There will be three releases of the static file starting in early June. Each release serves a unique and distinct purpose. Please be sure to review the Grader, and any communication from Achieve, for announcements regarding these files and to not miss important dates. Please reach out to Achieve@azed.gov should you have any questions.

1. Static File Version 1 – Early June – This file will be the enrollment, program, and FAY validation/correction file.

    a. The following items detail what should be checked:

        i. The file should be carefully reviewed to ensure all students that a school expects to be included, based on enrollment dates, are not missing

        ii. The file should be carefully reviewed to ensure program enrollment is correct:

            1. Special Education is dependent upon October 1 status
            2. Income Eligibility is updated throughout the school year
            3. English Learner is dependent upon having an identified EL need

        iii. FAY should be reviewed for accuracy

            1. Students are considered FAY if enrolled within the first ten calendar days and continuously enrolled through Monday, May 3. FAY status is used for ELA and Math Assessments and all calculations (except for EL, chronic absenteeism, and graduation)
            2. Students are considered AZELLA FAY if enrolled within the first ten days of the calendar year and continuously enrolled

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until the last day of the original EL testing window. AZELLA FAY is used for EL calculations

    b. All corrections to the file must be completed by **July 15** through a school/district/charter holder SIS to be accurately recorded and be reflected in future releases

2. Static File Version 2 – August – This file will include any student's aligned assessment and growth data, and students who may have had corrections made in the school's SIS

    a. The following items detail what should be checked:

        i. Only students that had valid assessments and were not left in any of the assessment correction applications will have assessments aligned to the student

        ii. Only students that had a valid assessment from 2019 and were not left in any of the assessment correction applications will have previous assessments included

        iii. Only students with assessments from i and ii will receive growth in the following grades/subjects:

| Subject | Grade | Growth Variable |
|---------|-------|-----------------|
| ELA | 5-8, 10 | SGPP_CCR |
| ELA | 5-8, 10 | SGP_PPCRG |
| Math | 5-8, 10 | SGPP_CCR |
| Math | 5-8 | SGP_PPCRG |
| EL | 3-12 | ELGrowth |

    b. Any questions or concerns regarding missing assessments or data should be sent to Achieve@azed.gov. Accountability will work with Assessments to identify issues with the data and take corrective action if required.

3. Static File Version 3 – September – This will be the final file.

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# Static File Codebook

The Static File codebook will be made available when the first version of the static file is released. The following is a list of changes from last year's codebook:

| Code | Explanation |
| --- | --- |
| SchoolTypeS | Shows the type of model used for the State A-F letter grade |
| SchoolTypeF | Shows the type of model used for the Federal School Improvement models |
| SGP_CCR | Student Growth Percentile – Current Cohort Referenced – Skip year norm referenced growth |
| SGP_CCR_Category | A-F Growth indicator for low, average, or high |
| SGP_PPCRG | Student Growth Percentile — Pre-Pandemic Cohort Referenced Growth (Not applicable to state or federal accountability measures) *ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS FORTHCOMING ON THE NEW DATA POINT THAT IS SPECIFIC TO MEASURING ACADEMIC IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC AND IS NOT RELATED TO STATE AND FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY.* |
| SGP_PPCRG_Category | Student Growth Percentile – Pre-Pandemic Cohort Referenced Growth – Category (Not applicable to state or federal accountability measures) *ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS FORTHCOMING ON THE NEW DATA POINT THAT IS SPECIFIC TO MEASURING ACADEMIC IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC AND IS NOT RELATED TO STATE AND FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY.* |
| SGTCY | Student Growth Targets are not available in 2020-2021 |
| SGT_SS_Target | Student Growth Target Scale scores are not available in 2020-2021 |
| ELProf PYELProf ELGrowth ELFAY ELTESTED EL_FEP | Previous ELL acronyms were changed to reflect the current EL acronym |

| PYELProf | Prior Year Proficiency level on AZELLA. PYELProf could be prior year or placement, if the student is new and did not have an AZELLA in 2019-2020 |
|---|---|
| G58EOC | This has been deleted as it is no longer applicable |
| G8Math | Potential qualification for Grade 8 Math Acceleration Readiness |

# Opening of 2020-2021 A-F Self-Report Data

The A-F Self Reporting Data application opened on ADEConnect on May 3rd, 2021 in order for schools to submit their self-reported data components (CCRI, Credits Earned, and On-Track to Graduate). The application will close on **July 30th, 2021 at the end of the business day**. After this deadline, schools will no longer be able to submit data for the 2020-2021 school year. The Fiscal Year 2021 A-F Self Reporting Data Guide can be found here. This guide contains helpful information such as where to download the CCRI spreadsheets and how to submit data. Resources are also available on our State Accountability page, which includes FAQs and instructional videos. For additional questions or concerns, please contact Achieve@azed.gov.

# Year-End Procedures for Withdrawing Concurrently Enrolled 12th Grade or Early Graduating Students

**Guidance:** Schools that concurrently enroll students should consistently use the W1 code to withdraw the student prior to that student receiving the G code at the school issuing the diploma.

**Support:**

An Arizona student may only graduate from one school after meeting the high school requirement stated in A.R.S. § 15-701.01. This guidance is to provide the process for properly exiting students from concurrent enrolled schools and to ensure the integrity and quality of graduation rates in the state.

Exit and withdrawal codes are specific to the student's membership at the school and are not aligned to the courses for which they are enrolled. Students who are concurrently enrolled must finish all required coursework and receive credit prior to receiving a graduation code. The school that has the student concurrently enrolled (not issuing the diploma) needs to exit the student with a W1 prior to the graduation code being assigned by the school issuing the diploma. Example: A student may receive a diploma from High School A, but is concurrently enrolled at High School B for CTE courses. In this case, High School B should exit the student with a W1 prior to the student being exited from High School A with a G.

The Graduation Rate Technical Manual can be found here: https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2021/01/FY21%20Graduation%20Dropout%20and%20Persistence%20Rate%20Tech%20Manual.pdf

The Official Notice of Pupil Withdrawal Form can be found here: https://cms.azed.gov/home/GetDocumentFile?id=5923216b3217e10560540752

# STC Grade Scale Availability for Fiscal Year 2021 and Forward

ADE's Accountability, AzEDS, and ASU's Decision Center have been working on the use of Student Teacher Course data and its potential value in research over the past two plus years. One area that needed support and clarification was final course grades and the diverse submissions in that area. There will be a soft rollout of the following changes/reporting for STC. Because of the workload, stress, and changes the pandemic brought upon schools, districts, and charter holders, this new reporting for FY21 is

OPTIONAL for the field. It will remain optional in the 2021-2022 school year. The optional status will be re-evaluated prior to the 2022-2023 school year.

Schools, districts, and charter holders have their own unique grading based on the needs of their entity and approved grading scale. By using a three tier method, analysis can be accomplished despite the variance that exist in the field.

**STC Letter Grade Collection**

azCourseTranscriptExtension
FinalLetterGradeDescriptorId (O)

| CodeValue | Short Description | Additional Information |
|---|---|---|
| Above Average | Above Average | Final grade that means the student performed better than expectation, higher than average. Comparable to Bs, As on a typical A-F scale. |
| Average | Average | Final grade that signifies average performance. That may be a C on a typical A-F scale, a "P", passing on a pass/fail scale. |
| Below Average | Below Average | Final grade that states a student performed below average. That may be a D or an F on a typical A-F scale, a "F", failing on a pass/fail scale. |

Regardless whether a school uses pass/fail, traditional A-F grades, check marks, or smiley faces, they can be mapped to one of the three descriptions. Please reach out to AzEDS or your SIS vendor on the processing of this new data point.

Data reporting or findings by ADE and our ASU partners from the work with this new data point will be shared upon its completion with readers of the Grader.

# Fiscal Year 2022 Approved Alternative Schools

The approved Alternative School list for Fiscal Year 2022 (2021-2022 school year) is now available. You can find the list for Fiscal Year 2022 as well as prior years on our Alternative Schools page. Please note that schools approved for Fiscal Year 2022 must reapply for Alternative School status for Fiscal Year 2023.

# Fiscal Year 2021 A-F Business Rules

The draft of the FY 2021 A-F Business Rules will be posted to the Accountability website on our Resources page when the static file is released. The A-F Business Rules detail how components for state accountability will be calculated. The largest change this year concerns the growth component. Normally SGP is calculated by comparing a student's current year test scores to last year's test scores. However, this year data from FY 2019 will be used to calculate skip year growth due to the lack of assessments in FY 2020. SGTs are not included in this year's business rules as there is a new assessment scheduled in the 2021-2022 school year. Where appropriate, the Business Rules identify which year data is being drawn from. Per SB2402 letter grades will not be assigned to schools this year and final points will not be calculated. Please send any questions you may have to Achieve@azed.gov.

# EL Amendment Sunset

The EL Amendment App found within ADEConnect has assisted LEAs and ADE in addressing data issues for the A-F State Accountability system that may have occurred in English Learner data. Over the last few years, two major things have occurred: the development of AzEDS and changes in the appeal process for A-F State Accountability. Based on those changes, the EL Amendment application has become outdated and unnecessary. EL data has significantly improved, and schools can now appeal a letter grade based on data. Therefore, the EL Amendment Application will be retired. This does not impact the EL Reason application which is still a federal requirement for reporting why students were not assessed.

# Pupil Withdrawal Analysis: Updated Pupil Withdrawal Form

The Pupil Withdrawal Monitoring has helped focus, refine, and provide resources in improving the coding and calculations of Graduation, Dropout and Persistency. A new Pupil Withdrawal Form is available and can be found here. We recognize that schools may have forms still available in a paper version. Please feel free to exhaust those forms. If needed, the new code can just be written on the form. As a reminder, here are the new codes for FY22. More supports/resources on the use of codes will be found on the new form. In addition, based on feedback from the end-users, there are Withdrawal Code Update fields that can be utilized when applicable.

| Code Value | Short Description | Description |
|---|---|---|
| W41 | Withdrawn before scheduled end of school year with completed withdrawal form | Withdrawn before scheduled end of school year with completed withdrawal form signed by parent/guardian; awaiting confirmation/documentation from subsequent enrolling school. |
| S41 | Summer withdrawn with completed withdrawal form | Summer withdrawn with completed withdrawal form signed by parent/guardian; awaiting confirmation/documentation from subsequent enrolling school. |
| R41 | Student re-entering after withdrawing from this school as a W41 | Student re-entering after withdrawing from this school as a W41 |
| W51 | Student under 16 years of age withdrawn based on ARS §15-802(D)(2-5) with supporting documentation. | School received verification that a student under the age of 16 has withdrawn from school before scheduled end of school year; student does not intend to complete requirements for a high school diploma and qualifies with documentation based on ARS §15-802(D)(2-5). |
| S51 | Summer student under 16 years of age withdrawn based on ARS §15-802(D)(2-5) with supporting documentation. | School received verification that a student under the age of 16 has withdrawn from school during the summer; student does not intend to complete requirements for a high school diploma and qualifies with documentation based on ARS §15-802(D)(2-5). |
| R51 | Student re-entering after withdrawing from this school as a W51 | Student re-entering after withdrawing from this school as a W51 |

A page will be available in the Accountability section of the website dedicated to Pupil Withdrawal content. Please watch The Grader for its announcement and availability. It will also house the training resources you may share with new personnel or those needing a refresher.

# Pupil Withdrawal Analysis: Cohort Analysis Review

As stated previously, the Pupil Withdrawal Monitoring has helped focus, refine, and provide resources in improving the coding and calculations of Graduation, Dropout and Persistency. Arizona saw unprecedented mobility in the 2020-2021 school year. The two scenarios warrant further analysis of the integrity of the future graduation rates. We will be taking a deeper look into the coding surrounding the cohort assignment to ensure it is working as intended. As more tools have become available, such as the Student Teacher Course data, verifying a student's cohort is more visible and can be validated through more than just withdrawal codes.

# Timeline

Below are important dates and deadlines for accountability. Please check [The Examiner](#) (Assessment's newsletter) for the most up to date information on assessment data and corrections.

| | |
|---|---|
| **June 2021** | <ul><li>Early-June: Watch for separate communication on updated "Pupil Withdrawal Form"</li><li>Early-June: First version of static file containing only enrollment, demographic, and program data becomes available. – Watch for separate communication</li><li>Continue working with the Assessments department to correct any testing issues</li><li>Continue working on and submitting Self-Report Data for A-F</li><li>**6/30** AzM2 correction window closes</li><li>**6/30** AZELLA Placement correction window closes</li></ul> |
| **July 2021** | <ul><li>**7/15** Static File V1 - Data inquiry and SIS correction closes</li><li>**7/15** AZELLA Reassessment correction window closes</li><li>**7/23** MSAA correction window closes</li><li>**7/30** 2020-2021 A-F Self-Reporting Data application closes on ADEConnect</li></ul> |
| **August 2021** | <ul><li>Mid-August: Static File Release V2 – This file will contain assessment results, assessment corrections, and growth data. This file needs to be reviewed for any issues regarding assessments</li><li>Late-August: First release of school-level aggregated data available in ADEConnect</li></ul> |
| **September 2021** | <ul><li>Static File Release V3 – This is the final version that will contain all updated information</li><li>Potential updates to school-level aggregated data available in ADEConnect</li></ul> |

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