

# ACCOUNTABILITY & RESEARCH

# THE GRADER

## July 2021 Edition

|   |    |
|---|----|
| ESSA STATE PLAN WEBINAR                           | 3  |
| INCOME ELIGIBILITY 1 & 2 GUIDANCE                 | 4  |
| STATIC FILE INQUIRIES AND DATA CORRECTION WINDOWS | 5  |
| GRADUATION REPORT                                 | 7  |
| 2020-2021 A-F SELF-REPORTED DATA                  | 7  |
| PUPIL WITHDRAWAL WEBPAGE                          | 8  |
| INTEGRITY ERROR GUIDE                             | 9  |
| ADECONNECT ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING COMING SOON!  | 9  |
| SCHOOL REPORT CARDS REMINDER                      | 10 |
| EL AMENDMENT SUNSET                               | 10 |
| TIMELINE  | 11 |



## CONTACT

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## Data Corrections Due July 15<sup>th</sup>!!

Students failing integrity will not be included in the Static File. Corrections after July 15<sup>th</sup> require schools to fill out a 15-915.



## ESSA State Plan Webinar

Accountability and School Improvement will be hosting a follow-up webinar on Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM to discuss the feedback on proposed Accountability changes to the Arizona State ESSA plan.

### **Register**

To register, click [here](#).

### **About ESSA**

ESSA is the [federal law](#) that allows the U.S. Government to support both national and local education goals with grants and other resources. Passed in 2015, it replaced [No Child Left Behind \(NCLB\)](#) and became the latest iteration, or extension, of the 1965 [Elementary and Secondary Education Act](#).

### **Revising the ESSA State Plan**

Under ESSA, each state creates an ESSA State Plan which gives states the power to identify the schools that need the most targeted support. We are in the process of rewriting that plan to meet our state's current realities and goals for our students and teachers, and to ensure Arizona's schools and students are equitably supported.

Starting in March through September 2021, the Arizona Department of Education will be hosting meetings to solicit feedback from the field on specific aspects of our ESSA State Plan revision.

Information on webinars covering other parts of the state plan can be found on the [ADE webpage](#).



## 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 publicly reported Accountability data sets.

The requirements for LEAs to report student level Income Eligibility I and II indicators have not changed. Accountability, other programs, and grants 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 while operating a Special Provision Option of the National School Lunch Program](#)

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Income Eligibility I and II Indicators 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.



## Static File Inquiries and Data Correction Windows

Static File v1.5 is now available for schools and districts through ADEConnect. There will be two more releases of the static file. 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](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov) should you have any questions.

1. Static File Version 1.5 – Now available – This file is the enrollment, program, and FAY validation/correction file with bugs fixed from Version 1
  - 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, and none are missing from the file.
    - 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 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      | K-12    | ELGrowth        |

- b. Any questions or concerns regarding missing assessments or data should be sent to [Achieve@azed.gov](mailto: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.



## Graduation Report

The Cohort 2020 4-Year Graduation Rate Report is now available on our [Data](#) page. The Cohort 2020 5-Year Graduation Rate Report is scheduled for release in early Fall. We will be publishing the Cohort 2021 4-Year Graduation Report in late December or early January of 2022. All future 4-year graduation reports for the previous year will be published in late December or early January.

Reporting the 4-Year Graduation Rates in December will **not** change any part of A-F and Federal Accountability calculations.

School and district personnel with access to the Accountability Portal on ADEConnect are always able to get the most up to date graduation data for their schools/districts.



## 2020-2021 A-F Self-Reported Data

The A-F Self Reporting Data application opened on ADEConnect on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov).



## Pupil Withdrawal Webpage

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 still have paper forms. Please feel free to exhaust those forms. If needed, the new codes can just be written on the form. More information/resources on the use of codes will be found on the new form. The Pupil Withdrawal Form now includes a box that can be used to update a Pupil's withdrawal code. For instance, a school may use this box to update a student's W4 to a W1 if they see the student has a subsequent enrollment. This was based on feedback from end-users.

In addition to the updated Pupil Withdrawal Form, Accountability is excited to announce we have created a new page on our site specifically dedicated to Pupil Withdrawals. It is located under "Resources" on the website menu, and all resources regarding Pupil Withdrawals can be found there. These resources include:

- The updated Official Notice of Pupil Withdrawal Form for Fiscal Year 2022
  - **Note:** The withdrawal code for EL due to Special Education was removed from the new form as it is no longer applicable.
- The updated Withdrawal Code Cheat Sheet, which includes the new W41/S41 and W51/S51 codes
- The most recent version of the Graduation, Dropout, and Persistence Technical Manual
- Training presentations for using withdrawal codes
- A new Accountability AzEDS Integrity Error Guide document, which includes information about Accountability related AzEDS integrity errors and how to troubleshoot them

You can access this page directly by clicking [here](#).

For any questions involving this page or Pupil Withdrawals, please email [Achieve@azed.gov](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov).





## Integrity Error Guide

Accountability has created a document to help schools troubleshoot Accountability-related integrity errors, such as errors with pupil withdrawals or membership. The document includes error code numbers, the code descriptions, and troubleshooting for each code. This document can be found on the [Pupil Withdrawals](#) page on our website, under “Pupil Withdrawal Resources & Forms”. It can also be accessed directly by clicking [here](#). Please feel free to contact [Achieve@azed.gov](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov) with any questions or comments. For a comprehensive reference guide on integrity rules and errors, please visit the AzEDS Reference page on ADE’s website by clicking [here](#).

Schools should keep in mind that integrity failures result in students not appearing in important Accountability related reports and documents, including the A-F static file. To see which students are currently failing integrity, please use the INTEG15 – Student Data Integrity Report on the AzEDS Portal through ADEConnect.



## ADEConnect Accountability Reporting COMING SOON!

ADE IT Communications released ADEConnect v2.0 on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Accountability hopes that you have had a chance to view the more user-friendly interface with its more simplified look. The link to the Accountability information will take you back to the platform that you are familiar with.

In August, Accountability will be pushing into the platform the component pieces of state and federal accountability for your review. **Due to both state and federal actions and mandates, there will be no summative scores or summative letter grades for the 2020-2021 school year.** In the August Grader Newsletter, we will provide more information to the changes you will be seeing before the data is pushed out to those with the correct security privileges.

To view accountability data in ADEConnect you must have accountability privileges assigned to you in your SIS system. Your Entity Administrator is the individual who assigns these roles.



## School Report Cards Reminder

For those of you that have not already done so, we strongly encourage all schools to update the School Characteristics section of the School Report Cards website. The School Report Cards website continues to have heavy traffic and the School Characteristics section is a great opportunity for schools to share what makes them unique with the public. Additional information about the School Characteristics section and how to complete it is available [here](#).



## 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.



## 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.

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>July<br/>2021</b></p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>7/15</b> Data inquiry and SIS correction closes</li> <li>• <b>7/15</b> AZELLA Reassessment correction window closes</li> <li>• <b>7/16</b> ESSA State Plan Webinar</li> <li>• <b>7/23</b> MSAA correction window closes</li> <li>• <b>7/30</b> 2020-2021 A-F Self-Reporting Data application closes on ADEConnect</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>August<br/>2021</b></p>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>                           |
| <p><b>September<br/>2021</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>  |