



# Educator and School Excellence Newsletter

Issue 01.02: February 2021

Hello Fellow Educators,

Welcome to the Educator and School Excellence Newsletter! We are excited to partner with you this month to bring you some exciting information about our ESSA Conference and our Title IVA Waiver to name a few. We've also included a calendar of important dates/deadlines over the next two months. Thank you to those who will be joining us at the ESSA Conference! We look forward to our two keynotes, Gerry Brooks and Erica Maxwell, as we dive deeper into how we can adapt, innovate, and respond to our changing educational landscape to ensure our students are given equitable access to an excellent education.

USED has provided Arizona guidance on poverty counts and census data for the FY22 allocations. USED said we CAN use the poverty counts of FY20 (SY19-20) **OR** the poverty counts of FY21 (SY20-21), whichever is more advantageous, for the FY22 allocations. We are building out allocations to select whichever poverty count year would be most advantageous to each LEAs allocation, so no action is required on your part. However, USED also let us know that we CANNOT use census data from last year, so the calculations will run with census data (as well as 40/100 day counts) from this year, FY21. These decisions will hopefully have positive impacts on our LEAs FY22 consolidated application allocations.

Please expect additional guidance from us on impacts this will have to rank and serve as well as private school equitable services within the next month. We are on track for a March pre-allocation, with a May 1 application deadline for the FY22 consolidated application.

- *Angie Madsen, Deputy Associate Superintendent of Educator and School Excellence*

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## Spotlight

### 2021 ESSA Conference is Almost Here!



Educator and School Excellence is ready to kick off 2021 with a virtual bang. Come join us for the [2021 ESSA Conference: Adapt, Innovate, Respond](#). This year's conference will again feature a special pre-session, "ESSA Boot Camp," as well as amazing keynote speakers. The Boot Camp session kicks off on February 18-19th and is designed to help those who are new to Federal Programs (under 2 years' experience). More information can be found [here](#). Conference participants will have access to content for up to six months, so if they can't come the day of, no worries! (Bootcamp sessions are live and require live participation).

This year's main conference, Adapt Innovate Respond, takes place February 23-24th and will feature two keynote speakers. Gerry Brooks, a national encourager for teachers, has been an elementary principal for 15 years. Come and enjoy hearing about creating an effective climate and culture within your LEA. Erica Maxwell, the first Associate Superintendent of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at ADE, has more than 25 years of experience in the education world. She will explore the Equity Framework and share what her team is creating for ADE.

In addition to the keynote speakers, we will have over 50 breakout presenters covering topics like Federal Grant Processing, School Climate & Culture, and Family Engagement. All of the events this year will be virtual so if you've hesitated in the past about committing to attend, this might be the year for you. Check out our [website](#) for updated information as well as how to register for these great events. We can't wait to see you there!

## Family & Community Engagement Amid COVID19



LEAs have a responsibility to engage in school-family-community partnerships that will contribute to academic, relational, and safety goals while being sensitive to past and present traumas exacerbated by the challenges of COVID-19. The challenges presented by COVID-19 have created unique opportunities to **Listen, Learn**, and have Families **Lead** critical conversations, discussing what has been working well, what areas need improvement, and the resources needed to support learning at home to promote successful student academic growth.

The following document was put together by a subcommittee of the Equitable And Inclusive Practices Advisory Council at the Arizona Department of Education. It touches on major themes surrounding family engagement, including:

- Building Relationships and Strong Communication with Families
- Culturally Responsive Engagement
- Systems of Support
- Funding and Policy
- Trauma and Resilience

[Resources and Information to Support Family Engagement During the Pandemic](#)

[Family Engagement Amid COVID-19 Website](#)

## Title I-A Updates

### Information for Charter Schools



Educator and School Excellence is home to many ESSA Initiatives and offers a wide range of services to LEAs throughout the State of Arizona. One such initiative is New & Expanding Charter Schools. This initiative has its own [webpage](#) and helps charter holders and their communities implement ESEA Consolidated programs. Most non-profit charter schools are eligible to participate in Title I-A and Title II-A programs during year one and are usually eligible for Title IV-A thereafter.

#### FAQs

***Our charter has been open for 7 years but we have never applied. Is it too late?***

All non-profit charters may apply, regardless of the length of time they have been serving students.

***Our application to open our school has been approved, but we aren't opening until August. Can we apply?***

YES! See the webpage for further details.

***We already receive Title I-A & Title II-A but we are adding two more grade levels. Should we apply?***

YES! If this describes your situation, contact us and we can help you through the process.

Do you have some specific questions? Email us at: [New&ExpandingCharter@azed.gov](mailto:New&ExpandingCharter@azed.gov)

## ADE Title I/II-A Family & Community Engagement (FACE) Team - Professional Development



The ADE Title I/II-A Family & Community Engagement (**FACE**) Team is providing exciting virtual professional learning opportunities for school communities (this includes instructional staff, school leaders, and other school personnel). Ideally, it would be advantageous to include families and community members as well.

If you are interested in a professional development opportunity for your school, please fill out the following survey, and a member of the FACE team will follow up with you.

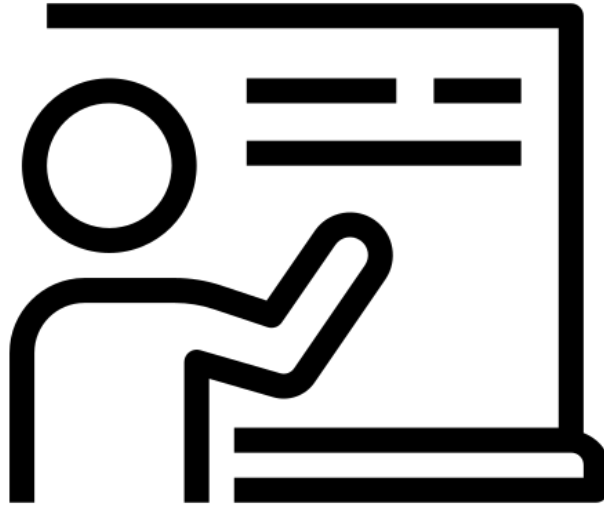
[FACE Survey](#)

Contact Information
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Henry Dunkerson Phone: 602-542-5510 <a href="mailto:Henry.Dunkerson@azed.gov">Henry.Dunkerson@azed.gov</a>
Mary Loehnis Phone: 602-542-4392 <a href="mailto:Mary.Loehnis@azed.gov">Mary.Loehnis@azed.gov</a>

1 - Contact details for FACE.

## Title II-A Updates

### Teacher Evaluation Assurance



A.R.S §15-952.A.3 specifies that local governing boards must submit evidence to the State Board of Education that the evaluation system originally approved or modified by the Board continues to meet all requirements as set forth in A.R.S §15-537. This requirement is verified by the Arizona Department of Education through an LEA assurance uploaded to **ALEAT**. You may access the form in the resources tab under the **Teacher Evaluation Assurance** instrument requirement. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact your assigned program specialist in the Educator and School Excellence unit. **This requirement is due by February 1st every year.**

## Title IV-A Updates

### FY21 Title IV-A Waivers Approved!



Good news! The Arizona Department of Education Educator & School Excellence Unit is excited to share that the U.S. Department of Education has granted us a waiver for the 20-20-Portion Rule and the 15% Technological Infrastructure Rule for the FY21 Title IV-A requirements within the consolidated application. LEAs may prioritize funding across any of the Title IV -A content areas, and purchase the technological infrastructure they need! Please note: the CNA and LIAP are still required components. You can access the full announcement by visiting the Title IV-A [blog](#).

### Announcing the Title IV-A & B Symposium "Expanding Horizons"



Mark your calendars for the first joint conference between Title IV-A and 21st Century CCLC, or Title IV-B! The ["Expanding Horizons Symposium"](#) promises to be an engaging virtual event full of tangible resources and strategies practioners can implement now! If you are interested sharing your ideas and best practices with over 600 teachers, principals and after-school coordinators, [submit](#) your workshop proposal by March 31st! We hope to see you there!

### ADE Pledges to Support Arts Education!

ADE joins hundreds of organizations across the nation to vocalize and activate their support for Arts Education! The ["Arts ARE Education"](#) campaign is intended to spread awareness of the positive power Arts Education has on our students while advocating for continued LEA financial support for the arts in our schools. Join us by: 1) [Signing the Pledge](#) 2) [Completing the School Board Resolution](#) 3) [Exploring the Advocacy Tool Kit](#) Learn more about AZ Arts Ed by reading our Arts Ed Newsletter!



## NEW Well-Rounded Education Resource Website



In an effort to support LEAs to build programs that expand access to diverse learning experiences and enriched curriculum, Title IV-A has launched a [Well Rounded Education Resource Website](#) where LEAs can access information and state & national resources to develop excellent Well-Rounded programs.

## Reimagine Education with Title IV-A Podcast Series



### ***01.08: Special Feature "Black History Month Celebration: Contemporary History-Makers"***

To celebrate and acknowledge Black History Month, the “Reimagine Education with Title IV-A” podcast series is featuring several black voices from across the Arizona educational landscape. Highlighting Black-owned organizations, leaders, and advocates who are serving as change makers across the state, this special feature aims to celebrate their amazing work in well-rounded education, safe & healthy students and schools, and the effective use of technology. Join us as we honor these inspirational influencers who are making history today.

#### **Guests:**

**Clottee Hammons- Creative Director, Emancipation Arts, LLC**

<https://emancipationartsazllc.org/about/>

**Kema Charles- Executive Director and Founder, Lights Camera Discover**

<https://www.lightscameradiscover.org/>

**Erica Maxwell- Associate Superintendent of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, Arizona Department of Education**

<https://www.azed.gov/equity>

**Dr. Arleen Kennedy- Superintendent, Balsz Elementary School District**

<https://www.balsz.org/Page/2318>

ADE School Security Requests: Title IV-A



### ***FY22 School Security Request Memo***

The Title IV-A Team has updated the [School Security Request Memo](#) for FY22 to include an equitable emphasis on student voice and holistic analysis of School Safety/Risk strategies for LEAs that wish to purchase school security measures.

**LEAs will now be required to provide student survey data supporting the requested program or items, and an LEA School Safety/Risk Assessment or Audit conducted by a third party or government agency (law enforcement).**

**For funding specific to School Resource Officers (SROs), the LEA must provide the following:**

- A detailed job description of the Officer's duties, including how they will impact the educational environment and the school's climate and culture
- Proof that the SRO has attended an evidence-based training program, such as ADE's School Safety Program

As a reminder, school security measures should be rooted in evidence-based information that supports the program request, as required by ESSA Section 4108. Evidence-based research for school safety measures can be found on <https://www.schoolsafety.gov/>.

For more information, contact Keri Schoeff, Title IV-A Safe, Healthy & Active Students Specialist at [keri.schoeff@azed.gov](mailto:keri.schoeff@azed.gov)

## REAP's Rural & Low-Income School Entitlement Grant Application opens February 10, 2021



### Is your LEA eligible for either the REAP Rural & Low-Income School Entitlement Grant (*RLIS*) or the Small Rural School Achievement Grant (*SRSA*)?

Be on the lookout for a unique invitation link in the US Department of Education MAX Survey that will be sent to eligible LEAs for Fiscal Year 2021 regarding the Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) Master on **February 10, 2021**.

**Remember an application must be completed and submitted to receive SRSA.**

Steps:

- Check the Master Eligibility Spreadsheet [FY2021 Master Eligibility Spreadsheet](#) to see if your LEA is eligible
- The US Dept. of ED will conduct a series of webinars to demonstrate the **SRSA** application process in MAX Survey and will answer questions from participants. The first webinar will be held on **February 11, 2021**. Watch for registration information for these webinars on the REAP website. [REAP Application Memo](#)

**Do you need assistance in the SRSA Application Process? Please click on the link below.**

[U.S. Department of Education REAP Home Page](#)

**Rural Education Achievement Programs**

**Arizona Department of Education**

**Cherie Wasieleski, Title V-B Subpart 2**

**Program Specialist**

[Cherie.Wasieleski@azed.gov](mailto:Cherie.Wasieleski@azed.gov)

**Rural Education Achievement Program**

**U.S. Department of Education**

**Staci Cummins, Program Officer**

**202-401-0039**

[REAP@ed.gov](mailto:REAP@ed.gov)

Washington, DC 20202-6400

## Private School Equitable Services

**ATTENTION!! FY22 Affirmation of Consultation form is now fillable and built for electronic signatures.**

To access the Affirmation of Consultation form:

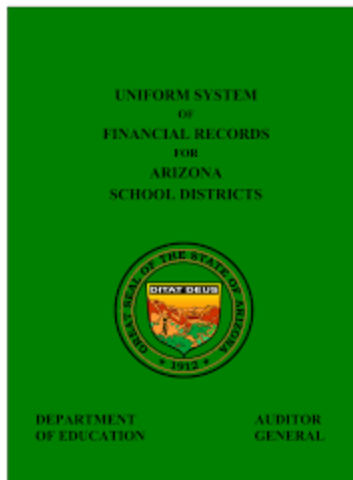
1. Visit the [Equitable Services website](#).
2. Select the Affirmation of Consultation dropdown menu.
3. Click on **FY22 Fillable Affirmation w/ Electronic Signature**.
4. To use the fillable form, you must download the form to your computer and open in Adobe Acrobat Reader.

#### ▼ Affirmation of Consultation

- [FY22 Intent of Consultation](#)
  - [Sample of Intent of Consultation](#) - FYI: Intent to Consult is to be retained at the district level for up to 5 years. The Intent is 'not' uploaded to GME Related Documents.
- [FY22 Filable Affirmation of Consultation w/Electronic Signature](#)
- [FY22 Affirmation of Consultation](#)
  - Samples of
    - [No Private School](#)
    - [Not Participating Private School](#)
    - [Three Good Faith Attempts to Private School](#)
    - [Participating Private School](#)

## ESEA Consolidated Grant

### Uniform System of Financial Records (USFR)



The Uniform System of Financial Records (USFR) is the accounting and financial reporting manual for Arizona school districts. The Chart of Accounts is a standardized account code structure for use by districts and county school superintendents. The website of the Attorney General features FAQs which include short webinars for your assistance.

- [School Districts](#)
  - [FAQs](#)
- [Charter School](#)
  - [FAQs](#)

We hope these resources assist you in processing grants!

### Cycle 4 Programmatic Monitoring Virtual Visit

To the LEAs who have received a Cycle 4 monitoring visit this year, thank you for your flexibility as we moved to a virtual format. It is exciting for ADE to learn about the various programs you are implementing in your school(s). Our students are lucky to have the many teachers, paraprofessionals, specialists and administrators working on their behalf.

For those who have a Cycle 4 monitoring visit in the next few months... Welcome to Cycle Four Monitoring! During the visit, you get to highlight the important work you are doing for students using funds afforded through the consolidated application. At your virtual visit, you and your team will walk us through your program(s) and respond to the questions outlined in the monitoring tool; it is important that you come prepared.

The monitoring team will be able to:

- understand the full picture of your program(s)
- have a clear understanding of how you use data to evaluate your program(s)
- know how your program(s) improves student achievement
- record your responses to the monitoring tool
- understand supporting documents and evidence.

You are the leaders of this meeting. We want to learn about your program(s), your leadership, and your decision-making process to improve the equity, access, and achievement for your students. We look forward to meeting with you!

For additional information on Cycle Monitoring, please use the link below. You can reach out to your program specialist if you need additional support.

[ESE Cycle Monitoring Website](#)



## Important upcoming dates

Please see this [detailed calendar](#) for persons generally responsible and helpful links pertaining to each item.

### January

- December Monthly **Signed Time and Effort** sheets due. Federal Uniform Grant Guidance 2 CFR 200.430 Compensation.
- Process Monthly Reimbursements through GME
- **Periodic Certification** for all Personnel Fully Funded (100%) by Title I and Title II Due
- LEA review of federal programs **inventory**
- Develop **Stakeholder Surveys** (Title I, II, RLIS, IV, N or D, Migrant, Homeless, Private Schools, etc.) Title 1, Part A(1), Section 1118
- GME – **Self Assessment** opens
- GME – **General Statement of Assurances** opens

### February

- January Monthly **Signed Time and Effort** sheets due. Federal Uniform Grant Guidance 2 CFR 200.430 Compensation
- Process Monthly Reimbursements through GME
- Statement of Assurance: Teacher Evaluation
- Attend the **ESSA Conference**
- Stakeholder meetings to consider **SIAP edits** for the coming school year (due to LEA on April 15th for inclusion in the new Consolidated Application) Title I, Sec. 1111
- **Private School Affirmation of Consultations** meetings for upcoming grant cycle Title I, Sec. 1120
- Begin **Tribal Consultations** for upcoming grant cycle (if applicable)

### March

February Monthly **Signed Time and Effort** sheets due. Federal Uniform Grant Guidance 2 CFR 200.430 Compensation.

Process Monthly Reimbursements through GME

**Stakeholder survey opens** Title 1, Part A(1), Section 1118

**Update** Targeted Assistance Schools Rank Order of Students and Eligibility for Service Title 1, Part A(1), Section 1115

**Allocations Posted** for Upcoming Grant Cycle

## Newsletter Feedback

Embed://<iframe width="640px" height="480px" src="https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=y7CIWB9EukKloY\_f0Fo\_\_DL46TwrMW1OuJep0776qktUMUREUzNQNs1VIVSWDgyWERIN0FTUjRYRC4u&embed=true" frameborder="0" marginwidth="0" marginheight="0" style="border: none; max-width:100%; max-height:100vh" allowfullscreen webkitallowfullscreen mozallowfullscreen msallowfullscreen></iframe>