



Arizona Civics Test Administration Manual

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INTRODUCTION

In 2015, the Arizona Legislature passed the American Civics Act (House Bill 2064). This bill requires Arizona students to pass a civics test based on the United States Immigration and Naturalization civics test questions. Students are required to score 70% or higher (beginning with the graduating class of 2026) in order to graduate from high school or obtain a high school equivalency certificate. The Arizona Department of Education, with help from the Maricopa County Education Service Agency and Arizona educators, developed the following sample test in 2015.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Please find the complete text of the House Bill 2064 at the following Arizona State Legislature web address:

<https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/52leg/1r/laws/0001.pdf>

In 2022, House Bill 2632 was passed, increasing the passing score from 60 to 70 beginning with the graduating class of 2026. Please find the complete text of HB 2632 at the following Arizona State Legislature web address:

<https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/55leg/2R/bills/HB2632P.pdf>

- School district/charter governing boards may determine the method and manner in which to administer a test
- The pupil must correctly answer at least 70 of the 100 questions on the civics test (beginning with graduating class of 2026)
- School district/charter governing boards shall document on the pupil's transcript only a pass or fail designation
- The pupil is not required to take the test again in high school (if passed in 7th or 8th grade)
- A pupil who does not obtain a passing score on the test may retake the test until the pupil obtains a passing score
- School district/charter governing boards must submit an end of year report

DESIGN OF ARIZONA CIVICS TEST

The Arizona Civics Test must include the official list of 100 questions included on the Naturalization Test administered by the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services department within Homeland Security.

Study materials and question sets can be found on USCIS website:

<https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/find-study-materials-and-resources/study-for-the-test>

The school district governing board or charter school governing body may determine the method and manner in which to administer a civics test that includes the identical questions presented by USCIS.

ADE Sample Civics Test Design

The ADE Sample Civics Test provided here in this guide (page 10) includes the 100 civics questions from the USCIS naturalization test rewritten as multiple choice questions. The few questions that require students to name specific elected officials are worded as short answer and placed at the end of this sample test but districts/charters can choose to make these questions multiple choice.

The multiple choice questions are identified by the grade level course considerations found in the 2018 History and Social Studies Standards Document. The question alignment begin with kindergarten and ends with high school.

Districts and charters are free to use this sample test but it is not required.

TEST ADMINISTRATION

Which grade(s) take the test?

The 2022 statute provides guidance regarding the grade(s) when students are permitted to take the test stating grades 7-12. Students should have the opportunity to learn the content in the civics test before being asked to take the test. Based on the course alignment of the test questions, students should have been exposed to all of the test content by the end of Grade 8. When considering course content, administering the test in 8th grade and/or 11th grade best aligns.

According to HB 2632, students may take the Civics Test between 7th and 12th grade. If students take the Civics Test and pass in 7th or 8th grade, they **do not** need to retake the test in high school.

Testing Procedures

This is a Statewide Standardized Test so testing accommodations and policies apply unless stated otherwise.

- The Civics Test is untimed.
- The Civics Test can be administered online and/or paper-based.
- Each student may retake the test as many times as necessary to ensure a passing grade.
- A quiet and comfortable testing environment is ideal for the administration of the Civics Test.
- Visual aids displayed in the testing room that could assist students while testing should be removed or covered completely.

Accommodations and Students with Disabilities

Students who use accommodations in classroom assessments should be offered the same or similar accommodations for this Civics Test. The Arizona Civics test may be altered in accordance with a student who requires an alternative test. All students should take the test, but the pass/fail determination may be waived based on the student's needs. Please refer to a student's IEP or 504 and speak with the school staff for more guidance.

ARIZONA CIVICS TEST REPORTING

Scoring the Civics Test

Scoring of the Civics Test is done locally. Students must pass the test with 70/100 questions (beginning with graduating class of 2026).

Aggregate Data to Report

The following data must be provided for **each grade level**, 7-12, that takes the Civics Test:

- Median* Test Score by Grade Level
- Percentage of Passing Test Scores by Grade Level
- Percentage of Failing Test Scores by Grade Level

*Median score is the value lying at the midpoint of a frequency distribution of values.

Reporting Process

- The Civics Test Coordinator must complete the digital reporting form by **June 15**.
- Districts and charters complete the reporting form ONCE a year.
- Districts and charters are reporting grade level testing data, not individual student data.
 - **Example:** if Student A takes the test three times in one year, the three tests and scores are reported in the totals.
- A district or charter reporting **fewer than 10 students** or that have **no results for a grade level** will report **NA** on the form.
- Only report data for tests given in the current year and at the district or charter.
- Reporting Form can be found on the Social Studies Standards Homepage: <https://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/k-12standards/standards-social-studies/>

Student Reports

District and charters are responsible for documenting passing or failing scores on student transcripts. Districts and charters should retain this data for their records.

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST ANSWER KEY AND ALIGNMENT

REMINDER: Districts and schools are **REQUIRED** to use the 100 questions found in the sample civics test (based on the 100 USCIS Civics Questions) but answer sets may be modified and changed.

Question #	Answer	Grade Alignment
1	D	3
2	D	K/5
3	A	5
4	B	K
5	D	K/5
6	D	2/3
7	A	1/5
8	D	4
9	B	1/5
10	A	5
11	C	5
12	D	3
13	A	K/1/5
14	A	K/1/5
15	D	K/1/5
16	B	K/1/5/8
17	D	4/5
18	A	5

Question #	Answer	Grade Alignment
19	B	5
20	B	1/5
21	B	K/1/5
22	A	8
23	A	7
24	C	5/7
25	B	5/8
26	A	8
27	A	3/8
28	A	4/5/8
29	B	5/8
30	D	5/8
31	A	5/8
32	B	5/8
33	D	5/8
34	D	5
35	D	8
36	C	5/7/8

Question #	Answer	Grade Alignment
37	D	5
38	B	7
39	C	8
40	C	5/8
41	C	8
42	B	7
43	A	1/5/8
44	A	5/8
45	B	5/8
46	A	5/8
47	B	5/8
48	C	5
49	A	5
50	B	8
51	A	8
52	A	8
53	B	5/8
54	A	5/8
55	A	8
56	A	8
57	C	8

Question #	Answer	Grade Alignment
58	D	8
59	A	8
60	A	8
61	B	3
62	D	8
63	B	3/8
64	D	8
65	B	8
66	D	7
67	C	7
68	B	7
69	A	5/8
70	C	K-12 LAW
71	C	3
72	B	7
73	A	4/5
74	A	4/5
75	D	5
76	C	8
77	D	8
78	C	7/8

Question #	Answer	Grade Alignment
79	D	5/8
80	C	8
81	C	8
82	C	8
83	A	8
84	B	8
85	B	84/5
86	B	84/5
87	D	K/1/5/8
88	C	8
89	D	8
90	C	8
91	C	5/8
92	C	8

Question #	Answer	Grade Alignment
93	Short answer questions -- Correct answers subject to change -- Determine correct local answers	K-8
94		K-8
95		K-8
96		K-8
97		K-8
98		K-8
99		K-8
100		K-8

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

REMINDER: Districts and schools are **REQUIRED** to use the 100 questions found in the sample civics test (based on the 100 USCIS Civics Questions) but answer sets may be modified and changed.

1. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?
 - a. Chinese
 - b. Russians
 - c. Pacific Islanders
 - d. Native Americans
2. Who was the first President?
 - a. John Hancock
 - b. James Madison
 - c. Benjamin Franklin
 - d. George Washington
3. What was **one** important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?
 - a. led the U.S. during the Civil War
 - b. led the U.S. during the War of 1812
 - c. led the U.S. during the American Revolution
 - d. led the U.S. during the Mexican-American War
4. When do we celebrate Independence Day?
 - a. April 19
 - b. July 4
 - c. September 17
 - d. November 11
5. Who is the “Father of Our Country”?
 - a. Abraham Lincoln
 - b. Thomas Jefferson
 - c. Benjamin Franklin
 - d. George Washington
6. What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?
 - a. Artic Ocean
 - b. Indian Ocean
 - c. Pacific Ocean
 - d. Atlantic Ocean
7. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?
 - a. fought for civil rights
 - b. became the first black U.S. Senator
 - c. established the Harvard Law School
 - d. ran for President of the United States

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

8. Which of the following is one of the two longest rivers in the United States?
- Ohio River
 - Potomac River
 - Colorado River
 - Mississippi River
9. What do we show loyalty to when saying the Pledge of Allegiance?
- the state where you live
 - the United States of America
 - the Declaration of Independence
 - the President of the United States
10. Why did the colonists fight the British?
- because of high taxes
 - because the British were invading France
 - because the colonists wanted a new king
 - because the colonists wanted religious freedom
11. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?
- James Madison
 - Abraham Lincoln
 - Thomas Jefferson
 - George Washington
12. Which of the following is an American Indian Tribe in the United States?
- Huli
 - Kikuyu
 - Maori
 - Navajo
13. Why does the American flag have 13 stripes?
- They represent the 13 original colonies.
 - They represent the 13 signatures on the U.S. Constitution.
 - They represent the 13 military heroes of the Revolutionary War.
14. Why does the American flag have 50 stars?
- One star for each state.
 - One star for each president.
 - One star for each original colony.
 - One star for each constitutional amendment.
15. What is the name of the national anthem?
- God Bless the U.S.A.
 - America the Beautiful
 - My Country Tis of Thee
 - The Star-Spangled Banner

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

16. Which of the following includes two national U.S. holidays?
- a. Columbus Day and Flag Day
 - b. Labor Day and Veterans Day
 - c. Memorial Day and Mother's Day
 - d. Valentine's Day and Thanksgiving Day
17. What is one reason colonists came to America?
- a. education
 - b. better health
 - c. elect a new king
 - d. religious freedom
18. What was the name of the U.S. war between the North and the South?
- a. Civil War
 - b. World War II
 - c. War of 1812
 - d. Revolutionary War
19. Which of the following reasons led to the Civil War?
- a. taxes
 - b. slavery
 - c. oil rights
 - d. religious freedom
20. What did Susan B. Anthony do?
- a. founded the Red Cross
 - b. fought for women's rights
 - c. made the first American flag
 - d. established a college for women
21. Where is the Statue of Liberty?
- a. Boston, MA
 - b. New York, NY
 - c. Washington, DC
 - d. San Francisco, CA
22. What is the last day that you can send in federal income tax forms?
- a. April 15
 - b. June 30
 - c. September 15
 - d. December 31
23. Who did the United States fight in World War II?
- a. Japan, Germany, and Italy
 - b. Japan, Germany, and France
 - c. Russia, China, and Japan
 - d. Russia, France, and Great Britain

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

24. Which of the following wars was fought by the United States in the 1800s?
- Korean War
 - World War I
 - Spanish-American War
 - French and Indian War
25. What does the judicial branch do?
- amends the Constitution and overturns laws
 - decides if a law goes against the Constitution
 - stipulates the number of Supreme Court Justices
 - provides legal advice to the President and his staff
26. Who is in charge of the executive branch?
- the President
 - the Chief Justice
 - the Majority Leader
 - the Speaker of the House
27. What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?
- vote and run for office
 - read a newspaper and volunteer at the local food bank
 - get a driver's license and purchase real estate property
 - go to college and start a career
28. What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves?
- Africans
 - Canadians
 - Spaniards
 - Italians
29. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?
- July 4, 1770
 - July 4, 1776
 - July 4, 1870
 - July 4, 1876
30. Which of the following includes three of the 13 original states?
- Georgia, Indiana, New York
 - Maine, Ohio, and West Virginia
 - Vermont, Florida, and Pennsylvania
 - Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina
31. What happened at the Constitutional Convention?
- The Constitution was written
 - The Constitution was ratified.
 - The Magna Carta was signed.
 - The Declaration of Independence was written.
32. When was the Constitution written?
- 1776
 - 1787
 - 1812
 - 1865

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

33. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for?
- a. decorated war general
 - b. inventor of the telegraph
 - c. fourth president of the United States
 - d. oldest member of the Constitutional Convention
34. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803?
- a. Alaska
 - b. Florida
 - c. Hawaii
 - d. Louisiana
35. What is one promise made when becoming a citizen of the United States of America?
- a. to register to vote
 - b. to get an education
 - c. to join a political party
 - d. to defend the U.S. Constitution
36. When must all men register for the Selective Service?
- a. at birth
 - b. at age 16
 - c. at age 18
 - d. men no longer have to register
37. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?
- a. called for an end to the Civil War
 - b. called for the creation of state borders
 - c. called for an end to Southern Secession
 - d. called for the freeing of slaves in the Confederate States
38. Who was the President during World War I?
- a. Warren Harding
 - b. Woodrow Wilson
 - c. Franklin Roosevelt
 - d. Andrew Garfield
39. What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful?
- a. the military
 - b. the Bill of Rights
 - c. checks and balances
 - d. the Federal Reserve
40. What is one responsibility that only applies to United States citizens?
- a. pay taxes
 - b. obey the laws
 - c. serve on a jury
 - d. attend private school

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

41. What are two rights of everyone living in the United States?
- freedom to work and freedom of speech
 - freedom to work and freedom to make laws
 - freedom of speech and freedom of assembly
 - freedom to make laws and freedom of assembly
42. Which war was fought by the United States in the 1900s?
- Civil War
 - World War I
 - Revolutionary War
 - Mexican-American War
43. What is the supreme law of the land?
- the U.S. Constitution
 - the Articles of Confederation
 - the Emancipation Proclamation
 - the Declaration of Independence
44. What does the Constitution do?
- sets up and defines the government
 - draws boundaries of congressional districts
 - sets codes of conduct for obeying local and federal laws
 - determines whether citizens are prosecuted to the full extent of the law
45. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?
- We the United
 - We the People
 - We the Citizens
 - We the Americans
46. What is an amendment?
- a change to the Constitution
 - a preamble to the Constitution
 - an explanation of the Bill of Rights
 - an introduction to the Bill of Rights
47. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution?
- the Preamble
 - the Bill of Rights
 - the Articles of the Confederation
 - the Declaration of Independence
48. What did the Declaration of Independence do?
- declared freedom for the slaves
 - declared equal rights for women
 - declared freedom from Great Britain
 - declared an end to the war with Great Britain

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

49. What are two rights stated in the Declaration of Independence?
- a. life and liberty
 - b. free speech and justice
 - c. bear arms and pay taxes
 - d. vote and pursuit of happiness
50. How many amendments does the Constitution have?
- a. 10
 - b. 27
 - c. 36
 - d. 50
51. Who vetoes bills?
- a. the President
 - b. the Majority Leader
 - c. the President Pro Tempore
 - d. the Speaker of the House of Representatives
52. What is the "rule of law"?
- a. Everyone must follow the law.
 - b. Laws remain the same in every state.
 - c. Government leaders are above the laws.
 - d. Laws only apply to United States citizens.
53. What is one branch of the federal government?
- a. governor
 - b. judicial
 - c. military
 - d. treasury
54. Who makes federal laws?
- a. the Congress
 - b. the Supreme Court
 - c. the Attorney General
 - d. the Justice Department
55. If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?
- a. the Vice President
 - b. the Secretary of State
 - c. the President Pro Tempore
 - d. the Speaker of the House of Representatives
56. Who signs bills to become laws?
- a. the President
 - b. the Vice President
 - c. the Secretary of State
 - d. the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

57. What is the highest court in the United States?
- a. the District Court
 - b. the Superior Court
 - c. the Supreme Court
 - d. the Municipal Court
58. If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President?
- a. the Secretary of State
 - b. the U.S. Attorney General
 - c. the President Pro Tempore
 - d. the Speaker of the House of Representatives
59. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government?
- a. to make treaties
 - b. to issue driver's licenses
 - c. to provide public education
 - d. to establish police departments
60. Who is the Commander in Chief of the military?
- a. the President
 - b. the Secretary of Defense
 - c. the U.S. Attorney General
 - d. the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
61. What is the capital of Arizona?
- a. Flagstaff
 - b. Phoenix
 - c. Prescott
 - d. Tucson
62. What is one right that only applies to United States citizens?
- a. speak freely
 - b. own a weapon
 - c. practice a religion
 - d. run for federal office
63. How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?
- a. 16 years of age and older
 - b. 18 years of age and older
 - c. 21 years of age and older
 - d. 35 years of age and older
64. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states?
- a. print money
 - b. create an army
 - c. issue passports
 - d. provide public education

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

65. The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Who is one of the writers?
- John Adams
 - James Madison
 - Thomas Jefferson
 - George Washington
66. Who was President during both the Great Depression and World War II?
- Harry Truman
 - Calvin Coolidge
 - Woodrow Wilson
 - Franklin Roosevelt
67. Before he was President, Eisenhower was a general. What war was he in?
- Civil War
 - Korean War
 - World War II
 - Spanish-American War
68. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States?
- colonialism
 - communism
 - imperialism
 - sectionalism
69. What movement tried to end racial discrimination?
- civil rights movement
 - progressive movement
 - temperance movement
 - women's suffrage movement
70. What major event happened on September 11, 2001 in the United States?
- The stock market crashed.
 - Columbia space shuttle exploded.
 - Terrorists attacked the United States.
 - Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans.
71. What Ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?
- Arctic Ocean
 - . Indian Ocean
 - Pacific Ocean
 - Atlantic Ocean
72. Which of the following is a U.S. territory?
- Cuba
 - Guam
 - Hawaii
 - Panama

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

73. Which U.S. state borders Canada?
- a. Alaska
 - b. Connecticut
 - c. Oregon
 - d. Wisconsin
74. Which U.S. state borders Mexico?
- a. Texas
 - b. Arkansas
 - c. Louisiana
 - d. Alabama
75. What is the capital of the United States?
- a. Boston, MA
 - b. New York, NY
 - c. Philadelphia, PA
 - d. Washington, DC
76. What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?
- a. to vote
 - b. jury trial
 - c. free speech
 - d. to bear arms
77. What is freedom of religion?
- a. Religious leaders are exempt from the law.
 - b. States may choose a religion for the people.
 - c. Religious institutions do not have to pay taxes.
 - d. People may or may not choose to practice a religion.
78. What is the economic system in the United States?
- a. barter or trade economy
 - b. socialist or mutual economy
 - c. capitalist or market economy
 - d. communist or collective economy
79. What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress?
- a. the President and the Cabinet
 - b. the Supreme Court and the Superior Court
 - c. the U.S. Treasury and the State Department
 - d. the Senate and the House of Representatives
80. How many U.S. Senators are there?
- a. 25
 - b. 50
 - c. 100
 - d. 435

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

81. We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?
- a. 2
 - b. 4
 - c. 6
 - d. 8
82. The U.S. House of Representatives has how many voting members?
- a. 265
 - b. 380
 - c. 435
 - d. 519
83. We elect a U.S. Representative for how many years?
- a. 2
 - b. 4
 - c. 6
 - d. 8
84. Who does a U.S. Senator represent?
- a. all people in the United States
 - b. all people in the Senator's state
 - c. only the people in the state who voted for the Senator
 - d. only people who belong to the political party of the Senator
85. Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?
- a. because of state location
 - b. because of state population
 - c. because of state geographical size
 - d. because of state political affiliation
86. We elect a President for how many years?
- a. 2
 - b. 4
 - c. 6
 - d. 8
87. In what month is the election day for President?
- a. January
 - b. June
 - c. August
 - d. November
88. What is the main duty of the President's Cabinet?
- a. set policy
 - b. make laws
 - c. advise the President
 - d. command the military

SAMPLE CIVICS TEST

89. Which of the following includes two Cabinet-level positions?
- a. Secretary of Education and Secretary of History
 - b. Secretary of Energy and Secretary of Motor Vehicles
 - c. Secretary of Human Affairs and Secretary of the Navy
 - d. Secretary of Homeland Security and Secretary of the Treasury
90. How many justices are on the U.S. Supreme Court?
- a. 5
 - b. 7
 - c. 9
 - d. 11
91. What are the two major political parties in the United States?
- a. Libertarian Party and Democratic Party
 - b. Progressive Party and Libertarian Party
 - c. Democratic Party and Republican Party
 - d. Progressive Party and Republican Party
92. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Which of the following is true?
- a. Only citizens 21 and older can vote.
 - b. Only citizens with jobs can vote.
 - c. Only citizens 18 and older can vote.
 - d. Only citizens who pay taxes can vote.
93. Who is the current President of the United States?
94. Who is the current Governor of Arizona?
95. Who is the current Vice President of the United States?
96. Name one of the two current U.S. Senators for the state of Arizona.
97. Who is the current Chief Justice of the United States?
98. What is the political party of the current President?
99. Who is the current Speaker of the House of Representatives?
100. Name one of the nine current U.S. Representatives for the state of Arizona.