



Arizona

Purple Star School Program & Designation

2025 Application



DESIGNATION

The Arizona Department of Education (Department) is proud to offer the Arizona Purple Star School program (AZPSS) designation for military-friendly schools in the state. AZPSS recognizes a school's commitment to supporting students and families connected to our nation's armed forces. Designated schools acknowledge the unique obstacles military families may encounter when a change of duty assignment or deployment occurs and are committed to providing essential support to military-connected students. A Purple Star School designation indicates the awardee has met all state requirements and may display Arizona's Purple Star School program logo, certificate, and banner in their building and on social media platforms.

WHO CAN APPLY?

All Arizona schools, including private schools for grades K through 12.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

A school must submit the online application to the Department's [K12 Military Community Liaison](#), attesting that all requirements have been met or will be met within 90 calendar days. The application shall be signed by the Principal/Site Administrator or Superintendent. Completed applications may be digitally signed. Arizona Purple Star School program applicants will receive a designation letter within 30 days or a denial letter indicating discrepancies in the program requirements.

AZPSS Designation *** REQUIRED ITEMS***

1. Provide professional development (PD) to at least seventy percent (70%) of school staff, including administration, covering the unique needs of highly mobile military-connected students. The initial (PD) training must be in person. Subsequent (PD) training for new employees and annual continuing education training may be provided virtually, electronically, or in person. A school may accept in-kind donations of materials, equipment, or services for this required training from others, including the DoD (Department of Defense) installations or MCEC (Military Child Education Coalition).
2. Designate an employee, preferably with a military background, such as a veteran, military spouse, or individual with other relevant experience who understands the unique needs of highly mobile students and military families. This designated employee will be the school's primary point of contact (POC). The employee may be a counselor, administrator, teacher, or other support staff. The POC and contact information shall be prominently displayed on the school's dedicated AZPSS webpage.
3. The Primary Point of Contact (POC) shall:
 - a) Complete the Department's Arizona Purple Star School Professional Development (PD) for Point of Contact (POC). PD training is available on the Department's [AZPSS website](#).
 - b) Oversee the school's AZPSS Student-led peer-to-peer Mentorship program, whereby school administrators shall select and train student mentors to support military students transitioning into the school. Base School Liaisons may assist with student training.

- c) Coordinate with school administrators to ensure that at least seventy percent (70%) of the school's staff meet professional development (PD) requirements as stated above.
- d) Organize a patriotic event to be held at least once per school year that both:
 - i. Educates attendees about military service in the United States and Arizona, and
 - ii. Recognizes the service and commitment of military members and their families.
- e) Create a unique webpage or update the school's current website with information about the Arizona Purple Star School's (AZPSS) program as often as needed but at least once during the school year.

The school's AZPSS webpage must include the following information:

- i. Official AZPSS logo;
 - ii. POC name and direct contact information, such as their email;
 - iii. Available military resources, including but limited to:
 - iv. MIC3, Military One Source, MCEC, Arizona Coalition for Military Families, and AZPSS;
 - v. Information about the school's AZPSS Student Peer-to-Peer program and how students can participate;
 - vi. Patriotic assemblies or events, past and future;
 - vii. Other relevant information to assist military-connected students and families transition.
- f) Foster partnerships with Arizona's military and DoD personnel, including School Liaisons assigned to military installations, about opportunities for active-duty parents to volunteer at their child's school.

RECOGNITION

Arizona Purple Star School program (AZPSS) designees will receive a signed certificate by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to be displayed in the building and listed as an AZPSS designee on the Department's website. Schools may also promote its designation on social media and at any of Arizona's military installations where permissible.

INITIAL AZPSS DESIGNATION – 90 DAY REVIEW

As outlined in the "required items" above, the Department shall review the designated school's website 90 days after the school is designated an AZPSS. The Department will provide each school with a 90-day scoring rubric with their designation certificate. All required items and the AZPSS logo must be readily found on the school's website.

REPORTING & COMPLIANCE

The Department will check for compliance at the end of the first year. An annual report is due on or before June 30th of each school year. The Arizona Department of Education will provide the report format listing all statutory requirements. A designated school shall use the department's official Arizona Purple Star School program logo. Failure to meet AZPSS requirements will result in the termination of the AZPSS designation. A school that has lost its designation must show that all requirements and deficiencies have been met or corrected. The Department has 60 days to reinstate a school's request to become designated an AZPSS. A Terminated AZPSS shall not display any AZPSS logo without express written permission from the Department.

RENEWAL

The AZPSS program designation is renewable and valid for two years. A designated school shall submit a statement of continued compliance with the prescribed requirements at least thirty days before the end of the second year. Expired Arizona Purple Star School designations must submit a new application.

(To SUBMIT form electronically, please download and open the file for optimal performance)

ARIZONA PURPLE STAR SCHOOL - SITE INFORMATION

School Name:

Date:

School Address:

City:

Zip Code:

School District/Charter/Entity:

Principal/Site Administrator:

Title:

Principal/Site Administrator Email:

Phone:

AZPSS POC/Liaison Name:

Liaison Title:

Liaison Email:

Liaison Phone:

Optional:

Alternate POC/Liaison Name:

POC/Liaison Title:

POC/Liaison Email:

POC/Liaison Phone:

Per ARS 15-249.01, each school must agree to meet all requirements to maintain the Arizona Purple Star School (AZPSS) designation. Failure to meet requirements will result in the designation being terminated.

1. As described in Requirement #1, the first AZPSS Professional Development (PD) training must be in person and presented to at least seventy percent (70%) of the school's employees, including the Administration.
2. As described in Requirement #2, An AZPSS Primary Point of Contact (POC) has been selected.
 - a. The POC's name and direct contact information will be prominently displayed on the school's AZPSS webpage.
3. As described in Requirement #3a through 3f, the Primary Point of Contact (POC) will meet all requirements with the administration's assistance.
4. The Department (ADE) will check for initial compliance at the end of the first 90 days and for continued compliance at the end of the first school year.
5. A complete AZPSS Annual Report will be submitted by June 30th for each school year.
6. Failure to meet all program requirements may result in the revocation of the Arizona Purple Star School designation.

Signature of Principal/Site Administrator or Superintendent:

Questions:

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www.azed.gov

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