

Senate Engrossed

2025-2026; K-12 education

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

SENATE BILL 1744

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-185, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING NEW SECTIONS 15-217, 15-217.01 AND 15-217.02; AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 2, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-249.08; AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-305; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-901, 15-945 AND 41-1276, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 41, CHAPTER 53, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING ARTICLE 4; AMENDING LAWS 2023, CHAPTER 142, SECTION 13, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2024, CHAPTER 218, SECTION 18; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE TWELVE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
2 Section 1. Section 15-185, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

15-185. Charter schools; financing; civil penalties; transportation; definition

6 A. A school district is not financially responsible for any charter
7 school that is sponsored by the state board of education, the state board
8 for charter schools, a university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona
9 board of regents, a community college district or a group of community
10 college districts.

11 B. Financial provisions for a charter school that is sponsored by
12 the state board of education, the state board for charter schools, a
13 university, a community college district or a group of community college
14 districts are as follows:

15 1. The charter school shall calculate a base support level as
16 prescribed in section 15-943, except that:

17 (a) Section 15-941 does not apply to these charter schools.

18 (b) The small school weights prescribed in section 15-943,
19 paragraph 1 apply if a charter holder holds one charter for one or more
20 school sites and the average daily membership for the school sites are
21 combined for the calculation of the small school weight. The small school
22 weight shall not be applied individually to a charter holder if one or
23 more of the following conditions exist and the combined average daily
24 membership derived from the following conditions is greater than six
25 hundred:

26 (i) The organizational structure or management agreement of the
27 charter holder requires the charter holder or charter school to contract
28 with a specific management company.

29 (ii) The governing body of the charter holder has identical
30 membership to another charter holder in this state.

31 (iii) The charter holder is a subsidiary of a corporation that has
32 other subsidiaries that are charter holders in this state.

33 (iv) The charter holder holds more than one charter in this state.

34 (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of this paragraph, for fiscal
35 years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017, the department of education shall reduce by
36 thirty-three percent the amount provided by the small school weight for
37 charter schools prescribed in subdivision (b) of this paragraph.

38 2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this subsection, the student
39 count shall be determined initially using an estimated student count based
40 on actual registration of pupils before the beginning of the school year.
41 Notwithstanding section 15-1042, subsection F, student level data
42 submitted to the department may be used to determine estimated student
43 counts. After the first forty days, one hundred days or two hundred days
44 in session, as applicable, the charter school shall revise the student
45 count to be equal to the actual average daily membership, as defined in

1 section 15-901, of the charter school. Before the fortieth day, one
2 hundredth day or two hundredth day in session, as applicable, the state
3 board of education, the state board for charter schools, the sponsoring
4 university, the sponsoring community college district or the sponsoring
5 group of community college districts may require a charter school to
6 report periodically regarding pupil enrollment and attendance, and the
7 department of education may revise its computation of equalization
8 assistance based on the report. A charter school shall revise its student
9 count, base support level and charter additional assistance before May 15.
10 A charter school that overestimated its student count shall revise its
11 budget before May 15. A charter school that underestimated its student
12 count may revise its budget before May 15.

13 3. A charter school may use section 15-855 for the purposes of this
14 section. The charter school and the department of education shall
15 prescribe procedures for determining average daily membership.

16 4. Equalization assistance for the charter school shall be
17 determined by adding the amount of the base support level and charter
18 additional assistance. The amount of the charter additional assistance is
19 ~~\$2,090.10~~ \$2,131.90 per student count in preschool programs for children
20 with disabilities, kindergarten programs and grades one through eight and
21 ~~\$2,435.97~~ \$2,484.69 per student count in grades nine through twelve.

22 5. The state board of education shall apportion state aid from the
23 appropriations made for such purposes to the state treasurer for
24 disbursement to the charter schools in each county in an amount as
25 determined by this paragraph. The apportionments shall be made as
26 prescribed in section 15-973, subsection B.

27 6. The charter school shall not charge tuition for pupils who
28 reside in this state, levy taxes or issue bonds. A charter school may
29 admit pupils who are not residents of this state and shall charge tuition
30 for those pupils in the same manner prescribed in section 15-823.

31 7. Not later than noon on the day preceding each apportionment date
32 established pursuant to paragraph 5 of this subsection, the superintendent
33 of public instruction shall furnish to the state treasurer an abstract of
34 the apportionment and shall certify the apportionment to the department of
35 administration, which shall draw its warrant in favor of the charter
36 schools for the amount apportioned.

37 C. If a pupil is enrolled in both a charter school and a public
38 school that is not a charter school, the sum of the daily membership,
39 which includes enrollment as prescribed in section 15-901, subsection A,
40 paragraph 1, subdivisions (a) and (b) and daily attendance as prescribed
41 in section 15-901, subsection A, paragraph 5, for that pupil in the school
42 district and the charter school shall not exceed 1.0. If a pupil is
43 enrolled in both a charter school and a public school that is not a
44 charter school, the department of education shall direct the average daily
45 membership to the school with the most recent enrollment date. On

1 validation of actual enrollment in both a charter school and a public
2 school that is not a charter school and if the sum of the daily membership
3 or daily attendance for that pupil is greater than 1.0, the sum shall be
4 reduced to 1.0 and shall be apportioned between the public school and the
5 charter school based on the percentage of total time that the pupil is
6 enrolled or in attendance in the public school and the charter school.
7 The uniform system of financial records shall include guidelines to
8 apportion the pupil enrollment and attendance as provided in this section.

9 D. Charter schools are allowed to accept grants and gifts to
10 supplement their state funding, but it is not the intent of the charter
11 school law to require taxpayers to pay twice to educate the same pupils.
12 The base support level for a charter school or for a school district
13 sponsoring a charter school shall be reduced by an amount equal to the
14 total amount of monies received by a charter school from a federal or
15 state agency if the federal or state monies are intended for the basic
16 maintenance and operations of the school. The superintendent of public
17 instruction shall estimate the amount of the reduction for the budget year
18 and shall revise the reduction to reflect the actual amount before May 15
19 of the current year. If the reduction results in a negative amount, the
20 negative amount shall be used in computing all budget limits and
21 equalization assistance, except that:

22 1. Equalization assistance shall not be less than zero.
23 2. For a charter school sponsored by the state board of education,
24 the state board for charter schools, a university, a community college
25 district or a group of community college districts, the total of the base
26 support level and the charter additional assistance shall not be less than
27 zero.

28 E. If a charter school was a district public school in the prior
29 year and sponsored by the state board of education, the state board for
30 charter schools, a university, a community college district or a group of
31 community college districts, the reduction in subsection D of this section
32 applies. The reduction to the base support level of the charter school
33 shall equal the sum of the base support level and the charter additional
34 assistance received in the current year for those pupils who were enrolled
35 in the traditional public school in the prior year and are now enrolled in
36 the charter school in the current year.

37 F. Equalization assistance for charter schools shall be provided as
38 a single amount based on average daily membership without categorical
39 distinctions between maintenance and operations or capital.

40 G. At the request of a charter school, the county school
41 superintendent of the county where the charter school is located may
42 provide the same educational services to the charter school as prescribed
43 in section 15-308, subsection A. The county school superintendent may
44 charge a fee to recover costs for providing educational services to
45 charter schools.

1 H. If the sponsor of the charter school determines at a public
2 meeting that the charter school is not in compliance with federal law,
3 with the laws of this state or with its charter, the sponsor of a charter
4 school may submit a request to the department of education to withhold up
5 to ten percent of the monthly apportionment of state aid that would
6 otherwise be due the charter school. The department shall adjust the
7 charter school's apportionment accordingly. The sponsor shall provide
8 written notice to the charter school at least seventy-two hours before the
9 meeting and shall allow the charter school to respond to the allegations
10 of noncompliance at the meeting before the sponsor makes a final
11 determination to notify the department of education of noncompliance. The
12 charter school shall submit a corrective action plan to the sponsor on a
13 date specified by the sponsor at the meeting. The corrective action plan
14 shall be designed to correct deficiencies at the charter school and to
15 ensure that the charter school promptly returns to compliance. When the
16 sponsor determines that the charter school is in compliance, the
17 department shall restore the full amount of state aid payments to the
18 charter school.

19 I. In addition to the withholding of state aid payments pursuant to
20 subsection H of this section, the sponsor of a charter school may impose a
21 civil penalty of \$1,000 per occurrence if a charter school fails to comply
22 with the fingerprinting requirements prescribed in section 15-183,
23 subsection C or section 15-512. The sponsor of a charter school shall not
24 impose a civil penalty if it is the first time the charter school is out
25 of compliance with the fingerprinting requirements and if the charter
26 school provides proof within forty-eight hours after written notification
27 that an application for the appropriate fingerprint check has been
28 received by the department of public safety. The sponsor of the charter
29 school shall obtain proof that the charter school has been notified, and
30 the notification shall identify the date of the deadline and shall be
31 signed by both parties. The sponsor of a charter school shall
32 automatically impose a civil penalty of \$1,000 per occurrence if the
33 sponsor determines that the charter school subsequently violates the
34 fingerprinting requirements. Civil penalties pursuant to this subsection
35 shall be assessed by requesting the department of education to reduce the
36 amount of state aid that the charter school would otherwise receive by an
37 amount equal to the civil penalty. The amount of state aid withheld shall
38 revert to the state general fund at the end of the fiscal year.

39 J. A charter school may receive and spend monies distributed by the
40 department of education pursuant to section 42-5029, subsection E, section
41 42-5029.02, subsection A and section 37-521, subsection B.

42 K. If a school district transports or contracts to transport pupils
43 to the Arizona state schools for the deaf and the blind during any fiscal
44 year, the school district may transport or contract with a charter school
45 to transport sensory impaired pupils during that same fiscal year to a

1 charter school if requested by the parent of the pupil and if the distance
2 from the pupil's place of actual residence within the school district to
3 the charter school is less than the distance from the pupil's place of
4 actual residence within the school district to the campus of the Arizona
5 state schools for the deaf and the blind.

6 L. Notwithstanding any other law, a university under the
7 jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents, a community college district
8 or a group of community college districts shall not include any student in
9 the student count of the university, community college district or group
10 of community college districts for state funding purposes if that student
11 is enrolled in and attending a charter school sponsored by the university,
12 community college district or group of community college districts.

13 M. The governing body of a charter school shall transmit a copy of
14 its proposed budget or the summary of the proposed budget and a notice of
15 the public hearing to the department of education for posting on the
16 department of education's website not later than ten days before the
17 hearing and meeting. If the charter school maintains a website, the
18 charter school governing body shall post on its website a copy of its
19 proposed budget or the summary of the proposed budget and a notice of the
20 public hearing.

21 N. The governing body of a charter school shall collaborate with
22 the private organization that is approved by the state board of education
23 pursuant to section 15-792.02 to provide approved board examination
24 systems for the charter school.

25 O. If allowed by federal law, a charter school may opt out of
26 federal grant opportunities if the charter holder or the appropriate
27 governing body of the charter school determines that the federal
28 requirements impose unduly burdensome reporting requirements.

29 P. For the purposes of this section, "monies intended for the basic
30 maintenance and operations of the school" means monies intended to provide
31 support for the educational program of the school, except that it does not
32 include supplemental assistance for a specific purpose or title VIII of
33 the elementary and secondary education act of 1965 monies. The auditor
34 general shall determine which federal or state monies meet this
35 definition.

36 Sec. 2. Title 15, chapter 2, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,
37 is amended by adding new sections 15-217, 15-217.01 and 15-217.02, to
38 read:

39 15-217. Performance measures; adult education and workforce
40 development programs

41 A. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN COOPERATION WITH THE OFFICE OF
42 ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, SHALL ADOPT PERFORMANCE MEASURES TO EVALUATE THE
43 PERFORMANCE OF ADULT EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
44 ESTABLISHED BY SECTIONS 15-217.01, 15-217.02 AND 41-5421. THE PERFORMANCE
45 MEASURES MUST INCLUDE:

1 1. MEASUREMENTS OF ADULT LEARNER PROGRESS TOWARD EARNING A HIGH
2 SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMA.

3 2. THE NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS OR HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY
4 DIPLOMAS EARNED.

5 3. THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS EARNED.

6 4. THE NUMBER OF ADULT LEARNERS OR GRADUATES WHO HAVE MATRICULATED
7 AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING OR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL
8 INSTITUTION.

9 5. THE NUMBER OF ADULT LEARNERS OR GRADUATES WHO HAVE NEWLY
10 ACQUIRED EMPLOYMENT, WHO ARE NOW EARNING HIGHER WAGES OR WHO HAVE OBTAINED
11 A BETTER JOB OR A PROMOTION.

12 6. OTHER RELEVANT MEASURES AS ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF
13 EDUCATION, IN COOPERATION WITH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.

14 B. THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
15 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BOTH:

16 1. ALLOW FOR A COMPARABLE EVALUATION ACROSS ADULT EDUCATION AND
17 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

18 2. CONSIDER THE VARIETY OF LEARNING LEVELS OF ADULT LEARNERS WHO
19 ARE ENTERING THE PROGRAMS.

20 15-217.01. Community college adult education workforce
21 development program; fund; program schools;
22 annual reports

23 A. THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADULT EDUCATION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
24 PROGRAM IS ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE ADULT
25 LEARNERS WITH PREPARATION FOR AND ACCESS TO INTEGRATED EDUCATION AND
26 TRAINING AS DEFINED IN THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT
27 (P.L. 113-128; 128 STAT. 1425; 29 UNITED STATES CODE SECTION 3272) AND
28 ADDITIONAL STUDY AND SUPPORT SERVICES.

29 B. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FROM PROGRAM APPLICANTS
30 BEGINNING ON JULY 1 AND NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30 OF EACH YEAR. THE
31 DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER EACH PROGRAM APPLICANT IS ELIGIBLE TO
32 PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM NOT LATER THAN SIX WEEKS AFTER THE DEPARTMENT
33 RECEIVES THE PROGRAM APPLICANT'S COMPLETED APPLICATION. TO BE ELIGIBLE TO
34 PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, THE PROGRAM APPLICANT MUST BE A COMMUNITY
35 COLLEGE DISTRICT THAT IS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-1402, THAT
36 PROVIDES HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS OR HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMAS AND THAT
37 PROVIDES ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY ACTIVITIES THAT PREPARE ADULT
38 LEARNERS FOR, OR PROVIDE ADULT LEARNERS WITH ACCESS TO, INTEGRATED
39 EDUCATION AND TRAINING MODELS, INCLUDING WORKFORCE TRAINING,
40 INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS, DEGREE PROGRAMS OR WORKFORCE PROGRAMS
41 THAT ARE ACCREDITED BY A REGIONAL ACCREDITING BODY THAT IS RECOGNIZED BY
42 THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. IF A PROGRAM APPLICANT IS
43 ELIGIBLE PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE
44 MONIES TO THE PROGRAM APPLICANT AS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION D OF THIS
45 SECTION.

1 C. A PROGRAM SCHOOL MAY RECEIVE MONIES PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION D OF
2 THIS SECTION FOR EACH ADULT LEARNER WHO IS A STUDENT IN THE PROGRAM IF THE
3 ADULT LEARNER MEETS BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

4 1. ENROLLS IN A COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM.
5 2. PURSUES ACADEMIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT RELATED TO ADULT EDUCATION
6 AND LITERACY ACTIVITIES AS DEFINED IN THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND
7 OPPORTUNITY ACT.

8 D. THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADULT EDUCATION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
9 PROGRAM FUND IS ESTABLISHED CONSISTING OF LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS AND
10 ANY OTHER MONIES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND. MONIES IN
11 THE FUND ARE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED AND ARE EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS
12 OF SECTION 35-190 RELATING TO LAPSLING OF APPROPRIATIONS. THE DEPARTMENT
13 MAY USE NOT MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT OF THE MONIES THAT ARE APPROPRIATED TO
14 THE FUND EACH YEAR FOR THE COSTS OF ADMINISTERING THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
15 ADULT EDUCATION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER
16 LAW, A PROGRAM SCHOOL SHALL BE FUNDED AS FOLLOWS:

17 1. THE PROGRAM SCHOOL MAY RECEIVE UP TO \$5,000 PER FULL-TIME
18 STUDENT IN THE PROGRAM EACH FISCAL YEAR. PART-TIME STUDENTS SHALL BE
19 FUNDED IN PROPORTION TO THE NUMBER OF ENROLLED COURSES OR HOURS OF
20 INSTRUCTION.

21 2. EACH QUARTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE FUND MONIES TO ALL
22 PROGRAM SCHOOLS THAT MEET THE CRITERIA PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION B OF THIS
23 SECTION IN A PROPORTIONAL MANNER BASED ON THE NUMBER OF ADULT LEARNERS
24 EACH PROGRAM SCHOOL SERVES. THE TOTAL AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED PURSUANT TO THIS
25 PARAGRAPH IN ANY QUARTER MAY NOT EXCEED THE SUM OF:

26 (a) ONE-FOURTH OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT THAT IS ALLOCATED FOR PROGRAM
27 SCHOOLS IN THE FISCAL YEAR.

28 (b) THE AMOUNT OF UNSPENT MONIES, IF ANY, THAT WERE ALLOCATED FOR
29 PROGRAM SCHOOLS IN A PREVIOUS QUARTER.

30 E. A PROGRAM SCHOOL SHALL USE MONIES RECEIVED UNDER THIS SECTION TO
31 INCREASE THE PROGRAM SCHOOL'S CAPACITY TO PROVIDE ADULT EDUCATION AND
32 LITERACY ACTIVITIES THAT PREPARE ADULT LEARNERS FOR, OR PROVIDE ADULT
33 LEARNERS WITH ACCESS TO, INTEGRATED EDUCATION AND TRAINING MODELS THAT
34 LEAD TO INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED TRAINING, INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS, A
35 COMMUNITY COLLEGE CERTIFICATE OR A COMMUNITY COLLEGE DEGREE. IN ADDITION
36 TO ANY MONIES RECEIVED FROM THE FUND, A PROGRAM SCHOOL MAY ACCEPT AND
37 SPEND FEDERAL MONIES AND PRIVATE GRANTS, GIFTS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVISES
38 TO ASSIST THE PROGRAM SCHOOL IN CARRYING OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS
39 SECTION. A PORTION OF MONIES MAY BE USED FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES
40 TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF ADULT LEARNERS IN THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE
41 FOLLOWING:

42 1. TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FOR ADULT LEARNERS WITH A DEMONSTRATED
43 NEED.

44 2. CHILD CARE SERVICES FOR DEPENDENTS OF ADULT LEARNERS WHILE THE
45 ADULT LEARNERS ARE ON-SITE.

- 1 3. COLLEGE AND CAREER COUNSELING.
- 2 4. JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE.

3 F. FOR EACH YEAR THAT MONIES ARE APPROPRIATED BY THE LEGISLATURE TO
4 THE FUND ESTABLISHED BY THIS SECTION, ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 30, EACH
5 PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT REGARDING THE
6 COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADULT EDUCATION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM TO THE
7 DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPILE THE REPORTS RECEIVED FROM EACH
8 PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15 OF EACH
9 YEAR, SHALL PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE
10 SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE STATE BOARD OF
11 EDUCATION AND SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF
12 STATE. EACH REPORT MUST INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM, ALL OF THE FOLLOWING
13 INFORMATION FOR EACH PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR THE PRECEDING
14 SCHOOL YEAR:

- 15 1. THE NUMBER OF ADULT LEARNERS ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM.
- 16 2. THE COMPLETION RATE OF HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS AND HIGH SCHOOL
17 EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMAS EARNED BY ADULT LEARNERS ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM.
- 18 3. THE AVERAGE PROGRESS OF ADULT LEARNERS TOWARD MEETING COMPLETION
19 CRITERIA.
- 20 4. THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS,
21 COMMUNITY COLLEGE CERTIFICATES, COMMUNITY COLLEGE DEGREE CREDITS AND
22 COMMUNITY COLLEGE DEGREES EARNED BY ADULT LEARNERS ENROLLED IN THE
23 PROGRAM.
- 24 5. A DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADULT EDUCATION
25 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OFFERED.

26 6. THE NUMBER OF ADULT LEARNERS WHO HAVE NEWLY ACQUIRED PROFICIENCY
27 IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

28 7. INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE
29 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-217.

30 G. THE DEPARTMENT MAY REQUEST INFORMATION FROM ANY PROGRAM
31 APPLICANT OR PROGRAM SCHOOL FOR THE PURPOSES OF DETERMINING PROGRAM
32 ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING DISTRIBUTIONS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

33 H. THE DEPARTMENT MAY DEVELOP A PROCESS TO BRING A PROGRAM SCHOOL
34 INTO COMPLIANCE OR REVOKE THE PROGRAM SCHOOL'S AUTHORIZATION TO
35 PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

36 15-217.02. Continuing high school and workforce training
37 program; service providers; program schools;
38 requirements; exemptions; reporting; enrollment
39 limits; rules

40 A. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL ESTABLISH A CONTINUING HIGH
41 SCHOOL AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES ADULT LEARNERS WITH
42 ALTERNATIVE STUDY SERVICES AND THAT LEADS TO THE ISSUANCE OF A HIGH SCHOOL
43 DIPLOMA AND INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
44 SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL
45 AUTHORIZE ELIGIBLE SERVICE PROVIDERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONTINUING HIGH

1 SCHOOL AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM AND TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM SCHOOL IN
2 PARTNERSHIP WITH A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR NONPROFIT CHARTER SCHOOL.

3 B. TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONTINUING HIGH SCHOOL AND
4 WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM, A SERVICE PROVIDER MUST MEET BOTH OF THE
5 FOLLOWING:

6 1. BE A NONPROFIT CORPORATION THAT IS QUALIFIED AS TAX-EXEMPT
7 PURSUANT TO SECTION 501(c)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OR BE AN ADULT
8 EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT IS APPROVED BY THE DIVISION OF ADULT EDUCATION
9 WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

10 2. DEMONSTRATE AT LEAST A TEN-YEAR HISTORY OF PROVIDING WORKFORCE
11 TRAINING AND CAREER SERVICES IN THIS STATE TO PERSONS WHO ARE AT LEAST
12 EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND WHOSE EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
13 HAVE BEEN LIMITED BY EDUCATIONAL DISADVANTAGES, DISABILITIES OR OTHER
14 BARRIERS TO EDUCATION, SUCH AS LACK OF RELIABLE AND AFFORDABLE
15 TRANSPORTATION, LACK OF CHILD CARE OR FOOD INSECURITY.

16 C. A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA MAY BE ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION
17 ONLY TO AN ADULT LEARNER WHO MEETS ALL THE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS OF
18 SECTION 15-701.01 AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

19 D. A PROGRAM SCHOOL SHALL MEET ALL APPLICABLE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS
20 PRESCRIBED IN THIS TITLE FOR A PUBLIC SCHOOL, INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR
21 STUDENT ASSESSMENTS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND PROHIBITIONS
22 AGAINST ADMISSION LIMITS BASED ON ETHNICITY, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER,
23 INCOME LEVEL, DISABLING CONDITION, ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY OR
24 ATHLETIC ABILITY UNLESS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING APPLIES:

25 1. PROGRAM SCHOOLS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION ARE EXPRESSLY
26 EXEMPT FROM THE LEGAL REQUIREMENT.

27 2. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DETERMINES THAT THE LEGAL
28 REQUIREMENT IS NOT FEASIBLE.

29 3. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DETERMINES THAT THE LEGAL
30 REQUIREMENT IS NOT APPLICABLE TO THE EDUCATION OF ADULT LEARNERS.

31 E. THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE DO NOT APPLY TO PROGRAM
32 SCHOOLS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION:

33 1. THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS UNDER
34 SECTIONS 15-756 AND 15-756.05.

35 2. THE RESIDENCY RECORD REQUIREMENT UNDER SECTION 15-802.

36 3. THE WITHDRAWAL FORM REQUIREMENTS UNDER SECTION 15-827 FOR ANY
37 ADULT LEARNER WHO HAS NOT ATTENDED ANOTHER SCHOOL IN THIS STATE DURING THE
38 TWO YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE ADULT LEARNER'S ENROLLMENT IN THE
39 PROGRAM SCHOOL.

40 4. THE SCHOOL RECORDS REQUIREMENTS UNDER SECTION 15-828.

41 5. THE LETTER GRADES ASSIGNED UNDER SECTION 15-241.

42 F. EACH PROGRAM SCHOOL SHALL:

43 1. EXERCISE THE PROGRAM SCHOOL'S BEST EFFORT TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION
44 OF EACH ADULT LEARNER'S WITHDRAWAL FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL IN THIS STATE,

1 INCLUDING REQUESTING A STUDENT TRANSCRIPT OR RECEIVING VERBAL CONFIRMATION
2 FROM AN OFFICIAL OF THE SCHOOL FROM WHICH THE ADULT LEARNER WITHDREW.

3 2. REQUIRE AN ADULT LEARNER WHO ENROLLS IN THE PROGRAM SCHOOL TO
4 PROVIDE BOTH:

5 (a) VERIFIABLE DOCUMENTATION OF THE ADULT LEARNER'S RESIDENCY IN
6 THIS STATE.

7 (b) RELIABLE PROOF OF THE ADULT LEARNER'S AGE, WHICH MAY INCLUDE AN
8 IDENTIFICATION RECORD ISSUED BY A STATE, FEDERAL OR TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OR A
9 MILITARY IDENTIFICATION CARD.

10 3. ADMINISTER AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENT THAT IS
11 ACCEPTED BY UNIVERSITIES OR COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN THIS STATE.

12 G. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL
13 DISTRIBUTE MONIES TO AN APPROVED PROGRAM SCHOOL AS FOLLOWS:

14 1. THE PROGRAM SCHOOL SHALL RECEIVE \$7,700 PER FULL-TIME STUDENT
15 ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM SCHOOL. PART-TIME STUDENTS SHALL BE FUNDED IN
16 PROPORTION TO THE NUMBER OF ENROLLED COURSES OR HOURS OF INSTRUCTION.

17 2. THE PROGRAM SCHOOL IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FUNDING FOR ANY ADULT
18 LEARNER REGARDLESS OF AGE.

19 3. THE PROGRAM SCHOOL IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ANY OTHER SCHOOL FINANCE
20 FORMULA FUNDING FOR ADULT LEARNERS ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM SCHOOL,
21 INCLUDING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

22 (a) TRANSPORTATION FUNDING PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-945.

23 (b) ARIZONA ONLINE INSTRUCTION FUNDING PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-808.

24 (c) BASE SUPPORT LEVEL FUNDING PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-943.

25 (d) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.

26 H. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL DEVELOP APPLICATION PROCEDURES
27 FOR THE CONTINUING HIGH SCHOOL AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM. THE
28 SERVICE PROVIDER SHALL SUBMIT THE APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF THE PROGRAM
29 SCHOOL. AN APPLICATION SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST INCLUDE
30 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

31 1. A DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE PROVIDER'S PARTNERSHIP WITH A
32 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR NONPROFIT CHARTER SCHOOL.

33 2. A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM SCHOOL'S ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE,
34 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES, PROGRAM STAFF, BUDGET AND SPECIFIC CURRICULUM THAT IS
35 ALIGNED WITH THE STATE ACADEMIC STANDARDS.

36 3. THE PROGRAM SCHOOL'S ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND A SCHEDULE DESCRIBING
37 THE PROGRAM SCHOOL'S LENGTH OF SCHOOL DAY, PROGRAM SEQUENCE,
38 MULTIDISCIPLINARY COURSES, PACE AND INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES, OR ANY
39 COMBINATION OF THESE ITEMS.

40 4. CONFIRMATION OF THE PROGRAM SCHOOL'S LOCATION AND A DESCRIPTION
41 OF THE PROGRAM SCHOOL'S FACILITY, INCLUDING ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

42 (a) ACCESSIBILITY.

43 (b) AVAILABLE CLASSROOM SPACE.

44 (c) CHILD CARE SPACE.

45 (d) HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

1 5. A DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC ACADEMIC, BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL
2 SUPPORT SERVICES THE SERVICE PROVIDER WILL OFFER TO ADULT LEARNERS WHO
3 ENROLL IN THE PROGRAM SCHOOL.

4 6. A DESCRIPTION OF THE ADULT LEARNER AND FAMILY SUPPORTS THAT THE
5 PROGRAM SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE AT NO COST TO ADULT LEARNERS, INCLUDING ALL OF
6 THE FOLLOWING:

7 (a) ON-SITE CHILD CARE FOR DEPENDENTS OF ENROLLED ADULT LEARNERS
8 WHILE THE ADULT LEARNER IS ON-SITE.

9 (b) LOCAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FOR ADULT LEARNERS WITH A
10 VERIFIABLE NEED.

11 (c) CAREER AND HIGHER EDUCATION COUNSELING.

12 (d) JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE.

13 7. A DESCRIPTION OF THE AVAILABLE COUNSELING SERVICES THAT ASSIST
14 ADULT LEARNERS IN OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS, INCLUDING
15 ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

16 (a) EDUCATIONAL DISADVANTAGES.

17 (b) HOMELESSNESS.

18 (c) CRIMINAL HISTORY.

19 (d) DISABLING CONDITIONS.

20 8. A DESCRIPTION OF THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTION THE
21 PROGRAM SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE. CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTION AND
22 COURSES MUST LEAD TO INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS OR RESULT IN AN ADULT
23 LEARNER EARNING COURSE CREDITS FROM A UNIVERSITY OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE. A
24 SERVICE PROVIDER MAY PARTNER WITH A COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OR CAREER
25 TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT TO PROVIDE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION
26 INSTRUCTION.

27 9. A DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC PROGRAM OUTCOMES, GOALS AND METRICS
28 THE PROGRAM SCHOOL WILL USE TO DETERMINE ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS.

29 10. THE PROJECTED NUMBER OF ADULT LEARNERS THE PROGRAM SCHOOL WILL
30 ENROLL.

31 I. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE
32 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SHALL EVALUATE APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR THE
33 CONTINUING HIGH SCHOOL AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM AND APPROVE PROGRAM
34 SCHOOLS THAT DEMONSTRATE, THROUGH EVIDENCE OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION, THE
35 ABILITY TO PROVIDE ADULT LEARNERS WITH THE INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT THAT
36 LEAD TO A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND ONE OR MORE INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED
37 CREDENTIALS. THE FOLLOWING APPLY TO APPROVAL OF A PROGRAM SCHOOL'S
38 PARTICIPATION IN THE CONTINUING HIGH SCHOOL AND WORKFORCE TRAINING
39 PROGRAM:

40 1. INITIAL APPROVAL SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN TWO
41 SCHOOL YEARS.

42 2. RENEWAL OF APPROVAL SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN FOUR
43 SCHOOL YEARS AND IS CONTINGENT ON SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS,
44 INCLUDING STUDENT PROGRESSION, GRADUATION RATES AND EARNING OF
45 INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS.

1 3. IF AN APPROVED SERVICE PROVIDER FAILS TO MEET ANY REQUIREMENTS
2 OF THIS SECTION OR ANY RULES ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD, THE STATE BOARD
3 SHALL IMMEDIATELY INITIATE A PROCESS TO BRING THE PROGRAM SCHOOL INTO
4 COMPLIANCE OR TO REVOKE THE PROGRAM SCHOOL'S AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE
5 IN THE CONTINUING HIGH SCHOOL AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM.

6 J. AN APPROVED PROGRAM SCHOOL PARTICIPATING IN THE CONTINUING HIGH
7 SCHOOL AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM SHALL ANNUALLY REPORT THE FOLLOWING
8 INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

9 1. THE NUMBER OF ADULT LEARNERS ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM SCHOOL.
10 2. THE GRADUATION RATE OF ADULT LEARNERS ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM
11 SCHOOL.

12 3. THE AVERAGE PROGRESS OF ADULT LEARNERS TOWARD MEETING GRADUATION
13 REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING THE AVERAGE OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:

14 (a) THE AMOUNT OF TIME THAT AN ADULT LEARNER PARTICIPATES IN THE
15 PROGRAM.

16 (b) THE NUMBER OF COURSE CREDITS EARNED BY AN ADULT LEARNER.

17 (c) THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS EARNED BY AN
18 ADULT LEARNER.

19 4. THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS EARNED BY
20 ADULT LEARNERS ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM SCHOOL.

21 5. THE NUMBER OF ADULT LEARNERS WHO HAVE NEWLY ACQUIRED PROFICIENCY
22 IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, AS DEMONSTRATED BY AN ASSESSMENT ADMINISTERED
23 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION F, PARAGRAPH 3 OF THIS SECTION.

24 6. A DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY OF THE ACADEMIC, BEHAVIORAL AND EMOTIONAL
25 SUPPORT SERVICES THE SERVICE PROVIDER OFFERS TO ADULT LEARNERS IN THE
26 PROGRAM SCHOOL.

27 7. THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES ADOPTED BY
28 THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-217.

29 K. ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 30, 2025 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH
30 PROGRAM SCHOOL SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT REGARDING THE CONTINUING HIGH SCHOOL
31 AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

32 L. ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15, 2025 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
33 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT EVALUATING THE
34 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CONTINUING HIGH SCHOOL AND WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM
35 TO THE GOVERNOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
36 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
37 PROVIDE A COPY OF THE REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

38 M. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY APPROVE PROGRAM SCHOOLS WITH A
39 TOTAL PROJECTED FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT OF:

40 1. IN FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026, NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THIRTY.
41 2. BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027, ZERO.

42 N. IF THE TOTAL FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT REQUESTED BY APPROVED PROGRAM
43 SCHOOLS IS GREATER THAN THE AMOUNTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION M OF THIS
44 SECTION, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF
45 EDUCATION TO PRIORITIZE FUNDING DISTRIBUTION TO PROGRAM SCHOOLS

1 DEMONSTRATING THE HIGHEST PERFORMANCE. NEW PROGRAM SCHOOLS SHALL BE
2 PRIORITIZED BASED ON THE SERVICES AND SUPPORTS FOR ADULT LEARNERS AS
3 OUTLINED IN THEIR APPLICATIONS.

4 O. A PROGRAM SCHOOL MAY NOT EITHER:

5 1. CONDUCT ADVERTISING OR MARKETING CAMPAIGNS DIRECTED AT STUDENTS
6 WHO ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL, OR
7 UNDERTAKE ANY OTHER ACTIVITY THAT ENCOURAGES STUDENTS WHO ARE CURRENTLY
8 ENROLLED IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL TO STOP ATTENDING SCHOOL
9 IN ORDER TO ENROLL IN A PROGRAM SCHOOL.

10 2. ENROLL A STUDENT WHO WAS ENROLLED IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
11 CHARTER SCHOOL WITHIN THE PRECEDING THIRTY DAYS.

12 P. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY ADOPT RULES TO CARRY OUT THE
13 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

14 Q. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL PROVIDE ADEQUATE STAFF SUPPORT
15 FOR THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO COMPLY WITH THIS SECTION.

16 Sec. 3. Title 15, chapter 2, article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes,
17 is amended by adding section 15-249.08, to read:

18 15-249.08. Ninth grade on-track grant program: school
19 requirements: fund: exemption

20 A. THE NINTH GRADE ON-TRACK GRANT PROGRAM IS ESTABLISHED IN THE
21 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT
22 PROGRAM AND MAY ADOPT RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO CARRY OUT THE
23 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

24 1. ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:

25 (a) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL TO APPLY FOR A GRANT.
26 (b) THE DEPARTMENT TO EVALUATE THE GRANT APPLICATIONS.

27 (c) THE DEPARTMENT TO AWARD GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND
28 CHARTER SCHOOLS FOR A TERM OF MORE THAN ONE YEAR AND NOT MORE THAN FIVE
29 YEARS.

30 2. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE GRANT APPLICATION AND
31 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS DO NOT IMPOSE AN UNDUE BURDEN ON THE SCHOOL
32 DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS.

33 3. REQUIRE EACH GRANT APPLICATION TO BE APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE
34 OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD OR CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY,
35 WHICHEVER APPLIES, BEFORE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY SUBMIT
36 THE APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT.

37 4. AWARD GRANTS ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS TO EACH
38 ELIGIBLE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL IN AN AMOUNT THAT IS EQUAL TO
39 AT LEAST \$150 FOR EACH NINTH GRADE STUDENT WHO IS ENROLLED OR PROJECTED TO
40 BE ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL DURING THE TERM OF
41 THE GRANT, EXCEPT THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NINTH GRADE STUDENTS WHO MAY BE
42 FUNDED PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT EXCEED:

43 (a) FOR GRANTS THAT ARE AWARDED IN FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026,
44 TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY.

1 (b) FOR GRANTS THAT ARE AWARDED BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027,
2 ZERO.

3 5. PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO GRANT RECIPIENTS FOR
4 IMPLEMENTING NINTH GRADE ON-TRACK PROGRAMS AND SERVICES PURSUANT TO THIS
5 SECTION.

6 B. EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT RECEIVES A GRANT
7 AWARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION SHALL:

8 1. USE THE MONIES TO ESTABLISH AND EXPAND PROGRAMS, OPPORTUNITIES
9 AND STRATEGIES THAT HELP NINTH GRADE STUDENTS COMPLETE SUFFICIENT CREDITS
10 TO BE ON TRACK TO GRADUATE IN FOUR YEARS, INCLUDING ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

11 (a) PROVIDING REAL-TIME, ACCESSIBLY FORMATTED DATA REGARDING
12 STUDENT GRADES, ATTENDANCE AND BEHAVIOR TO GRADE NINE TEACHERS AND SUPPORT
13 STAFF.

(b) ALLOCATING TIME FOR GRADE NINE TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF TO

15 MEET DURING THE SCHOOL DAY TO REVIEW DATA AND DEVELOP INTERVENTION
16 STRATEGIES FOR AT-RISK STUDENTS IN GRADE NINE. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
17 CHARTER SCHOOL SHALL MAINTAIN RECORDS OF MEETINGS HELD PURSUANT TO THIS
18 SUBDIVISION AND PROVIDE THOSE RECORDS TO THE DEPARTMENT ON REQUEST.

19 (c) PROVIDING TIMELY, ACTIONABLE DATA FOR GRADE NINE TEACHERS,
20 INCLUDING PROVIDING ACCESS TO DATA AND DEVELOPING TEACHERS' DATA LITERACY.

21 (d) CREATING HIGHLY EFFECTIVE GRADE NINE SUCCESS TEAMS.

(e) ESTABLISHING FOUNDATIONAL STRUCTURES AND CONDITIONS FOR GRADE NINE ON-TRACK WORK.

24 (f) ESTABLISHING SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES TO OPTIMIZE OPERATIONS OF

25 THE GRADE NINE SUCCESS TEAM.
26 (a) SYSTEMATIZING GRADE NINE SUCCESS BY RECRUITING AND ENGAGING ALL

(b) CREATING AND EXECUTING PROACTIVE AND DATA-DRIVEN INTERVENTION

AND REFERRAL SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES

30 (i) IMPLEMENTING PROACTIVE AND HIGH-LEVERAGE INTERVENTION
31 STRATEGIES

31 STRATEGIES.
32 (j) CREATING AND EXECUTING A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF GRADE NINE
33 TRANSACTION SUPPORTS

33 TRANSITION SUPPORTS.
34 (k) CREATING A PERSONALIZED AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS
35 IN GRADE NINE.
36 (l) PROMOTING EARLY PREPARATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL ENTRY.

(1) PROVIDING EARLY PREPARATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL ENTRY;

37 (m) PROVIDING PROACTIVE SUPPORTS TO GRADE NINE TEACHERS AND SUPPORT
38 STAFF.

39 (n) IMPLEMENTING HIGH QUALITY INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES AND FAIR
40 GRADING PRACTICES.

41 (o) DEVELOPING LEARNING-CENTERED PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITIES AND
42 STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING COMMUNITIES.

1 (p) ESTABLISHING A PARTNERSHIP WITH AN ORGANIZATION THAT HAS AT
2 LEAST FIVE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE PROVIDING NINTH GRADE ON-TRACK PROGRAMS AND
3 SERVICES TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS TO INCREASE GRADE NINE
4 ON-TRACK RATES.

5 2. ON REQUEST FROM THE DEPARTMENT, PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION
6 NECESSARY TO DEMONSTRATE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

7 C. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT RECEIVES MONIES
8 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL SUPPLEMENT AND NOT SUPPLANT PROGRAMS,
9 OPPORTUNITIES AND STRATEGIES THAT HELP NINTH GRADE STUDENTS COMPLETE
10 SUFFICIENT CREDITS TO BE ON TRACK TO GRADUATE IN FOUR YEARS.

11 D. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, A STUDENT IS DEEMED ON TRACK
12 TO GRADUATE IN FOUR YEARS IF THE STUDENT DOES BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

13 1. COMPLETES AT LEAST TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE CREDITS REQUIRED
14 FOR THE STUDENT TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL BY THE END OF NINTH GRADE.

15 2. DOES NOT EARN MORE THAN ONE LETTER GRADE OF F, OR THE
16 EQUIVALENT, IN NINTH GRADE.

17 E. THE NINTH GRADE ON-TRACK GRANT PROGRAM FUND IS ESTABLISHED
18 CONSISTING OF LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS, GIFTS, GRANTS AND DONATIONS.
19 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND. MONIES IN THE FUND ARE
20 CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED AND ARE EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION
21 35-190 RELATING TO LAPSLING OF APPROPRIATIONS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE
22 MONIES IN THE FUND TO PROVIDE GRANTS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS
23 SECTION.

24 Sec. 4. Title 15, chapter 3, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,
25 is amended by adding section 15-305, to read:

26 15-305. Accommodation schools; optional high school
27 equivalency preparation instruction; requirements;
28 definition

29 A. A COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT MAY OFFER HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY
30 PREPARATION INSTRUCTION THROUGH AN ACCOMMODATION SCHOOL TO STUDENTS WHO
31 ARE ENROLLED IN THE ACCOMMODATION SCHOOL IN GRADE TWELVE, SUBJECT TO THE
32 FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

33 1. BEFORE PROVIDING HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY PREPARATION INSTRUCTION
34 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT SHALL OBTAIN
35 WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE STUDENT'S PARENT OR, IF EMANCIPATED, THE STUDENT.
36 2. EACH STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES IN HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY
37 PREPARATION INSTRUCTION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST ALSO BE ENROLLED IN
38 A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSE OR PROGRAM THAT LEADS TO A
39 CERTIFICATION, LICENSE OR CREDENTIAL

40 B. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY
41 PREPARATION INSTRUCTION" MEANS INSTRUCTION THAT PREPARES STUDENTS TO PASS
42 THE EQUIVALENCY TEST ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO
43 SECTION 15-702.

1 Sec. 5. Section 15-901, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
2 read:

3 **15-901. Definitions**

4 A. In this title, unless the context otherwise requires:

5 1. "Average daily membership" means the total enrollment of
6 fractional students and full-time students, minus withdrawals, of each
7 school day through the first one hundred days or two hundred days in
8 session, as applicable, for the current year. For the purposes of this
9 paragraph, "withdrawals" means students who are formally withdrawn from
10 schools or students who are absent for ten consecutive school days, except
11 for excused absences identified by the department of education. For
12 computation purposes, a student who is absent for nine or fewer
13 consecutive school days, including the last day of the school year, is not
14 a withdrawal and may not be subtracted from the total enrollment of
15 fractional students and full-time students. For the purposes of this
16 section, school districts and charter schools shall report student absence
17 data to the department of education at least once every sixty days in
18 session. For computation purposes, the effective date of withdrawal shall
19 be retroactive to the last day of actual attendance of the student or
20 excused absence. A school district or charter school may satisfy any of
21 the time and hours requirements prescribed in this subsection in any
22 manner prescribed in the school district's or charter school's
23 instructional time model adopted under section 15-901.08.

24 (a) "Fractional student" means:

25 (i) For common schools, a preschool child who is enrolled in a
26 program for preschool children with disabilities of at least three hundred
27 sixty minutes each week that meets at least two hundred sixteen hours over
28 the minimum number of days or a kindergarten student who is at least five
29 years of age before January 1 of the school year and enrolled in a school
30 kindergarten program that meets at least three hundred fifty-six hours for
31 a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional hours
32 prescribed in this section. In computing the average daily membership,
33 preschool children with disabilities and kindergarten students shall be
34 counted as one-half of a full-time student. For common schools, a
35 part-time student is a student enrolled for less than the total time for a
36 full-time student as defined in this section. A part-time common school
37 student shall be counted as one-fourth, one-half or three-fourths of a
38 full-time student if the student is enrolled in an instructional program
39 that is at least one-fourth, one-half or three-fourths of the time a
40 full-time student is enrolled as defined in subdivision (b) of this
41 paragraph. The hours in which a student is scheduled to attend a common
42 school during the regular school day shall be included in the calculation
43 of the average daily membership for that student.

44 (ii) For high schools, a part-time student who is enrolled in less
45 than four subjects that count toward graduation as defined by the state

1 board of education, each of which, if taught each school day for the
2 minimum number of days required in a school year, would meet a minimum of
3 one hundred twenty-three hours a year, or the equivalent, in a recognized
4 high school. The average daily membership of a part-time high school
5 student shall be 0.75 if the student is enrolled in an instructional
6 program of three subjects that meet at least five hundred forty hours for
7 a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional hours
8 prescribed in this section. The average daily membership of a part-time
9 high school student shall be 0.5 if the student is enrolled in an
10 instructional program of two subjects that meet at least three hundred
11 sixty hours for a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional
12 hours prescribed in this section. The average daily membership of a
13 part-time high school student shall be 0.25 if the student is enrolled in
14 an instructional program of one subject that meets at least one hundred
15 eighty hours for a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the
16 instructional hours prescribed in this section. The hours in which a
17 student is scheduled to attend a high school during the regular school day
18 shall be included in the calculation of the average daily membership for
19 that student.

20 (b) "Full-time student" means:

21 (i) For common schools, a student who is at least six years of age
22 before January 1 of a school year, who has not graduated from the highest
23 grade taught in the school district and who is regularly enrolled in a
24 course of study required by the state board of education. First, second
25 and third grade students or ungraded group B children with disabilities
26 who are at least five, but under six, years of age by September 1 must be
27 enrolled in an instructional program that meets for a total of at least
28 seven hundred twelve hours for a one hundred eighty-day school year, or
29 the instructional hours prescribed in this section. Fourth, fifth, sixth,
30 seventh and eighth grade students must be enrolled in an instructional
31 program that meets for a total of at least eight hundred ninety hours for
32 a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional hours
33 prescribed in this section, including the equivalent number of
34 instructional hours for schools that operate on a one hundred
35 forty-four-day school year. The hours in which a student is scheduled to
36 attend a common school during the regular school day shall be included in
37 the calculation of the average daily membership for that student.

38 (ii) For high schools, a student who has not graduated from the
39 highest grade taught in the school district and who is enrolled in at
40 least an instructional program of four or more subjects that count toward
41 graduation as defined by the state board of education, each of which, if
42 taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school
43 year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty-three hours a year, or
44 the equivalent, that meets for a total of at least seven hundred twenty
45 hours for a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional hours

1 prescribed in this section in a recognized high school. A full-time
2 student shall not be counted more than once for computation of average
3 daily membership. The average daily membership of a full-time high school
4 student shall be 1.0 if the student is enrolled in at least four subjects
5 that meet at least seven hundred twenty hours for a one hundred eighty-day
6 school year, or the equivalent instructional hours prescribed in this
7 section. The hours in which a student is scheduled to attend a high
8 school during the regular school day shall be included in the calculation
9 of the average daily membership for that student.

10 (iii) If a child who has not reached five years of age before
11 September 1 of the current school year is admitted to kindergarten and
12 repeats kindergarten in the following school year, a school district or
13 charter school is not eligible to receive basic state aid on behalf of
14 that child during the child's second year of kindergarten. If a child who
15 has not reached five years of age before September 1 of the current school
16 year is admitted to kindergarten but does not remain enrolled, a school
17 district or charter school may receive a portion of basic state aid on
18 behalf of that child in the subsequent year. A school district or charter
19 school may charge tuition for any child who is ineligible for basic state
20 aid pursuant to this item.

21 (iv) Except as otherwise provided by law, for a full-time high
22 school student who is concurrently enrolled in two school districts or two
23 charter schools, the average daily membership shall not exceed 1.0.

24 (v) Except as otherwise provided by law, for any student who is
25 concurrently enrolled in a school district and a charter school, the
26 average daily membership shall be apportioned between the school district
27 and the charter school and shall not exceed 1.0. The apportionment shall
28 be based on the percentage of total time that the student is enrolled in
29 or in attendance at the school district and the charter school.

30 (vi) Except as otherwise provided by law, for any student who is
31 concurrently enrolled, pursuant to section 15-808, in a school district
32 and Arizona online instruction or a charter school and Arizona online
33 instruction, the average daily membership shall be apportioned between the
34 school district and Arizona online instruction or the charter school and
35 Arizona online instruction and shall not exceed 1.0. The apportionment
36 shall be based on the percentage of total time that the student is
37 enrolled in or in attendance at the school district and Arizona online
38 instruction or the charter school and Arizona online instruction.

39 (vii) For homebound or hospitalized, a student receiving at least
40 four hours of instruction per week.

41 (c) "Regular school day" means the regularly scheduled class
42 periods intended for instructional purposes. Instructional purposes may
43 include core subjects, elective subjects, lunch, study halls, music
44 instruction and other classes that advance the academic instruction of

1 pupils. Instructional purposes do not include athletic practices or
2 extracurricular clubs and activities.

3 2. "Budget year" means the fiscal year for which the school
4 district is budgeting and that immediately follows the current year.

5 3. "Common school district" means a political subdivision of this
6 state offering instruction to students in programs for preschool children
7 with disabilities and kindergarten programs and either:

8 (a) Grades one through eight.

9 (b) Grades one through nine pursuant to section 15-447.01.

10 4. "Current year" means the fiscal year in which a school district
11 is operating.

12 5. "Daily attendance" means:

13 (a) For common schools, days in which a pupil:

14 (i) Of a kindergarten program or ungraded, but not group B children
15 with disabilities, who is at least five, but under six, years of age by
16 September 1 attends at least three-quarters of the instructional time
17 scheduled for the day. If the total instruction time scheduled for the
18 year is at least three hundred fifty-six hours but is less than seven
19 hundred twelve hours, such attendance shall be counted as one-half day of
20 attendance. If the instructional time scheduled for the year is at least
21 six hundred ninety-two hours, "daily attendance" means days in which a
22 pupil attends at least one-half of the instructional time scheduled for
23 the day. Such attendance shall be counted as one-half day of attendance.
24 A school district or charter school may satisfy any of the time and hours
25 requirements prescribed in this item in any manner prescribed in the
26 school district's or charter school's instructional time model adopted
27 under section 15-901.08.

28 (ii) Of the first, second or third grades attends more than
29 three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day. A school
30 district or charter school may satisfy any of the time and hours
31 requirements prescribed in this item in any manner prescribed in the
32 school district's or charter school's instructional time model adopted
33 under section 15-901.08.

34 (iii) Of the fourth, fifth or sixth grades attends more than
35 three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day, except as
36 provided in section 15-797. A school district or charter school may
37 satisfy any of the time and hours requirements prescribed in this item in
38 any manner prescribed in the school district's or charter school's
39 instructional time model adopted under section 15-901.08.

40 (iv) Of the seventh or eighth grades attends more than
41 three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day, except as
42 provided in section 15-797. A school district or charter school may
43 satisfy any of the time and hours requirements prescribed in this item in
44 any manner prescribed in the school district's or charter school's
45 instructional time model adopted under section 15-901.08.

1 (b) For common schools, the attendance of a pupil at three-quarters
2 or less of the instructional time scheduled for the day shall be counted
3 as follows, except as provided in section 15-797 and except that
4 attendance for a fractional student shall not exceed the pupil's
5 fractional membership:

6 (i) If attendance for all pupils in the school is based on quarter
7 days, the attendance of a pupil shall be counted as one-fourth of a day's
8 attendance for each one-fourth of full-time instructional time attended.
9 A school district or charter school may satisfy any of the time and hours
10 requirements prescribed in this item in any manner prescribed in the
11 school district's or charter school's instructional time model adopted
12 under section 15-901.08.

13 (ii) If attendance for all pupils in the school is based on half
14 days, the attendance of at least three-quarters of the instructional time
15 scheduled for the day shall be counted as a full day's attendance and
16 attendance at a minimum of one-half but less than three-quarters of the
17 instructional time scheduled for the day equals one-half day of
18 attendance. A school district or charter school may satisfy any of the
19 time and hours requirements prescribed in this item in any manner
20 prescribed in the school district's or charter school's instructional time
21 model adopted under section 15-901.08.

22 (c) For common schools, the attendance of a preschool child with
23 disabilities shall be counted as one-fourth day's attendance for each
24 thirty-six minutes of attendance, except as provided in paragraph 1,
25 subdivision (a), item (i) of this subsection for children with
26 disabilities up to a maximum of three hundred sixty minutes each week. A
27 school district or charter school may satisfy any of the time and hours
28 requirements prescribed in this subdivision in any manner prescribed in
29 the school district's or charter school's instructional time model adopted
30 under section 15-901.08.

31 (d) For high schools, the attendance of a pupil shall not be
32 counted as a full day unless the pupil is actually and physically in
33 attendance and enrolled in and carrying four subjects, each of which, if
34 taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school
35 year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty-three hours a year, or
36 the equivalent, that count toward graduation in a recognized high school
37 except as provided in section 15-797 and subdivision (e) of this
38 paragraph. Attendance of a pupil carrying less than the load prescribed
39 shall be prorated. A school district or charter school may satisfy any of
40 the time and hours requirements prescribed in this subdivision in any
41 manner prescribed in the school district's or charter school's
42 instructional time model adopted under section 15-901.08.

43 (e) For high schools, the attendance of a pupil may be counted as
44 one-fourth of a day's attendance for each sixty minutes of instructional
45 time in a subject that counts toward graduation, except that attendance

1 for a pupil shall not exceed the pupil's full or fractional membership. A
2 school district or charter school may satisfy any of the time and hours
3 requirements prescribed in this subdivision in any manner prescribed in
4 the school district's or charter school's instructional time model adopted
5 under section 15-901.08.

6 (f) For homebound or hospitalized, a full day of attendance may be
7 counted for each day during a week in which the student receives at least
8 four hours of instruction. A school district or charter school may
9 satisfy any of the time and hours requirements prescribed in this
10 subdivision in any manner prescribed in the school district's or charter
11 school's instructional time model adopted under section 15-901.08.

12 (g) For school districts that maintain school for an approved
13 year-round school year operation, attendance shall be based on a
14 computation, as prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction, of
15 the one hundred eighty days' equivalency or two hundred days' equivalency,
16 as applicable, of instructional time as approved by the superintendent of
17 public instruction during which each pupil is enrolled. A school district
18 or charter school may satisfy any of the time and hours requirements
19 prescribed in this subdivision in any manner prescribed in the school
20 district's or charter school's instructional time model adopted under
21 section 15-901.08.

22 6. "Daily route mileage" means the sum of:

23 (a) The total number of miles driven daily by all buses of a school
24 district while transporting eligible students from their residence to the
25 school of attendance and from the school of attendance to their residence
26 on scheduled routes approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

27 (b) The total number of miles driven daily on routes approved by
28 the superintendent of public instruction for which a private party, a
29 political subdivision or a common or a contract carrier is reimbursed for
30 bringing an eligible student from the place of the student's residence to
31 a school transportation pickup point or to the school of attendance and
32 from the school transportation scheduled return point or from the school
33 of attendance to the student's residence. Daily route mileage includes
34 the total number of miles necessary to drive to transport eligible
35 students from and to their residence as provided in this paragraph.

36 7. "District support level" means the base support level plus the
37 transportation support level.

38 8. "Eligible students" means:

39 (a) Students who are transported by or for a school district and
40 who qualify as full-time students or fractional students, except students
41 for whom transportation is paid by another school district or a county
42 school superintendent, and:

43 (i) For common school students, whose place of actual residence
44 within the school district is more than one mile from the school facility
45 of attendance or students who are admitted pursuant to section 15-816.01

1 and who meet the economic eligibility requirements established under the
2 national school lunch and child nutrition acts (42 United States Code
3 sections 1751 through 1793) for free or reduced-price lunches and whose
4 actual place of residence outside the school district boundaries is more
5 than one mile from the school facility of attendance.

6 (ii) For high school students, whose place of actual residence
7 within the school district is more than one and one-half miles from the
8 school facility of attendance or students who are admitted pursuant to
9 section 15-816.01 and who meet the economic eligibility requirements
10 established under the national school lunch and child nutrition acts
11 (42 United States Code sections 1751 through 1793) for free or
12 reduced-price lunches and whose actual place of residence outside the
13 school district boundaries is more than one and one-half miles from the
14 school facility of attendance.

15 (b) Kindergarten students, for purposes of computing the number of
16 eligible students under subdivision (a), item (i) of this paragraph, shall
17 be counted as full-time students, notwithstanding any other provision of
18 law.

19 (c) Children with disabilities, as defined by section 15-761, who
20 are transported by or for the school district or who are admitted pursuant
21 to chapter 8, article 1.1 of this title and who qualify as full-time
22 students or fractional students regardless of location or residence within
23 the school district or children with disabilities whose transportation is
24 required by the pupil's individualized education program.

25 (d) Students whose residence is outside the school district and who
26 are transported within the school district on the same basis as students
27 who reside in the school district.

28 9. "Enrolled" or "enrollment" means that a pupil is currently
29 registered in the school district.

30 10. "GDP price deflator" means the average of the four implicit
31 price deflators for the gross domestic product reported by the United
32 States department of commerce for the four quarters of the calendar year.

33 11. "High school district" means a political subdivision of this
34 state offering instruction to students for grades nine through twelve or
35 that portion of the budget of a common school district that is allocated
36 to teaching high school subjects with permission of the state board of
37 education.

38 12. "Instructional hours" or "instructional time" means hours or
39 time spent pursuant to an instructional time model adopted under section
40 15-901.08.

41 13. "Revenue control limit" means the base revenue control limit
42 plus the transportation revenue control limit.

1 14. "Student count" means average daily membership as prescribed in
2 this subsection for the fiscal year before the current year, except that
3 for the purpose of budget preparation student count means average daily
4 membership as prescribed in this subsection for the current year.

5 15. "Submit electronically" means submitted in a format and in a
6 manner prescribed by the department of education.

7 16. "Total bus mileage" means the total number of miles driven by
8 all buses of a school district during the school year.

9 17. "Total students transported" means all eligible students
10 transported from their place of residence to a school transportation
11 pickup point or to the school of attendance and from the school of
12 attendance or from the school transportation scheduled return point to
13 their place of residence.

14 18. "Unified school district" means a political subdivision of this
15 state offering instruction to students in programs for preschool children
16 with disabilities and kindergarten programs and grades one through twelve.

17 B. In this title, unless the context otherwise requires:

18 1. "Base" means the revenue level per student count specified by
19 the legislature.

20 2. "Base level" means the following amounts plus the percentage
21 increase to the base level as provided in section 15-902.04:

22 ~~(a) For fiscal year 2022-2023, \$4,775.27.~~

23 ~~(b)~~ (a) For fiscal year 2023-2024, \$4,914.71.

24 ~~(c)~~ (b) For fiscal year 2024-2025, \$5,013.00.

25 (c) **FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026, \$5,113.26.**

26 3. "Base revenue control limit" means the base revenue control
27 limit computed as provided in section 15-944.

28 4. "Base support level" means the base support level as provided in
29 section 15-943.

30 5. "Certified teacher" means a person who is certified as a teacher
31 pursuant to the rules adopted by the state board of education, who renders
32 direct and personal services to schoolchildren in the form of instruction
33 related to the school district's educational course of study and who is
34 paid from the maintenance and operation section of the budget.

35 6. "DD" means programs for children with developmental delays who
36 are at least three years of age but under ten years of age. A preschool
37 child who is categorized under this paragraph is not eligible to receive
38 funding pursuant to section 15-943, paragraph 2, subdivision (b).

39 7. "ED, MIID, SLD, SLI and OHI" means programs for children with
40 emotional disabilities, mild intellectual disabilities, a specific
41 learning disability, a speech/language impairment and other health
42 impairments. A preschool child who is categorized as SLI under this
43 paragraph is not eligible to receive funding pursuant to section 15-943,
44 paragraph 2, subdivision (b).

1 8. "ED-P" means programs for children with emotional disabilities
2 who are enrolled in private special education programs as prescribed in
3 section 15-765, subsection D, paragraph 1 or in an intensive school
4 district program as provided in section 15-765, subsection D, paragraph 2.

5 9. "ELL" means English learners who do not speak English or whose
6 native language is not English, who are not currently able to perform
7 ordinary classroom work in English and who are enrolled in an English
8 language education program pursuant to sections 15-751, 15-752 and 15-753.

9 10. "FRPL" means students who meet the eligibility requirements
10 established under the national school lunch and child nutrition acts
11 (42 United States Code sections 1751 through 1793) for free or
12 reduced-price lunches, or an equivalent measure recognized for
13 participating in the federal free and reduced-price lunch program and
14 other school programs dependent on a poverty measure, including the
15 community eligibility provision for which free and reduced-price lunch
16 data is not available.

17 11. "Full-time equivalent certified teacher" or "FTE certified
18 teacher" means for a certified teacher the following:

19 (a) If employed full time as defined in section 15-501, 1.00.
20 (b) If employed less than full time, multiply 1.00 by the
21 percentage of a full school day, or its equivalent, or a full class load,
22 or its equivalent, for which the teacher is employed as determined by the
23 governing board.

24 12. "G" means educational programs for gifted pupils who score at
25 or above the ninety-seventh percentile, based on national norms, on a test
26 adopted by the state board of education.

27 13. "Group A" means educational programs for career exploration, a
28 specific learning disability, an emotional disability, a mild intellectual
29 disability, remedial education, a speech/language impairment,
30 developmental delay, homebound pupils, bilingual pupils and pupils with
31 other health impairments.

32 14. "Group B" means educational improvements for pupils in
33 kindergarten programs and grades one through three, educational programs
34 for autism, a hearing impairment, a moderate intellectual disability,
35 multiple disabilities, multiple disabilities with severe sensory
36 impairment, orthopedic impairments, preschool severe delay, a severe
37 intellectual disability and emotional disabilities for school age pupils
38 enrolled in private special education programs or in school district
39 programs for children with severe disabilities or visual impairment,
40 English learners enrolled in a program to promote English language
41 proficiency pursuant to section 15-752 and students who meet the
42 eligibility requirements established under the national school lunch and
43 child nutrition acts (42 United States Code sections 1751 through 1793)
44 for free or reduced-price lunches, or an equivalent measure recognized for
45 participating in the federal free and reduced-price lunch program and

1 other school programs dependent on a poverty measure, including the
2 community eligibility provision for which free and reduced-price lunch
3 data is not available.

4 15. "HI" means programs for pupils with hearing impairment.
5 16. "Homebound" or "hospitalized" means a pupil who is capable of
6 profiting from academic instruction but is unable to attend school due to
7 illness, disease, accident or other health conditions, who has been
8 examined by a competent medical doctor and who is certified by that doctor
9 as being unable to attend regular classes for a period of not less than
10 three school months or a pupil who is capable of profiting from academic
11 instruction but is unable to attend school regularly due to chronic or
12 acute health problems, who has been examined by a competent medical doctor
13 and who is certified by that doctor as being unable to attend regular
14 classes for intermittent periods of time totaling three school months
15 during a school year. The medical certification shall state the general
16 medical condition, such as illness, disease or chronic health condition,
17 that is the reason that the pupil is unable to attend school. Homebound
18 or hospitalized includes a student who is unable to attend school for a
19 period of less than three months due to a pregnancy if a competent medical
20 doctor, after an examination, certifies that the student is unable to
21 attend regular classes due to risk to the pregnancy or to the student's
22 health.

23 17. "K-3" means kindergarten programs and grades one through three.
24 18. "K-3 reading" means reading programs for pupils in kindergarten
25 programs and grades one, two and three.

26 19. "MD-R, A-R and SID-R" means resource programs for pupils with
27 multiple disabilities, autism and severe intellectual disability.

28 20. "MD-SC, A-SC and SID-SC" means self-contained programs for
29 pupils with multiple disabilities, autism and severe intellectual
30 disability.

31 21. "MD-SSI" means a program for pupils with multiple disabilities
32 with severe sensory impairment.

33 22. "MOID" means programs for pupils with moderate intellectual
34 disability.

35 23. "OI-R" means a resource program for pupils with orthopedic
36 impairments.

37 24. "OI-SC" means a self-contained program for pupils with
38 orthopedic impairments.

39 25. "PSD" means preschool programs for children with disabilities
40 as provided in section 15-771.

41 26. "P-SD" means programs for children who meet the definition of
42 preschool severe delay as provided in section 15-771.

43 27. "Qualifying tax rate" means the qualifying tax rate specified
44 in section 15-971 applied to the assessed valuation used for primary
45 property taxes.

1 28. "Small isolated school district" means a school district that
2 meets all of the following:

3 (a) Has a student count of fewer than six hundred in kindergarten
4 programs and grades one through eight or grades nine through twelve.

5 (b) Contains no school that is fewer than thirty miles by the most
6 reasonable route from another school, or, if road conditions and terrain
7 make the driving slow or hazardous, fifteen miles from another school that
8 teaches one or more of the same grades and is operated by another school
9 district in this state.

10 (c) Is designated as a small isolated school district by the
11 superintendent of public instruction.

12 29. "Small school district" means a school district that meets all
13 of the following:

14 (a) Has a student count of fewer than six hundred in kindergarten
15 programs and grades one through eight or grades nine through twelve.

16 (b) Contains at least one school that is fewer than thirty miles by
17 the most reasonable route from another school that teaches one or more of
18 the same grades and is operated by another school district in this state.

19 (c) Is designated as a small school district by the superintendent
20 of public instruction.

21 30. "Transportation revenue control limit" means the transportation
22 revenue control limit computed as prescribed in section 15-946.

23 31. "Transportation support level" means the support level for
24 pupil transportation operating expenses as provided in section 15-945.

25 32. "VI" means programs for pupils with visual impairments.

26 Sec. 6. Section 15-945, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
27 read:

28 **15-945. Transportation support level**

29 A. The support level for to and from school for each school
30 district for the current year shall be computed as follows:

31 1. Determine the approved daily route mileage of the school
32 district for the fiscal year prior to the current year.

33 2. Multiply the figure obtained in paragraph 1 of this subsection
34 by one hundred eighty, or for a school district that elects to provide two
35 hundred days of instruction pursuant to section 15-902.04, multiply the
36 figure obtained in paragraph 1 of this subsection by two hundred.

37 3. Determine the number of eligible students transported in the
38 fiscal year prior to the current year.

39 4. Divide the amount determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection
40 by the amount determined in paragraph 3 of this subsection to determine
41 the approved daily route mileage per eligible student transported.

42 5. Determine the classification in column 1 of this paragraph for
43 the quotient determined in paragraph 4 of this subsection. Multiply the
44 product obtained in paragraph 2 of this subsection by the corresponding

1 state support level for each route mile as provided in column 2 of this
 2 paragraph.

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>
	State Support Level per Route Mile for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 2025-2026
Approved Daily Route	
Mileage per Eligible	
<u>Student Transported</u>	
0.5 or less	2.95 3.01
More than 0.5 through 1.0	2.42 2.47
More than 1.0	2.95 3.01

10 6. Add the amount spent during the prior fiscal year for bus tokens
 11 and bus passes for students who qualify as eligible students as defined in
 12 section 15-901.

13 B. The support level for academic education, career and technical
 14 education, vocational education and athletic trips for each school
 15 district for the current year is computed as follows:

16 1. Determine the classification in column 1 of paragraph 2 of this
 17 subsection for the quotient determined in subsection A, paragraph 4 of
 18 this section.

19 2. Multiply the product obtained in subsection A, paragraph 5 of
 20 this section by the corresponding state support level for academic
 21 education, career and technical education, vocational education and
 22 athletic trips as provided in column 2, 3 or 4 of this paragraph,
 23 whichever is appropriate for the type of district.

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>	<u>Column 4</u>
	District Type	District Type	District Type
<u>Student Transported</u>	<u>02 or 03</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>05</u>
0.5 or less	0.15	0.10	0.25
More than 0.5 through 1.0	0.15	0.10	0.25
More than 1.0	0.18	0.12	0.30

31 For the purposes of this paragraph, "district type 02" means a unified
 32 school district or an accommodation school that offers instruction in
 33 grades nine through twelve, "district type 03" means a common school
 34 district not within a high school district, "district type 04" means a
 35 common school district within a high school district or an accommodation
 36 school that does not offer instruction in grades nine through twelve and
 37 "district type 05" means a high school district.

38 C. The support level for extended school year services for pupils
 39 with disabilities is computed as follows:

40 1. Determine the sum of the following:

41 (a) The total number of miles driven by all buses of a school
 42 district while transporting eligible pupils with disabilities on scheduled
 43 routes from their residence to the school of attendance and from the
 44 school of attendance to their residence on routes for extended school year
 45 services in accordance with section 15-881.

1 (b) The total number of miles driven on routes approved by the
2 superintendent of public instruction for which a private party, a
3 political subdivision or a common or a contract carrier is reimbursed for
4 bringing an eligible pupil with a disability from the place of the pupil's
5 residence to a school transportation pickup point or to the school
6 facility of attendance and from the school transportation scheduled return
7 point or from the school facility to the pupil's residence for extended
8 school year services in accordance with section 15-881.

9 2. Multiply the sum determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection by
10 the state support level for the district determined as provided in
11 subsection A, paragraph 5 of this section.

12 D. The transportation support level for each school district for
13 the current year is the sum of the support level for to and from school as
14 determined in subsection A of this section, the support level for academic
15 education, career and technical education, vocational education and
16 athletic trips as determined in subsection B of this section and the
17 support level for extended school year services for pupils with
18 disabilities as determined in subsection C of this section.

19 E. The state support level for each approved route mile, as
20 provided in subsection A, paragraph 5 of this section, shall be adjusted
21 by the growth rate prescribed by law, subject to appropriation.

22 F. School districts must provide the odometer reading for each bus
23 as of the end of the current year and the total bus mileage during the
24 current year.

25 G. A school district may include route mileage and the number of
26 riders to calculate funding pursuant to this section for transporting
27 eligible students using motor vehicles described in section 15-925.

28 Sec. 7. Section 41-1276, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
29 read:

30 41-1276. Truth in taxation levy for equalization assistance
31 to school districts

32 A. On or before February 15 of each year, the joint legislative
33 budget committee shall compute and transmit the truth in taxation rates
34 for equalization assistance for school districts for the following fiscal
35 year to:

36 1. The chairpersons of the house of representatives ways and means
37 committee and the senate finance committee, or their successor committees.

38 2. The chairpersons of the appropriations committees of the senate
39 and the house of representatives, or their successor committees.

40 B. The truth in taxation rates consist of the qualifying tax rate
41 for a high school district or a common school district within a high
42 school district that does not offer instruction in high school subjects
43 pursuant to section 15-971, subsection B, paragraph 1 and a qualifying tax
44 rate for a unified district, a common school district not within a high
45 school district or a common school district within a high school district

1 that offers instruction in high school subjects pursuant to section
2 15-971, subsection B, paragraph 2 that will offset the change in net
3 assessed valuation of property that was subject to tax in the prior year.

4 C. The joint legislative budget committee shall compute the truth
5 in taxation rates as follows:

6 1. Determine the statewide net assessed value for the preceding tax
7 year as provided in section 42-17151, subsection A, paragraph 3.

8 2. Determine the statewide net assessed value for the current tax
9 year, excluding the net assessed value of property that was not subject to
10 tax in the preceding year.

11 3. Divide the amount determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection
12 by the amount determined in paragraph 2 of this subsection.

13 4. Adjust the qualifying tax rates for the current fiscal year by
14 the percentage determined in paragraph 3 of this subsection in order to
15 offset the change in net assessed value.

16 D. Except as provided in subsections E and G of this section, the
17 qualifying tax rate for a high school district or a common school district
18 within a high school district that does not offer instruction in high
19 school subjects and the qualifying tax rate for a unified school district,
20 a common school district not within a high school district or a common
21 school district within a high school district that offers instruction in
22 high school subjects for the following fiscal year shall be the rate
23 determined by the joint legislative budget committee pursuant to
24 subsection C of this section. The committee shall transmit the rates to
25 the superintendent of public instruction and the county boards of
26 supervisors by March 15 of each year.

27 E. If the legislature proposes qualifying tax rates that exceed the
28 truth in taxation rate:

29 1. The house of representatives ways and means committee and the
30 senate finance committee, or their successor committees, shall hold a
31 joint hearing on or before February 28 and publish a notice of a truth in
32 taxation hearing subject to the following requirements:

33 (a) The notice shall be published twice in a newspaper of general
34 circulation in this state that is published at the state capital. The
35 first publication shall be at least fourteen but not more than twenty days
36 before the date of the hearing. The second publication shall be at least
37 seven but not more than ten days before the date of the hearing.

38 (b) The notice shall be published in a location other than the
39 classified or legal advertising section of the newspaper.

40 (c) The notice shall be at least one-fourth page in size and shall
41 be surrounded by a solid black border at least one-eighth inch in width.

42 (d) The notice shall be in the following form, with the "truth in
43 taxation hearing - notice of tax increase" headline in at least
44 eighteen-point type:

Truth in Taxation Hearing

Notice of Tax Increase

In compliance with section 41-1276, Arizona Revised Statutes, the state legislature is notifying property taxpayers in Arizona of the legislature's intention to raise the property tax levy over last year's level.

The proposed tax increase will cause the taxes on a \$100,000 home to be $\$(\text{total proposed taxes including the tax increase})$. Without the proposed tax increase, the total taxes that would be owed on a \$100,000 home would have been $\$$.

All interested citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on the tax increase that is scheduled to be held (date and time) at (location).

15 (e) For the purposes of computing the tax increase on a \$100,000
16 home as required by the notice, the joint meeting of the house of
17 representatives ways and means committee and the senate finance committee,
18 or their successor committees, shall consider the difference between the
19 truth in taxation rate and the proposed increased rate.

20 2. The joint meeting of the house of representatives ways and means
21 committee and the senate finance committee, or their successor committees,
22 shall consider any motion to recommend the proposed tax rates to the full
23 legislature by roll call vote.

24 F. In addition to publishing the truth in taxation notice under
25 subsection E, paragraph 1 of this section, the joint meeting of the house
26 of representatives ways and means committee and the senate finance
27 committee, or their successor committees, shall issue a press release
28 containing the truth in taxation notice.

29 G. Notwithstanding any other law, the legislature shall not adopt a
30 state budget that provides for qualifying tax rates pursuant to section
31 15-971 that exceed the truth in taxation rates computed pursuant to
32 subsection A of this section unless the rates are adopted by a concurrent
33 resolution approved by an affirmative roll call vote of two-thirds of the
34 members of each house of the legislature before the legislature enacts the
35 general appropriations bill. If the resolution is not approved by
36 two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature, the rates for
37 the following fiscal year shall be the truth in taxation rates determined
38 pursuant to subsection C of this section and shall be transmitted to the
39 superintendent of public instruction and the county boards of supervisors.

40 H. Notwithstanding subsection C of this section and if approved by
41 the qualified electors voting at a statewide general election, the
42 legislature shall not set a qualifying tax rate that exceeds \$2.1265 for a
43 common or high school district or \$4.253 for a unified school district.
44 The legislature shall not set a county equalization assistance for
45 education rate that exceeds \$0.5123.

1 I. Pursuant to subsection C of this section, the qualifying tax
2 rate in tax year ~~2024~~ 2025 for a high school district or a common school
3 district within a high school district that does not offer instruction in
4 high school subjects as provided in section 15-447 is ~~\$1.5930~~ \$1.5606 and
5 for a unified school district, a common school district not within a high
6 school district or a common school district within a high school district
7 that offers instruction in high school subjects as provided in section
8 15-447 is ~~\$3.1860~~ \$3.1212.

9 Sec. 8. Title 41, chapter 53, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended
10 by adding article 4, to read:

ARTICLE 4. ADULT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

41-5421. Adult workforce diploma program; fund; program providers; requirements; annual reports; definitions

15 A. THE ADULT WORKFORCE DIPLOMA PROGRAM IS ESTABLISHED IN THE OFFICE
16 OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE AT LEAST TWENTY-ONE
17 YEARS OF AGE IN EARNING HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS AND DEVELOPING CRITICAL
18 EMPLOYABILITY AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL SKILLS TO PREPARE THE INDIVIDUALS
19 FOR EMPLOYMENT. THE OFFICE SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM MAY
20 BE DELIVERED IN A CAMPUS-BASED, ONLINE OR BLENDED MODALITY.

21 B. THE ADULT WORKFORCE DIPLOMA PROGRAM FUND IS ESTABLISHED
22 CONSISTING OF LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS, GIFTS, GRANTS AND OTHER
23 DONATIONS. THE OFFICE SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND AND USE MONIES IN THE
24 FUND TO PAY PARTICIPATING PROGRAM PROVIDERS AS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION E
25 OF THIS SECTION. MONIES IN THE FUND ARE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED AND ARE
26 EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 35-190 RELATING TO LAPSE OF
27 APPROPRIATIONS. THE OFFICE MAY USE NOT MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT OF THE
28 MONIES IN THE FUND FOR THE COSTS OF ADMINISTERING THE ADULT WORKFORCE
29 DIPLOMA PROGRAM.

30 C. ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 15 OF EACH YEAR, EACH PROGRAM PROVIDER THAT
31 SEEKS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT TO THE OFFICE ON A FORM
32 THAT IS DEVELOPED BY THE OFFICE INFORMATION SHOWING THAT THE PROGRAM
33 PROVIDER MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

34 1. IS OPERATING A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOL
35 DIPLOMA-GRANTING ENTITY.

36 2. IS ABLE TO DEVELOP A LEARNING PLAN FOR EACH STUDENT THAT
37 INTEGRATES GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND CAREER GOALS

38 3. PROVIDES A COURSE CATALOG THAT INCLUDES ALL COURSES THAT ARE
39 NECESSARY TO MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

40 A IS ABLE TO PROVIDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

41 (a) REMEDIATION OPPORTUNITIES IN LITERACY AND NUMERACY

41 (a) REMEDIATION OPPORTUNITIES I
42 (b) CAREER PATHWAYS COURSEWORK

42 (b) CAREER PATHWAYS COURSEWORK.
43 (c) PREPARATION FOR INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS AND STACKABLE
44 CREDENTIALS.

44 CREDENTIALS.

45 (d) CAREER PLACEMENT SERVICES.

1 (e) ACADEMIC SKILLS INTAKE ASSESSMENTS AND TRANSCRIPT EVALUATIONS.
2 D. ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 15 OF EACH YEAR, THE OFFICE SHALL PLACE ALL
3 QUALIFIED PROGRAM PROVIDERS THAT SUBMIT A FORM PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION C OF
4 THIS SECTION ON A PROGRAM PROVIDERS LIST. PARTICIPATING PROGRAM PROVIDERS
5 SHALL BEGIN ENROLLING STUDENTS ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR. A
6 PROGRAM PROVIDER MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE PROGRAM PROVIDERS LIST ONLY IF
7 THE PROGRAM PROVIDER'S AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM IS
8 REVOKED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION J OF THIS SECTION.

9 E. THE OFFICE SHALL PAY PARTICIPATING PROGRAM PROVIDERS THE
10 FOLLOWING AMOUNTS FOR EACH STUDENT WHO COMPLETES THE FOLLOWING MILESTONES:
11 1. \$250 FOR EACH COMPLETED HALF UNIT OF HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT.
12 2. \$250 FOR EACH COMPLETED EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS CERTIFICATION.
13 3. \$250 FOR EACH EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL OR STACKABLE
14 CREDENTIAL THAT REQUIRES NOT MORE THAN FIFTY HOURS OF TRAINING.
15 4. \$500 FOR EACH EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL OR STACKABLE
16 CREDENTIAL THAT REQUIRES MORE THAN FIFTY HOURS BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE
17 HUNDRED HOURS OF TRAINING.
18 5. \$750 FOR EACH EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL OR STACKABLE
19 CREDENTIAL THAT REQUIRES MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED HOURS OF TRAINING.

20 6. \$1,000 FOR EACH EARNED HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.
21 F. PARTICIPATING PROGRAM PROVIDERS SHALL SUBMIT MONTHLY INVOICES TO
22 THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THE TENTH CALENDAR DAY OF EACH MONTH FOR
23 MILESTONES MET IN THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR MONTH. PARTICIPATING PROGRAM
24 PROVIDERS SHALL REPORT THE NUMBER OF CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS FOR WHOM
25 INVOICES HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED AND THE NUMBER OF CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS
26 FOR WHOM INVOICES HAVE NOT YET BEEN SUBMITTED TOGETHER WITH THE MONTHLY
27 INVOICES SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION. THE OFFICE SHALL PAY
28 PARTICIPATING PROGRAM PROVIDERS IN THE ORDER IN WHICH INVOICES ARE
29 SUBMITTED UNTIL ALL AVAILABLE MONIES ARE SPENT. THE OFFICE SHALL PROVIDE
30 A WRITTEN UPDATE TO THE PROGRAM PROVIDERS ON OR BEFORE THE LAST CALENDAR
31 DAY OF EACH MONTH THAT INCLUDES ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

32 1. THE AGGREGATE TOTAL DOLLARS THAT HAVE BEEN PAID TO PROGRAM
33 PROVIDERS FOR THE PROGRAM YEAR.

34 2. THE AGGREGATE NUMBER OF CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS IN THIS
35 STATE FOR WHOM ONE OR MORE INVOICES HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED.

36 3. THE AGGREGATE NUMBER OF CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS FOR WHOM
37 INVOICES HAVE NOT YET BEEN SUBMITTED.

38 4. THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ENROLLMENTS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE
39 PROGRAM YEAR.

40 G. ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 30 OF EACH YEAR, EACH PARTICIPATING PROGRAM
41 PROVIDER SHALL REPORT THE FOLLOWING TO THE OFFICE:

42 1. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO WERE FUNDED THROUGH THE
43 PROGRAM.

44 2. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EARNED CREDITS.

1 3. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS OR
2 STACKABLE CREDENTIALS EARNED FOR EACH TIER OF FUNDING.

3 4. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO GRADUATED THROUGH THE PROGRAM.

4 5. INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE
5 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-217.

6 H. THE OFFICE SHALL COMPILE THE REPORTS RECEIVED FROM PROGRAM
7 PROVIDERS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION G OF THIS SECTION AND, ON OR BEFORE
8 DECEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR, SHALL PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR,
9 THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE REPORT TO
11 THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

12 I. BEGINNING FISCAL YEAR 2027-2028, THE OFFICE SHALL REVIEW DATA
13 FROM EACH PARTICIPATING PROGRAM PROVIDER TO ENSURE THAT THE PROGRAM
14 PROVIDER IS ACHIEVING MINIMUM PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS, INCLUDING:

15 1. A GRADUATION RATE OF AT LEAST FIFTY PERCENT.

16 2. AN AVERAGE COST PER GRADUATE OF \$7,000 OR LESS.

17 J. THE OFFICE MAY DEVELOP A PROCESS TO BRING A PROGRAM PROVIDER
18 INTO COMPLIANCE. THE OFFICE SHALL REVOKE A PROGRAM PROVIDER'S
19 AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM IF THE PROGRAM PROVIDER DOES
20 NOT COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION WITHIN TWO YEARS.

21 K. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

22 1. "ACADEMIC SKILLS INTAKE ASSESSMENT" MEANS A CRITERION-REFERENCED
23 ASSESSMENT OF NUMERACY AND LITERACY SKILLS WITH HIGH RELIABILITY AND
24 VALIDITY THAT IS DETERMINED BY THIRD-PARTY RESEARCH AND THAT MAY BE
25 ADMINISTERED IN PERSON OR ONLINE.

26 2. "ACCREDITED PROVIDER" MEANS AN ENTITY THAT IS CURRENTLY
27 ACCREDITED BY ONE OF THE SEVEN REGIONAL ACCREDITATION ORGANIZATIONS OR ANY
28 SUCCESSOR ENTITY.

29 3. "AVERAGE COST PER GRADUATE" MEANS THE TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING
30 DISBURSED TO A PARTICIPATING PROGRAM PROVIDER DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL NUMBER
31 OF GRADUATES FOR A COHORT CALCULATED TWELVE MONTHS AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE
32 COHORT.

33 4. "CAREER PATHWAYS COURSEWORK" MEANS ONE OR MORE COURSES THAT
34 ALIGN WITH THE SKILL NEEDS OF INDUSTRIES IN THE ECONOMY OF THIS STATE OR
35 REGION AND THAT ASSIST STUDENTS TO ENTER OR ADVANCE WITHIN A SPECIFIC
36 OCCUPATION OR OCCUPATIONAL CLUSTER.

37 5. "CAREER PLACEMENT SERVICES" MEANS SERVICES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO
38 ASSIST STUDENTS IN OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT, INCLUDING CAREER INTEREST
39 SELF-ASSESSMENTS, JOB SEARCH SKILLS, RÉSUMÉ DEVELOPMENT AND MOCK
40 INTERVIEWS.

41 6. "COHORT" MEANS THE STUDENTS WHO ENTER THE PROGRAM BETWEEN JULY 1
42 AND JUNE 30 OF EACH PROGRAM YEAR.

43 7. "EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS CERTIFICATION" MEANS A CERTIFICATE EARNED
44 BY DEMONSTRATING PROFESSIONAL NONTECHNICAL SKILLS THROUGH ASSESSMENT AND
45 MUST INCLUDE THE PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF

1 LABOR'S "SKILLS TO PAY THE BILLS: MASTERING SOFT SKILLS FOR WORKPLACE
2 SUCCESS".

3 8. "GRADUATE" MEANS A STUDENT WHO HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ALL
4 STATE AND PROGRAM PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS TO EARN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

5 9. "GRADUATION RATE" MEANS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES FROM A
6 COHORT DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM THE SAME COHORT
7 CALCULATED TWELVE MONTHS AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE COHORT.

8 10. "GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS" MEANS COURSE AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS
9 NEEDED TO EARN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA FROM A PROGRAM PROVIDER.

10 11. "HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA" MEANS A DIPLOMA THAT IS ISSUED BY AN
11 ACCREDITED PROVIDER AND THAT IS RECOGNIZED AS A SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA
12 BY THIS STATE.

13 12. "INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL" MEANS AN EDUCATION-RELATED OR
14 WORK-RELATED CREDENTIAL THAT VERIFIES AN INDIVIDUAL'S QUALIFICATION OR
15 COMPETENCE AND THAT IS ISSUED BY A THIRD PARTY WITH THE RELEVANT AUTHORITY
16 TO ISSUE THE CREDENTIAL.

17 13. "LEARNING PLAN" MEANS A DOCUMENTED PLAN THAT BOTH:

18 (a) IS DESIGNED TO PREPARE A STUDENT TO SUCCEED IN THE PROGRAM AND
19 THE STUDENT'S FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

20 (b) IDENTIFIES THE COURSES AND CREDITS THAT ARE NEEDED FOR A
21 STUDENT TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM AND THAT ARE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.

22 14. "MILESTONES" MEANS OBJECTIVE MEASURES OF PROGRESS FOR WHICH
23 PAYMENT IS MADE TO A PROGRAM PROVIDER UNDER THIS SECTION, INCLUDING EARNED
24 UNITS OF HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT, EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS AND
25 EARNED HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS.

26 15. "PROGRAM" MEANS THE ADULT WORKFORCE DIPLOMA PROGRAM.

27 16. "PROGRAM PROVIDER" MEANS A PUBLIC, NONPROFIT OR OTHER ENTITY
28 THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION AND THAT DOES NOT RECEIVE
29 FEDERAL OR STATE FUNDING OR PRIVATE TUITION FOR A STUDENT WHO IS FUNDED
30 THROUGH THE PROGRAM.

31 17. "STACKABLE CREDENTIAL" MEANS A THIRD-PARTY CREDENTIAL THAT IS
32 PART OF A SEQUENCE OF CREDENTIALS THAT CAN BE ACCUMULATED OVER TIME TO
33 BUILD UP AN INDIVIDUAL'S QUALIFICATIONS TO ADVANCE ALONG A CAREER PATHWAY.

34 18. "STUDENT" MEANS A PARTICIPANT IN THE PROGRAM WHO IS AT LEAST
35 TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE, WHO IS A RESIDENT OF THIS STATE AND WHO HAS NOT
36 EARNED A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

37 19. "TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION" MEANS A DOCUMENTED SUMMARY OF CREDITS
38 THAT STUDENTS EARNED IN PREVIOUS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOLS
39 COMPARED WITH PROGRAM AND PROGRAM PROVIDER GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.

40 20. "UNIT OF HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT" MEANS A CREDIT THAT IS AWARDED
41 BASED ON A STUDENT'S DEMONSTRATION THAT THE STUDENT HAS SUCCESSFULLY MET
42 THE CONTENT EXPECTATIONS FOR THE CREDIT AREA AS DEFINED BY SUBJECT AREA
43 STANDARDS, EXPECTATIONS OR GUIDELINES.

1 Sec. 9. Laws 2023, chapter 142, section 13, as amended by Laws
2 2024, chapter 218, section 18, is amended to read:

3 Sec. 13. Education and career action plans; early education
4 and career exploration program; fund; report;
5 exemption; delayed repeal; transfer of monies;
6 definition

7 A. The state board of education shall require public schools to:
8 1. Complete an Arizona education and career action plan for each
9 student in grades nine through twelve before the student's graduation.

10 2. Monitor, review and update each Arizona education and career
11 action plan created pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection at least
12 one time per year.

13 B. The department of education shall establish and administer an
14 early education and career exploration program to provide resources to
15 public schools and to assist public schools in fulfilling the requirements
16 prescribed by the state board of education pursuant to subsection A of
17 this section.

18 C. Subject to available monies, the department of education shall
19 contract with a nonprofit entity to provide the following to public
20 schools:

21 1. A career mapping tool that does all of the following:
22 (a) Matches students with apprenticeships, internships and other
23 work-based learning opportunities.

24 (b) Provides content modules for industry-recognized career tracks.
25 (c) Provides single-sign-on access for students, parents and
26 employees of the public school.

27 (d) Provides customization options for public schools.
28 (e) Allows students to continue accessing their profiles and using
29 the career mapping tool after graduation from high school.

30 (f) Provides any other educational or career exploration activities
31 or content developed by the department of education and approved by the
32 state board of education.

33 2. Training and resources for individuals who are implementing the
34 requirements prescribed by the state board of education pursuant to
35 subsection A of this section.

36 D. The department of education shall coordinate with the nonprofit
37 entity to provide the training and resources described in subsection C,
38 paragraph 2 of this section. The department of education shall consider
39 the enrollment size of each public school when determining what training
40 to provide pursuant to this section.

41 E. The department of education may provide access to the career
42 mapping tool and related training and resources described in subsection C
43 of this section to a public school that serves any of grades six through
44 eight. This subsection does not require a public school to complete,

1 monitor, review or update an Arizona education and career action plan for
2 students in any of grades six through eight.

3 F. The early education and career exploration program fund is
4 established consisting of legislative appropriations. The department of
5 education shall administer the fund. Monies in the fund are continuously
6 appropriated and are exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona
7 Revised Statutes, relating to lapsing of appropriations. Monies in the
8 fund may be used for implementing and administering the early education
9 and career exploration program established pursuant to subsection B of
10 this section.

11 G. On or before June 30, ~~2024~~ 2026, the department of education
12 shall submit a report to the governor, the president of the senate and the
13 speaker of the house of representatives and provide copies of this report
14 to the secretary of state, the chairperson of the senate committee on
15 education, or its successor committee, and the chairperson of the house of
16 representatives committee on education, or its successor committee. The
17 report shall include the following:

18 1. An overview of the implementation of the early education and
19 career exploration program established by this act, including:

20 (a) How monies from the early education and career exploration
21 program fund were allocated.

22 (b) The number of work-based learning opportunities that were
23 created through the early education and career exploration program.

24 (c) The number and grade levels of students who used the career
25 mapping tool provided pursuant to subsection C, paragraph 1 of this
26 section.

27 2. The department of education's recommendations that the early
28 education and career exploration program be continued, revised or
29 repealed.

30 3. Written comments received from members of the public regarding
31 individuals' experiences with the early education and career exploration
32 program.

33 H. From and after June 30, ~~2025~~ 2027, this section is repealed and
34 any unexpended or unencumbered monies in the early education and career
35 exploration program fund established by this section are transferred to
36 the state general fund.

37 I. For the purposes of this section, "public school" means a school
38 district, a charter school, an individual school that is operated by a
39 school district or the Arizona state schools for the deaf and the blind.

40 Sec. 10. Small school adjustments; eligibility; fiscal year
41 2025-2026; retroactivity; delayed repeal

42 A. Notwithstanding section 15-949, subsection A, Arizona Revised
43 Statutes, a common school district is eligible for the small school
44 adjustments pursuant to section 15-949, Arizona Revised Statutes, when

1 determining the school district's budget in fiscal year 2025-2026 if the
2 school district meets all of the following:

3 1. Is located in a county with a population of more than two
4 hundred thousand persons but less than two hundred ten thousand persons.

5 2. Has a student count in kindergarten programs and grades one
6 through eight of more than one hundred twenty-five students but less than
7 one hundred fifty students.

8 3. Has an average daily membership in the current year in
9 kindergarten programs and grades one through eight of one hundred
10 twenty-five or less.

11 B. This section applies retroactively to from and after June 30,
12 2025.

13 C. This section is repealed from and after December 31, 2026.

14 Sec. 11. Failing schools tutoring fund; use of monies; fiscal
15 year 2025-2026; report

16 A. Notwithstanding section 15-241, Arizona Revised Statutes, the
17 department of education may use monies in the failing schools tutoring
18 fund established by section 15-241, Arizona Revised Statutes, in fiscal
19 year 2025-2026 for the following school improvements:

20 1. Providing assistance to school districts and charter schools for
21 professional development and coaching for teachers and principals.

22 2. Monitoring the progress of school districts and charter schools
23 towards improved academic outcomes.

24 3. Outreach to ensure that schools and parents have access to
25 tutoring opportunities.

26 B. On or before September 1, 2025, the department of education
27 shall report the proposed expenditures for fiscal year 2025-2026 pursuant
28 to subsection A of this section to the governor, the president of the
29 senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the director of the
30 joint legislative budget committee and the director of the governor's
31 office of strategic planning and budgeting.

32 Sec. 12. Implementation

33 The office of economic opportunity shall include in the list of
34 approved program providers established pursuant to section 41-5421,
35 Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act, any program provider who
36 meets both of the following requirements:

37 1. Was included in the list of approved program providers
38 established pursuant to section 15-217.02, subsection D, Arizona Revised
39 Statutes, as repealed by Laws 2024, chapter 218, section 2.

40 2. Was not removed from the list described in paragraph 1 of this
41 section because the approved program provider's authorization was revoked
42 pursuant to section 15-217.02, subsection J, Arizona Revised Statutes, as
43 repealed by Laws 2024, chapter 218, section 2.

1 Sec. 13. Intent

2 The governor and the legislature intend that school districts
3 increase the total percentage of classroom spending over the previous
4 year's percentages in the combined categories of instruction, student
5 support and instructional support as prescribed by the auditor general.

6 Sec. 14. Retroactivity

7 A. Sections 15-217, 15-217.01, 15-217.02 and 41-5421, Arizona
8 Revised Statutes, as added by this act, apply retroactively to from and
9 after June 30, 2025.

10 B. Laws 2023, chapter 142, section 13, as amended by Laws 2024,
11 chapter 218, section 18, applies retroactively to from and after June 29,
12 2025.

13 C. Section 12 of this act applies retroactively to from and after
14 June 30, 2025.