



MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Charter Holders, Principals, and Testing Coordinators

FROM: Dr. Robert J. Franciosi
Deputy Associate Superintendent

DATE: July 26, 2007

SUBJECT: **IMPORTANT. Deadlines/Timetable for 2007 Achievement Profiles and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Evaluations.**
(REF: RE07003-E)

This memo is to inform you of the timetable for the release of:

- Aggregate AIMS test scores;
- AZ LEARNS Achievement Profiles for schools;
- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) evaluations for schools, districts, and charter holders;

and to advise you of other important dates for this year's accountability season, including deadlines for appeals and the application for alternative schools status.

There have been several important features of the evaluation and appeals timeline and procedure that you should be aware of:

- **Separate process for data correction and statistical appeals of graduation and dropout rates.** The windows for data correction and statistical appeals for the graduation and dropout rates for AZ LEARNS and AYP will be open at separate, earlier times than appeals for other parts of the evaluation. Substantive appeals for the graduation and dropout rates will be considered during the regular appeals window.
- **Open window for application for alternative school status.** As of the date of this memo, the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) will be accepting applications for alternative school status for the 2007 AZ LEARNS evaluations. The deadline for applications is given below. For a description of the criteria a school needs to meet to be deemed an alternative school, and the method used to calculate an achievement profile for alternative schools please read the AZ LEARNS Technical Manual available on the ADE web site.

Schools wishing to apply for alternative school status must submit an application letter and supporting evidence to the ADE at achieve@azed.gov. Supporting evidence should consist of documentation such as mission statements, charters, and public information indicating that it is the schools sole mission to serve students listed in the definition. Schools already granted alternative status need not reapply. Schools may apply to have their alternative status revoked.

NOTE. Aggregate test results in any form, including summary results for the graduating class of 2007; preliminary AZ LEARNS profiles; and preliminary AYP evaluations are embargoed and are not to be shared with the public until the public release by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). This information may be shared with staff only on a need-to-know basis. Test score results for individual students may be shared with the students, parents, teachers, and other staff in order to make educational decisions related to specific students.

Release Dates

The ADE will release information to schools, districts, and the public on the dates provided below.

Embargoed release to districts/schools		Public release	
AIMS, AIMS DPA, and TerraNova scores available via the ADE Common Logon.	June 13, 2007	AIMS, AIMS DPA, and TerraNova scores.	July 18, 2007
Preliminary AYP evaluations for all schools and districts.	August 1, 2007	Final AYP evaluations for all schools and districts.	September 5, 2007 (pending US ED approval)
Preliminary Title III AMAO evaluations for all schools and districts.	August 1, 2007	Final Title III AMAO evaluations for all schools and districts.	September 5, 2007
Preliminary AZ LEARNS Achievement Profiles for all schools.	September 11, 2007	Final AZ LEARNS Achievement Profiles for all schools	October 15, 2007

Deadlines for the Submission of Information

Following are the deadlines for the 2007 appeals process for AZ LEARNS and AYP. All deadlines are for 5 p.m.

Data Collection or Application	Opening Date	Closing Date
AYP statistical appeals for the four-year graduation rate.	January 18, 2007	May 31, 2007
AYP statistical and substantive appeals.	August 1, 2007	August 15, 2007
Submission of data corrections for AYP statistical appeals	NA	August 10, 2007
Title III AMAO Appeals	August 1, 2007	August 15, 2007
AZLEARNS statistical appeals for the five-year graduation rate and dropout rate	July 13, 2007	August 24, 2007
Submission of application for AZ LEARNS alternative schools status	NA	August 24, 2007
AZ LEARNS Statistical and Substantive Appeals	September 11, 2007	September 21, 2007

I appreciate your attention to these upcoming calendar events as well as your ongoing cooperation. Research and Evaluation will be providing you more detailed information, directions for completing applications, and reminders will be sent regarding each of the events outlined in this memo as they approach. Please be sure to share this information with district and school staff as necessary.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Research and Evaluation at 602-542-5151 or email achieve@azed.gov.