

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Tom Horne**  
Superintendent of  
Public Instruction



STATE OF ARIZONA

School Finance  
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To: Unified, High School, and Accommodation District Superintendents and Business Managers;  
Charter School Administrators

From: Vicki Salazar, Associate Superintendent, Business & Finance Division

CC: Margaret Garcia Dugan, Deputy Superintendent, Arizona Department of Education

Date: November 20, 2007

Re: Early Graduate Scholarship Program, (A.R.S. §15-105, as added by Laws 2007, 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session, Chapter 280)

The Early Graduate Scholarship Fund was established by Laws 2007, 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session, Chapter 280 to provide grants for postsecondary education, to students who graduate at least 1 semester early. Complete language is available at: <http://www.azleg.gov/FinalDisposition.asp>

Students, who graduate from high school at least 1 semester early, but less than 1 year early, are eligible for a grant of \$1,000 for the 1<sup>st</sup> year of postsecondary education and \$500 for the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students who graduate from high school at least 1 year early are eligible for a grant of \$1,250 for the 1<sup>st</sup> year of postsecondary education and \$750 for the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The enacting language requires school districts and charter schools, which offer instruction in high school grades, to promote this scholarship program to its students and to report students graduating at least 1 semester early to the Arizona Department of Education. This language also includes the provision to increase the district/charter's current year or subsequent year ADM reflecting the total ADM the student would have generated, HAD THEY NOT graduated early.

In order to implement this program for those students graduating 1 semester early this year, FY 2007-2008, school districts and charter schools must report to the ADE, by SAISID, those students, which the district or charter project will graduate by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester this year. The following data elements shall be included:

- (1) District/Charter Name
- (2) District/Charter CTDS
- (3) School/Site Name
- (4) School/Site CTDS
- (5) SAISID
- (6) Projected Graduation Date (applicable only for preliminary report)

- (7) Actual Graduation Date
  - (a) Report a null or blank value for the actual graduation date, when submitting the preliminary/projected report.
- (8) Cohort Year

A data collection page is being developed by ADE, Information Technology for the reporting of this data. Please monitor the School Finance Bulletin Board (<http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/BulletinBoard/>) for further information regarding this web site.

This data must be received by the ADE no later that Friday, November 30, 2007, in order for students applying for this grant, to be funded for the postsecondary education session beginning in January 2008. The ADE will provide to the Early Graduate Scholarship Fund \$1,700 for each early graduate reported at this time.

Transfers of funding to the Early Graduate Scholarship Fund and reduction to district and charter base level amounts (and state aid if applicable) will be made according to the following table:

District / Charter	Early Graduation Time	Early Graduation Year	\$ Amount	\$ to Early Graduation Fund	ADM Increase (100 minus actual member days)	Reduction to Base Support Level
District Charter	1 Semester Early	FY 2007-2008	\$1,700	FY 2007-2008	FY 2007-2008 FY 2007-2008	FY 2008-2009 FY 2007-2008
District Charter	1 Year Early	FY 2007-2008	\$2,200	FY 2008-2009	FY 2008-2009 FY 2008-2009	FY 2009-2010 FY 2008-2009

Please contact ADE, School Finance, at (602) 5421-5695 if there are questions regarding this reporting of early graduates. Further information regarding this scholarship may be found at: <http://www.azhighered.org/home.aspx>.

Sincerely,

Vicki Salazar

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