

Move On When Ready

Arizona State Statute Summary

August 2018

Links to Arizona Revised Statutes

- 15-741.02. Menu of achievement assessments; requirements; rules; definition
<https://www.azleg.gov/viewdocument?docName=http://www.azleg.gov/ars/15/00741-02.htm>
- 15-792.02. Board examination system; private contractor; duties; rules
<https://www.azleg.gov/viewdocument?docName=http://www.azleg.gov/ars/15/00792-02.htm>

Purpose

- To greatly increase the proportion of students who enter high school and who subsequently leave those high schools with the skills and knowledge needed to compete effectively in a global economy that provides world class wages only to workers with world class skills.
- To provide a college and work readiness assessment to students.
- To greatly increase the proportion of students in this state who leave high school with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in college in a way that does not significantly increase the cost of high school.

Key Terms

- “Approved Board Examination System” means a board examination system that has been approved by an interstate compact on board examination systems.
- “Board Examination System” means a complete instructional system that includes all of the following components: a coherent group of courses that collectively constitutes a core curriculum at the high school level; a comprehensive syllabus for each course; appropriate instructional and teaching materials for each course; high quality examinations that are closely aligned with the course syllabus; professional scoring of examinations; and teacher education that is designed to train teachers to properly teach those courses.
- “Ready for College Level Mathematics and English” means that a student has the English and mathematics skills and knowledge to succeed in college level courses that count toward a degree or certification without first taking remedial or developmental coursework.
- “Grand Canyon Diploma” means a high school diploma that is offered to any student who demonstrates readiness for college level mathematics and English according to standards prescribed by an interstate compact on board examination, and who has passing grades on an additional set of required approved board examinations in core academic courses as determined by the State Board of Education, including the arts, history and science, and who successfully completes a course in economics.

Key Provisions

- The State Board of Education shall select and enter into a five-year agreement with a private organization to operate and administer the board examination system as prescribed in state statute. Specifies the role of the private organization selected by the State Board of Education in managing the board examination system, which includes the development of the Grand Canyon diploma.
- The private organization selected by the State Board of Education shall identify, select, and collaborate with a national organization that is devoted to issues concerning education and the economy and that is selected by the State Board of Education to provide technical services to develop and maintain an interstate system of approved board examination systems.
- Establishes the Grand Canyon diploma as a high school diploma option for students.
- School districts and charter schools may choose to offer a Grand Canyon diploma beginning in the 2012-2013 school year.
- Students may choose to pursue a Grand Canyon diploma.
- The Grand Canyon diploma may be awarded at the end of grade ten or during or at the end of grade eleven or twelve to students who demonstrate mastery of academic material at a college readiness level.
- Students who choose to pursue a Grand Canyon diploma participate in a board examination system consisting of internationally benchmarked instructional programs of study chosen by an interstate compact on board examination systems selected by the State Board of Education.
- Students who earn a Grand Canyon diploma may do one of the following:
 - Enroll the following fall in full-time community college courses offered under the jurisdiction of a community college district in this state on a community college campus or a high school campus or both;
 - Remain in high school and pursue additional advanced preparation board examination systems designed to prepare students for entry into postsecondary institutions that offer baccalaureate degree programs;
 - Enroll in a full-time career and technical education program offered on a community college campus, a high school campus or a joint technological education district campus, or any combination of these campuses.
 - Return to a traditional academic program without completing the next level of board examination systems curriculum.
 - If accepted for admission to a university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents, enroll in the university after completion of additional high school coursework designed to prepare students for admission to selective postsecondary institutions that offer baccalaureate degrees.

- Students who pursue but do not earn a Grand Canyon diploma at the end of grade ten or eleven receive a customized program of assistance during the next school year that addresses areas in which the student demonstrated deficiencies on the board examination.
- School districts or charter schools from which a student earned a Grand Canyon diploma and enrolls in community college shall continue to receive per pupil funding at a reduced amount until that student would otherwise have graduated at the end of grade twelve. [ADM Split: 80% to district/charter network and school site, 20% to community college.]
- School districts or charter schools from which a student earned a Grand Canyon diploma and enrolls in a university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents shall continue to receive per pupil funding at a reduced amount until that student would otherwise have graduated at the end of grade twelve. [ADM Split: 1/3 to district/charter network, 1/3 to school site, 1/3 to university and for scholarship fund for students who attend an Arizona public university.]
- School districts or charter schools from which a student became eligible for a Grand Canyon diploma and enrolls in a full-time career and technical education program offered on a community college campus, a high school campus or a joint technological education district campus, or any combination of these campuses shall include that student in the school district's or charter school's student count and receive per pupil funding until that student would otherwise have graduated at the end of grade twelve. Notwithstanding any other law, if the instruction is provided by a joint technical education district in a full-time career and technical education program that is designed to lead to a certificate that is awarded by an industry or recognized as meeting industry standards, the sum of the average daily membership for that pupil shall not exceed 1.25, and the average daily membership shall be apportioned at 1.0 for the joint technical education district and 0.25 for the school district.
- Purposes for which the balance of the per pupil funding may be utilized by the school from which the student receives the Grand Canyon diploma include: maintenance and operations, including capital; teacher and pupil incentives, including scholarship programs, for successful participation in the board examination system; providing customized programs of assistance for students who do not pass the board examinations; and to offset the costs of board examinations.
- The State Board of Education shall select college and career ready examinations that are available to pupils in eighth grade, including, but not limited to those pupils who intend to participate in the board examination system in high school; Specifies the examination(s) shall be selected to provide data to pupils, their families and schools regarding the pupil's level of preparation for entry into a college and career ready pathway in high school.
- Specifies the roles of the State Board of Education, Arizona Department of Education, Arizona Board of Regents, community colleges, charter schools and school districts.

<http://www.arizonafuture.org>