

APPENDIX A:
School-Specific Academic Goals

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The Board recognizes that there are charter schools serving special populations that do not have an achievement profile pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-241(I) and has provided an opportunity for those schools to request use of school-specific academic goals in place of the State Accountability indicator.

The School-Specific Academic Goals indicator is not intended to replace State Accountability measures for schools that are identified as Alternative, or for any schools that have an achievement profile pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-241(I).

Subject to adoption by the State Board of Education, the Department of Education is required to use appropriate achievement profiles to assess accommodation schools, alternative schools, and extremely small schools and may develop achievement profiles for Arizona Online Instruction schools and others.

Schools Eligible to Apply for School-Specific Academic Goals

A charter holder that operates a school that serves a special population (e.g. majority homeless, ~~or~~ students with disabilities, or a higher than average English Language Learner population) that does not have an achievement profile pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-241(I) may petition the Board to adopt unique performance standards. The Board shall consider a petition for use of the school-specific academic goals if at least 70% of the students served by the school are identified as having at least one of the following risk factors:

- Identified as needing special education services
- Identified as an English Language Learner
- Homeless

Schools that meet the criteria shall be approved by the Board to use school-specific academic goals. The charter holder shall provide verification that it meets the eligibility criteria at the time of initial application for use of school-specific academic goals and at subsequent five-year interval reviews.

Indicators and Measures

If approved by the Board, five to six school-specific academic goals along with specific metric(s) and target(s) must be developed and agreed to by the charter holder and the Board. School-specific academic goals will be incorporated into the charter contract for the charter holder. School-specific academic goals must address each of the indicators listed below and select one or more of the accompanying measures:

Student Growth – Academic improvement over time on valid and reliable assessments of Arizona academic standards.

Student Achievement – Academic proficiency on valid and reliable assessments of Arizona academic standards.

Post-secondary Readiness (high school only) – Outcomes in key subjects that indicate future success or that are aligned to college and career readiness such as graduation rates, SAT/ACT performance, workforce readiness, credit/course completion, or other metrics.

Student Engagement – Predictors of student achievement such as suspension rates, in-seat attendance rates, and positive socio-emotional or psychological adjustment rates.