C.4 Start-up Budget Assumptions

Arizona Autism Charter Schools, Inc. (AZACS) has $70,000 in start-up funds at its disposal. These funds are based on a loan from Diana Diaz, lead founder and board president and her father Jose Diaz. Loan payments will not be due until after year three of operations to give the school an opportunity to accumulate revenues during its first three years to pay the loan. A letter specifying the specific loan agreement is included with the application.

In addition, upon charter approval in January of 2013, AZACS will pursue an aggressive fundraising campaign to secure grants, charitable contributions and other donations to supplement start-up funds and operational costs. In particular, the AZACS board and executive team will pursue technology grants it has already identified through its partnerships for student computers and other IT equipment. The AZACS board of directors has extensive experience in fundraising and has strong connections with various foundations such as the Arizona Foundation for Educational Advancement, the Helios Foundation and several autism related foundations.

AZACS has a dedicated board and executive team that are open to donating time and resources as necessary for a successful start-up. This team has already donated countless hours to prepare throughout this application process and will continue to do so upon charter approval and during the start-up phase. There is no dollar amount attached to salaries during the start-up phase for Executive Director, Curriculum and ABA Supervisor Consultant or Curriculum Director as these individuals have agreed to donate their time to get the school up and running during start-up. Salaries for these individuals will begin in August 2013 and are reflected in the three-year operational budget. There are $9,900 budgeted for teacher stipends for work to be done during the start-up phase.

Other budget assumptions are based on conservative quotes and estimates from vendors and research on other similarly sized charter schools and private schools serving children with autism.

START-UP REVENUE	***Inception to August 1, 2013***
Secured Funds - Loans	$70,000 loan from Jose Diaz and Diana Diaz, AZACS Board President and Lead Founder, repayment of funds will begin after year three and terms have been negotiated over 7 years at 3% interest.

Expenditures

Administrative, Instruction & Support (AIS)

Salaries	***Start-Up***
Executive Director	Time will be donated during start-up phase.
Curriculum and ABA Supervisor Consultant	Time will be donated during start-up phase.
Curriculum Director, BCBA	Time will be donated during start-up phase.

Teachers-Special Education: ***$9,900***	Hired by June of 2013. Regular salaries begin August 15, 2013. During start-up 9 teachers will be paid a $1,000 stipend. Total amount of $9,900 Includes 10% in taxes, FICA and workers compensation for each teacher ($100 per teacher stipend in ERE).
Paraprofessionals	Time will be donated during start-up phase.
Business and Operations Manager	Time will be donated during start-up phase.

Office Supplies (Paper, Postage, etc.): ***$1,500***	The budgeted amount for office supplies, such as paper, postage, etc. is based on similar sized charter schools. Any additional amount needed will be donated by board and executive team.
Instructional Consumables: ***$4,500***	The estimated costs to purchase student notebooks/binders for data collection, paper, crayons, markers and other consumables for each classroom (9) is $500.
Membership Dues, Registrations, & Travel	No budget during start-up phase.
Contracted Services: AIS	The budgeted amount for Contracted Services (AIS) is based on quotes from Diamond Financial Services who will be providing accounting, payroll and SAIS services and the law firm of Leo Condos who will be providing legal services. Payments will be deferred until Sept. 2013.
Contracted Services: Special Education	Payments for speech and OT services will be deferred until September, 2013.
Curriculum & Resource Materials: ***$13,500***	Based on a quote from McGraw Hill-SRA to provide Language Arts and Math text books and resources for 9 classrooms grades K-5. Costs estimated at $1,500 per classroom.
Library Resources/Software	No budget during start-up phase.
SAIS Software: ***$5,000***	The budgeted amount for SAIS software is based on a quote from School Master and includes on-site training, installation and support.
Other	No budget during start-up phase.

Expenditures

Operations & Maintenance (O&M)

	Start-Up
Supplies: ***$1,000***	Estimated cost for cleaning and maintenance supplies for our facility. Any additional amount needed for start-up will be donated by board members.
Marketing/Advertising: ***$4,000***	The budgeted amount for Marketing & Advertising is based on a $3,500 quote from Famouspress.net to print brochures, pamphlets and other collateral. An additional $500 is earmarked to cover open house refreshments and expenses.
Contracted Services: O&M	No budget during start-up phase.

Building Lease: ***$4,000***	The cost of the lease is $12 per SF per year. We will be using approximately 2,000 SF during start-up. The landlord is willing to waive the security deposits and differ the costs associated with modifying the facility.
Building & Improvements	Payments on building improvements deferred until after August 15, 2013. None due at start-up.
Land & Improvements	No budget during start-up phase.
Fee/Permits: ***$1,000***	Includes costs for local, city fees and occupancy permits.
Property/Casualty Insurance: ***$1,500***	Average of quotes from CSIPros. & USI Insurance Services. Quote based on similar sized charter schools.
Liability Insurance: ***$2,500***	Average of quotes from CSIPros. & USI Insurance Services. Quote based on similar sized charter schools.
Utilities (Electric, Gas, Water, Waste): ***$2,000***	The budgeted amount for Utilities is based on quote from the Landlord that bases the costs at $2.00 per SF.
Phone/Communications/Internet Connectivity: ***$2,000***	Based on bundle price quoted by Cox Business Verizon Wireless. Service to begin during start-up at the end of May for office use in June.
Student Furniture & Equipment: ***$7,000***	Based on costs of similar sized charter schools to outfit schools with student furniture and equipment at start-up. $778 per classroom also based on quote from Mesa Public Schools Used Surplus facility.
Student Technology Equipment	No budget during start-up phase. Will seek technology grants and donations upon approval. Program is not dependent on student technology.
Office Technology Equipment: ***$2,000***	One computer work station with peripherals and associated software. Staff will use their own laptops during start-up.
Other Leases (Security, Copiers, etc.): ***$2,000***	Initial lease payment for multi-function copier based on quote from Flex Print.
Loan Repayment	No budget during start-up phase. Payments are deferred until year four of operation.
Other: ***$1,000***	Purchase three video camcorders to document coaching sessions with teachers and for use in other training. Price quote from amazon.com and Best Buy.