



## A LETTER FROM ASBCS

"To improve public education in Arizona by sponsoring charter schools that provide quality educational choices"

### Board Updates & Action

#### February Board Meeting

The ASBCS February Board Meeting was held virtually Monday, February 8, 2021. Thank you to all of our Board members and charter operators for their continued flexibility. The Board considered and voted on a number of charter amendments, as well as modifications to the New Charter Application and AOI Specific New Charter Application for 2022-2023.

See all Board action taken at the February 2021 meeting [here](#).

Please be aware that there is no March meeting.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for:

**Monday, April 12, 2021**

### Vaccine Opportunities for Charter School Employees

#### Maricopa County

This upcoming weekend, the following school districts will be hosting COVID-19 vaccination events open only to staff of public, private and charter schools in their footprint:

- **Glendale Union High School District**
- **Higley Unified School District, Gilbert Public Schools**
- **Queen Creek Unified School District**

If you work in those districts, contact the district office to receive the link to register for an appointment.

If you work in any of the following districts, you may have been unable to attend the vaccine event they hosted previously:

- **Phoenix Union High School District**
- **Chandler Unified**
- **Tolleson Union High School District**
- **Agua Fria Union High School District**
- **Deer Valley Unified**
- **Saddle Mountain**
- **Cave Creek Unified**
- **Scottsdale Unified**
- **Fountain Hills Unified**
- **Paradise Valley Unified**
- **Wickenburg Unified**

If you work in the footprint of any of those districts and were unable to attend their vaccine event, you should [add your name to this waiting list](#) to receive information about future events in other districts. If appointment slots are available, you will be emailed 24-48 hours before the event to register to receive your vaccine.

As a reminder, Maricopa County Public Health is connecting regional sites with vaccine providers like pharmacies to provide COVID-19 vaccines to staff of public, private, and charter schools, as well as licensed and unlicensed childcare providers who care for 5 or more children who do not live in their household. Each region has a designated school district leading the vaccine operations who has been asked to communicate with all charter schools in their district footprint. To find the school district leading vaccine operations in your region, [click here](#). For charter schools with multiple locations, employees should attend the event in the school district footprint where they work. When arriving for your vaccine appointment, you will need to verify employment with an employee badge, pay stub, or letter attesting you work on school property on school letterhead.

## Pinal County

At this time, Pinal County is not able to distribute the COVID vaccine to K-12 educators via PODs. For vaccine availability, please check the [Pinal County COVID Vaccine page](#).

**Board staff will be providing information on COVID Vaccine availability for charter employees weekly. We have reached out to each county for information on vaccine availability, and it will be included as it is received.**

### Fingerprint Clearance Card Checks & Teacher Input Application

In coordination with the Arizona Department of Education ("ADE"): Investigative Unit & Complaints, the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools ("Board") is providing you the following notification and information to assist in ensuring a safe environment for students.

For the health and safety of all students and staff, Arizona schools are required to ensure every Fingerprint Clearance Card (FCC) is valid for its staff.

Schools are also required to frequently check and update staff employed at their schools in the Teacher Input Application ("TIA") through the [Common Logon Portal](#). TIA is an online application that is used by multiple ADE sections to collect data on administrative positions, teachers, teaching positions, and appropriate certification status. All instructional staff in LEAs must be entered into the online system for each school site. ADE uses this data in a variety of ways to generate reports for technical support and monitoring as well as to populate other internally linked data systems.

### Universal Service Administrative Company E-Rate Program Deadlines

- The FCC Form 470 must be certified in EPC at least 28 days before the close of the filing window for the funding year in which services are requested.
- **February 25, 2021** is the last possible day to certify an FY2021 FCC Form 470 and still be able to certify an FCC Form 471 within the FY2021 filing window.
- The FCC Form 471 must be certified on or before **March 25, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. EDT**, the date that the filing window closes.
- Applications filed after this date will be

## Information Regarding TIA

### **Accessing TIA:**

The LEA can access the Teacher Input Application through the [Common Log On](#). Only LEA entity administrators have the authority to add or remove authorized users. The LEA can locate entity administrators on the [Entity Administrator Portal](#). If an entity administrator needs to add/remove users to have TIA access the administrator will need to submit a ticket through the [External Help Desk](#).

### **TIA Guide:**

Technical Assistance to complete the teacher update features in TIA is available in the [Teacher Input Application Guidance](#).

An ADE LEA Title I/II Program Specialist is available to support with the TIA process. The program specialist assigned to each LEA is accessible at this site- [Title I/II Specialist](#). Title I/II department contacts are located on the [Educator and School Excellence](#) web page.

considered out-of-window.

- The Schools and Libraries News Brief will inform participants of upcoming funding commitments, tips to help through the application process, and other timely information.
- To subscribe, click [here](#).

Questions? Contact USAC Customer Service

- 1-888-203-8100  
Monday-Friday  
8:00am to 8:00pm ET

## **AZDHS Grant Opportunity**

### **WIIN Grant: Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program Drinking Water**

The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) has new funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to offer water testing services to public charter schools for lead through the [WIIN Grant: Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program Drinking Water](#).

This project is a continuation of previous testing work completed by ADHS in [licensed child care facilities](#), and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) in [public schools](#). While drinking water has not historically been found to be a cause of lead poisoning in Arizona, ADHS intends to take a proactive approach to assure health and wellness of all Arizonans.

Intent behind testing public charter school's drinking water for lead is to build upon previous sampling projects aimed at characterizing the lead content of public charter school facilities' drinking water in the state of Arizona. 541 public charter schools will have the opportunity to have their drinking water tested for lead.

Primary goals of this project are to:

- Offer services to test drinking water fixtures to public charter schools serving younger children, especially those under 6 years of age, first
- Offer services to test drinking water fixtures of all public charter schools in Arizona by the end of the project period
- Provide education about lead exposure and the importance of testing to all public charter schools

*Coconino, Mohave, Navajo, and Yuma counties have agreed to participate in the program sampling activities and are responsible for coordinating testing in public*

charter schools within their respective jurisdictions. ADHS has created a sampling plan and is coordinating testing in the remaining counties through a contractor.

Initial and follow-up sampling is expected to be completed by the end of second year of the grant period in 2021 along with the final reports provided to the public charter schools with the sample results.

Visit our [webpage](#) for additional information and test results.

If you like to know more about the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program or join the Arizona Lead Poisoning Prevention Coalition and connect with our community via Basecamp blogpost please contact us at [healthyhomes@azdhs.gov](mailto:healthyhomes@azdhs.gov).



**ADHS** LEAD TESTING IN ARIZONA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS DRINKING WATER PROGRAM

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**  
Lead is a naturally occurring heavy metal, but most human exposures to high lead levels in the environment are due to human activities. Lead has been widely used in a variety of products and materials such as pipes, paints, ceramics, and gasoline. If inhaled or swallowed, lead can negatively affect almost every organ and system in the body. Lead is particularly dangerous for children. Levels of lead in blood can damage the nervous system, reduce IQ, attention span, impair growth, and contribute to learning disabilities and hearing problems.

**Lead in Drinking Water:** Lead can get into drinking water after the water leaves the treatment plant or well and contacts the plumbing materials containing lead. The physical/chemical interaction that occurs between the water and the plumbing is referred to as corrosion.

We can protect children by reducing or eliminating lead sources before children are exposed to them. This program provides resources how to deal with lead in drinking water, testing procedures and best practices, and communication of results and activities to our entire school community quickly and effectively.

**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES & TEST RESULTS**  
ADHS has partnered with county health departments and the Arizona State Public Health Laboratory (ASPHL) to offer water testing in public charter schools around the state. Sampling will begin in February 2021 and will occur throughout the year. Onsite testing will be conducted to check lead levels of drinking water samples. This testing will help identify potential lead exposure so that targeted remediation efforts can be taken. It is a key step in understanding the problem, and if there is one, designing an appropriate response, and reducing children's exposure to lead.

Sampling and testing procedures will follow EPA's **3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities** guidelines. These samples will then be analyzed by ADHS; lead sampling results will be shared with parents and staff as soon as they are available.

Participants are encouraged to come prepared with questions. Certified sampling specialists will be available to answer your questions.

**OUR PROGRAM**

**TRAINING:** ADHS is training County public health personnel, school staff, and families about the potential causes and health effects of lead in drinking water and providing them with the tools they need to protect children.

**TESTING:** Testing drinking water in 541 public charter schools to identify potential problems and to take corrective actions if necessary.

**TAKING ACTION:** Taking action to reduce lead in drinking water, as well as communicate to public health departments, parents, staff, and the larger school community about risks, testing results, and recommended actions.

**AVAILABLE RESOURCES**  
Free materials, pamphlets, regarding our 3Ts program, and memo about testing options can be requested at [water@azdhs.gov](mailto:water@azdhs.gov)

Available materials include:

- Big Ten List: Things to know if elevated lead levels are detected in your child public charter school
- FAQs for Families whose public charter school had elevated lead levels detected
- Information about reducing the risk of lead in drinking water at home
- EPA resources, including the complete 3Ts toolkit

Check out our [website](#) for more information and the results from the sampling program. Visit [www.azdhs.gov/lead/3ts/](https://www.azdhs.gov/lead/3ts/)

**BUILDING AWARENESS (CLPPP Portal)**

- For additional information about lead in drinking water, contact Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at [adhs@azdhs.gov](mailto:adhs@azdhs.gov) about current testing and remediation efforts.
- Visit <https://www.azdhs.gov/lead/> to check out why lead poisoning prevention is important.

Office of Environmental Health  
310 North 19th Ave, Suite 440  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Phone: 602-364-3118  
Fax: 602-364-3166



**OELAS WEBSITE**  
RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS OF ELS

SEI MODELS   2019 ELPS   OELAS PL   ELPS MODULES

## English Language Learner Program Changes & Opportunities for Professional Development

Check the [OELAS website](#) for more information!

### Reminders

#### Next Board Meeting

Date: Monday, April 12, 2021

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Virtual

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