

April, 2019



# *The Grader*

## **DRAFT A-F Letter Grades Business Rules**

A draft version of the Fiscal Year 2019 Alternative Schools A-F Letter Grades Business Rules is available [here](#).

A draft version of the Fiscal Year 2019 K-8 Schools A-F Letter Grades Business rules is available [here](#).

We are currently working to create a draft version of the 9-12 Schools A-F Letter Grades Business Rules for Fiscal Year 2019 and will share with all stakeholders once available.

If you have questions, please email [Achieve@azed.gov](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov).

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# 95% Tested

After careful consideration and conversation, the Accountability Technical Advisory Committee has decided to continue using the first day of the AzMERIT State Testing Window as the enrollment date to determine school's 95% tested. This determination is consistent with prior year practices and the DRAFT K-8 and Alternative Schools Business Rules have been updated to include this information.

## FY19 Alternative School List Available

The list of schools that were approved for Alternative School Status for the 2018-2019 school year (FY19) is now available [here](#).

## Alternative CCRI Spreadsheet and Instructions Available

The Alternative CCRI Spreadsheet and Instructions are now available in ADEConnect under "Accountability". We have had to make a small correction to the file to ensure that all formulas are functioning properly. If you have previously downloaded the spreadsheet, we recommend that you download a new version to ensure that all formulas are working correctly in the spreadsheet you complete. The newest version will have "v5.3" in purple in cell CU1.

If you do not see "Accountability" listed on your ADEConnect home screen, you must contact your entity administrator and request that they assign the role to you. ADE staff cannot assign roles in ADEConnect.

Please note that there are both TRADITIONAL and ALTERNATIVE CCRI spreadsheets and instructions. If your school has not been approved for Alternative School Status for Fiscal Year 2019 (above) you should complete the **traditional** version of the CCRI spreadsheet.

## Alternative CCRI Scenarios

We have created sample student scenarios in order to aid Alternative schools in completing the Alternative Schools College and Career Readiness (CCRI) spreadsheet and appropriately determining the students that must be included in a school's Alternative CCRI. These scenarios include a variety of examples of potential students and guidance as to whether or not those students should be included in an Alternative school's CCRI.

Anyone with questions regarding the eligibility of students for their Alternative school CCRI, should consult the Alternative CCRI Scenario Examples available [here](#). If you have additional questions, after reviewing the sample scenarios, please contact [Achieve@azed.gov](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov).

# Alternative Schools CCRI Frequently Asked Questions

An [Alternative Schools CCRI Frequently Asked Questions](#) page has been created to assist Alternative schools in completing the Alternative CCRI Self-Reporting spreadsheet. This page will continue to be updated with additional resources as they become available and as new questions arise. If you have a question related to the Alternative CCRI spreadsheet/instructions that is not addressed by one of the resources or answers available on this page, please contact [Achieve@azed.gov](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov).

## Traditional 9-12 Schools CCRI Spreadsheet and Instructions Available

The Traditional 9-12 Schools CCRI Spreadsheet and Instructions are now available in ADEConnect under “Accountability”. If you do not see “Accountability” listed on your ADEConnect home screen, you must contact your entity administrator and request that they assign the role to you. ADE staff cannot assign roles in ADEConnect.

Please note that there are both TRADITIONAL and ALTERNATIVE CCRI spreadsheets and instructions. If your school has not been approved for Alternative School Status for Fiscal Year 2019 you must complete the **traditional** version of the CCRI spreadsheet.

## Traditional Schools CCRI Frequently Asked Questions

The [Traditional Career and College Readiness Indicator Self-Report Spreadsheet Frequently Asked Questions](#) page has been updated for Fiscal Year 2019 to assist traditional schools in completing the CCRI Self-Reporting spreadsheet. We will continue to update this page as new resources are available and as new questions arise. If you have a question related to the traditional schools CCRI spreadsheet/instructions that is not answered on the FAQ page, please contact [Achieve@azed.gov](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov).

# NEW Traditional and Alternative CCRI Reporting Requirements

New this year, both Traditional and Alternative Schools will be required to submit additional data in their CCRI submission. **Traditional schools** will be required to report their Points Earned, Bonus, and the student counts reported in row 9 of the FY19 Traditional CCRI spreadsheet. **Alternative schools** will be required to report their Points Earned and the student counts reported in row 9 of the FY19 Alternative CCRI spreadsheet. Once the CCRI Self-Reporting application is available in ADEConnect we notify stakeholders through our distribution list.

## ADEConnect Guide

We have updated our ADEConnect Guide that walks through how to access and utilize the tools and reports available through ADEConnect under “Accountability”. This is a great resource for those who may be new or who may need a refresher. The updated ADEConnect Guide is available [here](#) under “Guides and Demos”.

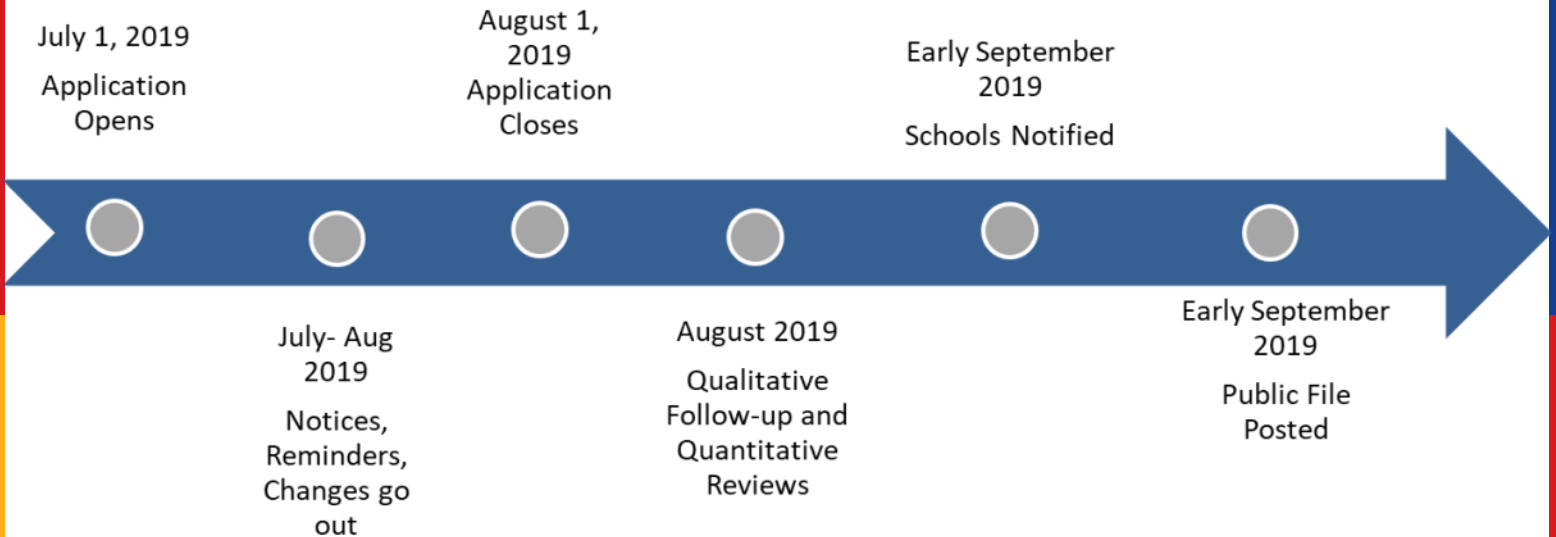
## AZELLA Public File

Over the past several months we have received several requests from stakeholders asking for their school/district’s EL Reclassification rates. In response to these requests we have created AZELLA public files, similar to the AzMERIT public files we make available. We have created AZELLA public files for both fiscal year 2017 and fiscal year 2018 and expect these files to become part of the public files we create annually. At this point in time, we do not expect to create AZELLA files for years prior to fiscal year 2017. The AZELLA public files are available [here](#) under the “Assessment Results” tab.

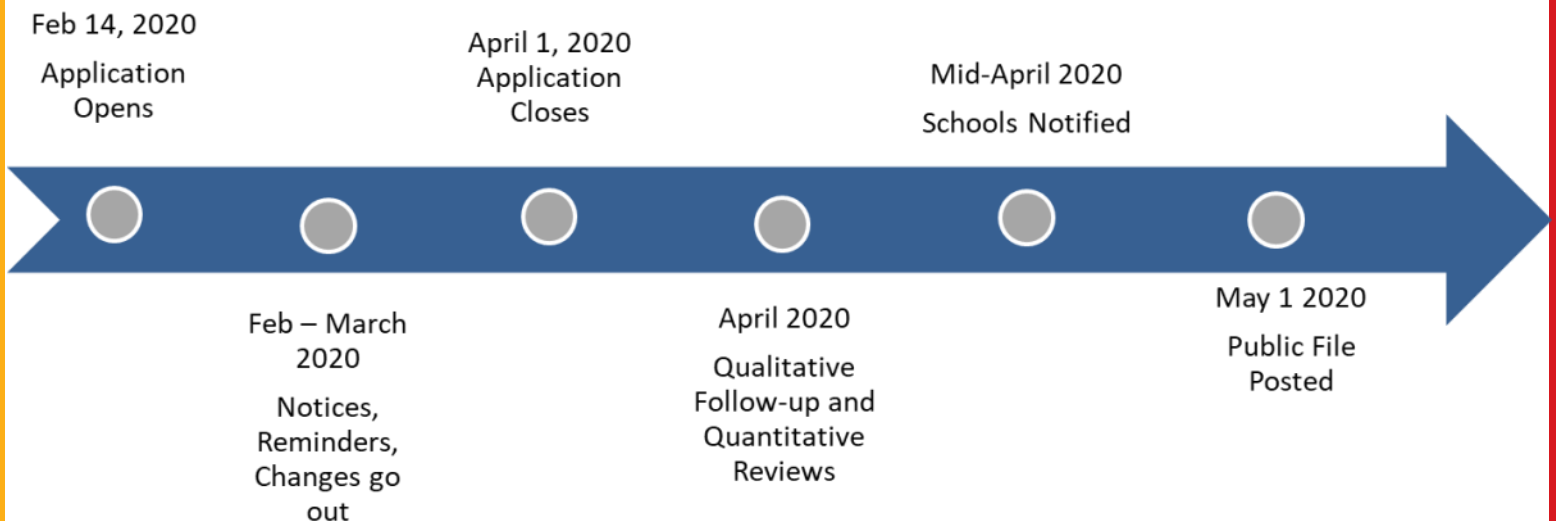
# New Alternative School Application Timeline

In an effort to align the alternative school status approval with the requirements of ADE’s School Finance team as well as the needs of schools and stakeholders, we are shifting the alternative school status application timeline. In order to ensure that this transition process goes as smoothly as possible for all stakeholders, we have outlined the expected timeline for alternative school status applications for fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Schools that applied and were approved will be submitting essentially the same application with the same numbers as FY 19—the only changes would be if the school changed it’s charter or mission statement.

## Fiscal Year 2020 Timeline



## Pending Fiscal Year 2021 Timeline



# School Report Cards Reminders

As previously shared in the [March issue of \*The Grader\*](#), the newest section of the Report Cards website, School Characteristics, is now available. In order for this exciting section to share information about your school, you must submit this information through the EOS Portal in ADEConnect. If you do not see EOS Portal listed on your main menu of ADEConnect, you must reach out to your entity administrator and request that they add this role to your account. ADE staff cannot add this role for you, it must be done by your entity administrator. Instructions for completing the School Characteristics section in the EOS Portal are available below:

- Full Guide to Update School Characteristics in EOS Portal [here](#)
- Abbreviated Guide to Update School Characteristics in EOS Portal [here](#)

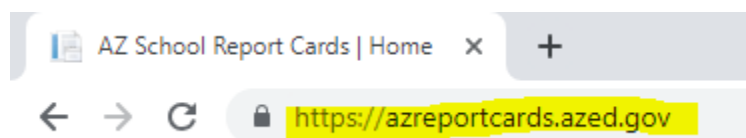
Beginning this week, the Report Cards website will also allow users to apply School Characteristics as a filter in the search tool. We strongly encourage schools/LEAs to take a look at this new section and make sure your information is up to date.

If you have questions regarding the video or any ideas on a future video that may be helpful, please reach out to us via our inbox ([Achieve@azed.gov](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov)).

## Publication of School Report Cards

As some of you may know, there is a requirement under ESSA that Local Education Agencies (LEAs) make their school report cards publicly accessible through their website. The Report Cards team is working to create PDF versions of Report Cards that could be used in this way in the future.

In the meantime we recommend that entities post a link to their Report Card page on their own website. Each school/LEA has a unique web address in the Report Cards website that can be included on your own website. To access this unique web address, you need to open the [Report Cards website](#) and navigate to your school/LEA through the search feature. Once there, you can copy the web address from the URL bar (pictured below) and include it in your own website.



If you have questions about this process or need additional information, please contact [Achieve@azed.gov](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov).

# Update to Graduation, Dropout, and Persistence Rate Technical Manual

We recently updated the Graduation, Dropout, and Persistence Rate Technical Manual to include a clarification regarding how Cohort is assigned to students. We recommend that stakeholders download a new version and read through the section on Cohort assignment. The Graduation, Dropout, and Persistence Rate Technical Manual is available [here](#).

Please send any questions regarding Cohort assignment or the Graduation, Dropout, and Persistence Rate Technical Manual to [Achieve@azed.gov](mailto:Achieve@azed.gov).

## Grad Rate Report How-To Video

### REPEATED FROM MARCH, 2019 NEWSLETTER

We have created a Graduation Rate basics video to help the field with on-boarding as well as a refresher before the corrections/inquiry window opens for FY19 A-F accountability. This short video features a look at several resources including the Graduation, Dropout, and Persistence Rate Technical Manual, the Graduation Rate Report in ADEConnect, and the STUD 78 Student Cohort Verification Report in the AzEDS Portal. The video also addresses business rules and common mistakes as well as how to contact us with any inquiries you may have. The video can be found [here](#).

## Farewell from Dr. Simmons

Coming from a family of educators in the state of Arizona, it has been a pleasure and honor to work alongside the staff at ADE and all the hardworking folks at Arizona's schools. I am grateful for my time at ADE and the opportunity to serve Arizona, a state that I love so much. I have been incredibly lucky to work alongside the talented and dedicated Accountability and Research Team. I cannot stress enough how amazing the team is and how much I will miss working with them. As I move on to a terrific opportunity, I wish the entire field of education in Arizona all the best in the future.