



Arizona Purple Star School (AZPSS) Application for Designation

New Application Window: September 1 – May 1 (annually)

Renewals 30 days before Expiration

Purpose

The Arizona Purple Star School (AZPSS) designation recognizes Arizona schools that demonstrate a sustained commitment to supporting military-connected students and families. This application aligns directly with A.R.S. § 15-249.01 and the Arizona Purple Star School Scoring Rubric (effective May 2026). The rubric serves as the primary guide for eligibility, evaluation, and designation. Schools applying for designation must meet all statutory requirements and provide documentation, if requested consistent with the scoring rubric. Schools may also elect to pursue 'Exemplary Arizona Purple Star School' recognition by meeting additional criteria outlined in the rubric.

Eligibility

All Arizona public, charter, and private schools serving grades K–12 are eligible to apply.

How to Apply

1. Review the Arizona Purple Star Self-Assessment Guide & Checklist in full prior to completing this application.
2. Complete all required sections of this application.
3. Compile and retain required documentation and artifacts as described in the checklist. Artifacts may be requested to determine if ascertains are maintained during the designation period.
4. Electronically submit the completed application with required attestations and signatures within the application window to the Arizona Department of Education K–12 Military Community Liaison.

Designation Timeline

- Application Review: Within 30 days of submission
- Initial Compliance Review: Within 90 -120 calendar days of designation
- Annual Compliance Review: By June 30 each year

Required Criteria (Summary)

Applicants must fully meet all statutory criteria as detailed in the scoring rubric, including but not limited to:

1. Staff Professional Development
2. Designation of a Primary Point of Contact (POC)
3. Execution of POC Duties
4. Student-Led Peer-to-Peer Mentorship Program
5. Annual Patriotic or Military Recognition Event
6. AZPSS Webpage Compliance
7. Homepage Logo Placement
8. Annual Report Submission

Attestation of Compliance

By submitting an application for Arizona Purple Star School designation, the school certifies that it has reviewed and understands all program requirements, that required staff training has been completed prior to designation, and that it agrees to maintain ongoing compliance with all statutory, reporting, and website requirements. Failure to maintain compliance may result in corrective action or revocation of designation.

Questions and Support

Lee.Fernwault@azed.gov
602-542-5687

Digitally Signed Preferred form 4/2026



Arizona Purple Star School (AZPSS) Application for Designation

New Application Window: September 1 – May 1 (annually)

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New Renewal Application

Request Exemplary Status

School Name:

Date:

School Website:

City:

Zip Code

School District/Charter/Entity:

Campus Administrator:

Title:

Campus Administrator Email:

Phone:

AZPSS POC Name:

Liaison Title:

Liaison Email:

Liaison Phone:

Optional:

Alternate POC Name:

Alt POC Title:

Alt POC Email:

Per ARS 15-249.01, each school must agree to meet all requirements to be designated as an Arizona Purple Star School (AZPSS). Failure to maintain all statutory requirements will result in the designation being terminated.

1. Initial Arizona Purple Star School (AZPSS) Professional Development (PD) training has been delivered in person to at least seventy percent (70%) of the school's employees, including administration, and all training materials are politically neutral.
2. The school has designated an Arizona Purple Star School Primary Point of Contact (POC), the POC will complete the required AZPSS POC professional development training, and the POC contact email will be appropriately displayed on the school's AZPSS information section or webpage.
3. The POC will execute the duties as listed, section 3 with the assistance of administration: (a) complete training covered in section 2; (b) oversees Student-led Peer2Peer program and provides info with families; (c) organize at least one patriotic event per academic year; (d) updates the school's AZPSS webpage at least annually.
4. The school will promote and maintain a Student-led Peer2Peer mentorship program. Administration will select Ambassadors (Student Mentors) and provide necessary training to help students mentor students.
5. At least one military theme event will take place at least once during the school year that "both" recognizes military service members, their families, and educates students about military service in the United States and Arizona.
6. The school will proudly display the official AZPSS logo on the school's main webpage. Additional information will be provided: POC contact information, Peer2Peer information, past or future military themed events, or other information to support highly mobile, military-connected students. PSS content will be updated at least once during the school year.
7. The school will provide a complete AZPSS Annual Report no later than June 30 for each academic year.
8. **Optional.** Using the AZPSS scoring rubric we request an exemplary status review.

Principal/Site Administrator

Signature

Submit