



## **The Arizona Move On When Ready Initiative**

Move On When Ready is a new performance-based high school education model designed to increase academic achievement and prepare all students for college and careers. Key components of the model include use of proven world-class instructional systems; multiple education pathways adaptive to individual student interests and needs, moving away from a “one-size-fits-all” approach; and a new performance-based high school diploma.

### **The Arizona Move On When Ready Model**

Move On When Ready was created in response to the K-12 academic readiness issues facing Arizona’s children and the state's need to increase the number of students able to access and complete postsecondary education. Move On When Ready legislation, signed into Arizona law in May 2010, provides a framework for enabling students to advance in their educational career based on demonstrated learning instead of seat time. A key provision includes the establishment of the Grand Canyon Diploma, a performance-based high school diploma available to students on a voluntary basis beginning in the 2012-2013 academic year.

Qualification for a Grand Canyon Diploma signifies to students that they have met a minimum college readiness standard and are well-prepared to take the next step in their educational career. The Move On When Ready model was developed with all students in mind so they know what is required for them to be successful in education beyond high school, and to provide a way for them to get there with less worry about how long it takes.

### **World-Class Instructional Systems**

Schools that participate in Move On When Ready and offer a Grand Canyon Diploma utilize a powerful, coherent instructional system in alignment with Arizona’s Common Core Standards. Used in many high performing countries, aligned instructional systems include core courses in mathematics, English, science, history and the arts aligned to national and internationally benchmarked standards, targeted teacher professional development and a series of curriculum-based examinations that assess knowledge and skills on a variety of performance measures.

Students can qualify for a performance-based Grand Canyon Diploma by meeting college and career qualification scores in all core content areas on the series of curriculum-based end-of-course assessments. Grand Canyon Diploma qualification scores are aligned to the level of knowledge and skills required to succeed in a community college course counting toward a degree or certificate without remediation.

The instructional system providers certified through a competitive process and approved for use in Arizona by the Arizona State Board of Education include Cambridge International Examinations, ACT QualityCore, College Board Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate (IB).

## Education Pathways Within and Beyond High School

Once students qualify for a Grand Canyon Diploma, they are able to choose freely from many education options. These options include:

- Graduate with the Grand Canyon Diploma and go to community college.
- Stay in high school and take an upper division program of demanding academic courses and exams, such as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Cambridge International Examinations, that will prepare them for some of the most selective colleges in the world.
- Enroll in a full-time career and technical education program offered on a community college campus, a high school campus, a joint technical education district campus or any combination of these campuses.
- Remain in high school and participate in programs of study already available through the home high school or district, such as dual enrollment courses or specialized STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) programs.

## Partner Schools

Thirty Arizona high schools are implementing Move On When Ready, a performance-based education initiative to prepare students for college and career readiness, during the 2012-2013 school year. The number of participating schools has more than doubled since the initiative was launched in fall 2011. The majority of schools, all participating voluntarily, are implementing a "whole school" Move On When Ready model which commits them to providing the high expectations performance-based educational system to every student.

## The Center for the Future of Arizona – Leading the Move On When Ready Initiative

The Center for the Future of Arizona, a non-profit organization that combines public-policy research with collaborative partnerships to affect positive change in Arizona, is leading the Move On When Ready initiative. Selected to manage and oversee the effort by the Arizona State Board of Education, the Center for the Future of Arizona is working with interested schools to plan for and implement the Move On When Ready model.

The Arizona Move On When Ready Initiative is part of the National Center on Education and the Economy's *Excellence For All* effort. Other partner states include Connecticut, Kentucky, and Mississippi. The University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research is conducting a longitudinal study of *Excellence for All* that includes all of the Arizona schools implementing the Move On When Ready model.

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