



2023 NATIONAL REPORT CARD

Arizona

CLASS OF 2023 GRADE



PROJECTED CLASS OF 2028 GRADE



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Is a high school course with personal finance concepts required to be taken as a graduation requirement?

Yes, a law was passed in 2019 that requires high school students to complete a half-year course in economics and that such course include financial literacy and personal financial management content. Prior to 2019, beginning in 2013, state law required the academic standards prescribed by the State Board of Education in social studies to include personal finance concepts.

Sources:

- [Arizona Graduation Requirements](#)
- [A.R.S. Title 15, Chapter 7, Article 701.01](#)

HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION STANDARDS

The economics course standards in Arizona consist of 20 standards, five of which are personal finance. Based on this information, we estimate that students receive approximately 15 hours of instruction in personal finance. Effective for the Class of 2013, Arizona students, in grades 9 to 12, are required to complete an Arizona Education and Career Action Plan (ECAP) prior to graduation. The ECAP allows students to enter, track, and update the following information: (i) academic goals; (ii) career goals; (iii) postsecondary education goals; and (iv) extracurricular activity goals.

Sources:

- [Arizona Social Studies Standards](#) (page 51)
- [2013 A.R.S. Title 15, Chapter 7, Article 701.01](#)
- [Arizona Administrative Code R7-2-302.05](#) (page 15)

PROJECTED GRADE FOR CLASS OF 2028

No policy change is pending that would change Arizona’s grade.

PRE-K TO GRADE 8 EDUCATION STANDARDS

The K to 8 social studies standards include some personal finance concepts in the social studies economics standards in grades 1 to 6 and 8. Arizona also has K to 8 Career Literacy standards to help students make informed decisions about their futures. The standards focus on career awareness in grades K to 4 and career exploration in grades 5 to 8.

Sources:

- [Arizona Social Studies Standards](#)
- [K–8 Career Literacy](#)

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE 



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EXTRA CREDIT

A 2021 law created the Arizona Seal of Personal Finance program that recognizes high school students who achieve a high level of proficiency in personal finance. The seal is placed upon the student’s diploma and noted on their transcript. In grades 9 to 12, students must complete the following requirements to obtain the seal: (a) complete all social studies courses with an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 out of a 4.0 scale; and (b) students must complete one activity from each of the four categories: (i) pass an assessment of personal finance; (ii) complete of an approved personal finance program; (iii) participate in a cocurricular or extracurricular program; and (iv) complete a college and/or career readiness plan.

Sources:

- [Seal of Personal Finance](#)
- [A.R.S. Title 15, Chapter 2, Article 260](#)

CAVEAT

The 2019 law states that the State Board of Education “may consider establishing a required separate personal finance course for the purpose of the graduation of pupils from high school” but does not require the board to take such action. As of the date of this report the state board has not required that Arizona high school students take a stand-alone course in personal finance as a graduation requirement. Prior to 2019, a 2013 law specifically did “not allow the state board of education to establish a required separate personal finance course for the purpose of the graduation of pupils from high school.” It is not clear how Arizona measures student achievement in financial literacy or how the state monitors local school district implementation of the financial literacy education requirement.

Sources:

- [A.R.S. Title 15, Chapter 7, Article 701.01](#)
- [2013 A.R.S. Title 15, Chapter 7, Article 701.01](#)