

Questions to Ask Your Legislative Candidate



Arizona voters consistently say education and workforce readiness matter to the future of our state. Recent polling conducted by Education Forward Arizona shows strong public concern about student outcomes, post-high school attainment, ESA accountability, early learning, literacy, math, graduation rates, and access to career-connected education pathways.

You deserve to know what your legislative candidates will actually do to improve outcomes for students, families, schools, and the state's workforce. The following questions are designed to help you find out where they stand:

- 1.** According to recent polls, 72% of Arizonans think more should be done to increase the share of Arizona students with education or training beyond high school. What can the Legislature do to make that happen, and will you personally lead the charge to do so?
- 2.** According to recent polls, 78% of Arizonans think it is very or somewhat serious that 31% of three- and four-year-olds have access to quality early childhood education learning compared to the statewide goal of at least 45%. What will you do to help us reach that 45% goal?
- 3.** According to recent polls, 94% of Arizonans think it is very or somewhat serious that 36% of Arizona 3rd graders read at grade level and meet state standards for English language proficiency compared to the statewide goal of 72%. Why do you think Arizona is halfway behind its goal, and what will you do once elected to decrease that deficit?
- 4.** According to recent polls, 95% of Arizonans think it is very or somewhat serious that math test scores show 27% of Arizona 8th graders meet state standards and are prepared for high school compared to the statewide goal of 69%. Do you support increasing the amount of funding targeted at raising test scores to meet state standards?
- 5.** According to recent polls, 86% of Arizonans think it is very or somewhat serious that 78% of Arizona high school students are on track to graduate in four years compared to the statewide goal of 90%. Are you concerned? How will you help meet that 90% goal?
- 6.** According to recent polls, 91% of Arizonans support expanding access to advanced placement and dual enrollment courses that allow high school students to earn college credits, but our Legislature has not taken the steps to do so. Will you work to expand access to these programs? If so, what specifically will you do?

7. According to recent polls, 77% of Arizonans are very or somewhat concerned that Arizona's Empowerment Scholarship Account program is wasting taxpayer dollars. What concrete steps would you take to change that?
8. According to recent polls, 75% of Arizonans believe that their elected leaders should be doing more to ensure Arizona has educated and skilled workers, especially because the state has a goal of ensuring 60% of adults have a post-high school education, which includes job training, degrees, or workforce certification. When you hear "do a lot more," what does that mean to you, and what will you do in office?

For information on how to vote in November's midterm elections, visit the Arizona Secretary of State's Office at azsos.gov/elections.