State of Arizona
Department of Education

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Date: April 30, 2001

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What Does SAIS-Capable Mean?

A number of LEA/Charters have inquired, "What, exactly, does it mean for us to be SAIS-capable?" Our reply is that being SAIS-capable simply means the LEA must have sufficient equipment, software, knowledge and training to enable it to comply fully with the electronic reporting requirements of A.R.S. §15-1042. Further, it must have verified that it is able to do so through testing that includes the interchange of data with ADE.

To be SAIS-capable, a school district or charter school must:

1.   Have a computer connected to the Internet

   - With sufficient capacity (or "bandwidth") to handle the LEA/Charters volume of information

   - With a browser compatible with ADE's SAIS application software
     - Internet Explorer 4.0 or higher, or
     - Netscape Navigator 4.0 or higher

2.   Be able to submit detail student information electronically on a school by school basis, either by having a student management software (SMS) system, or by contracting with a student management service provider

   - Student management software (SMS) system
     - A "home-developed" SMS computer application designed by the LEA/Charters, or
     - A purchased SMS software system
       (see SMS vendor list on ADE's web site: http://www.ade.az.gov/sais/vendorlist.htm)
     - With either home-developed or purchased system a piece of bridge software (sometimes called an "extraction module") is needed
       - designed to pull data from the user's SMS in the user's native format, and convert it to a SAIS-recognizable format
       - built by the vendor for vendor software; built by the LEA/Charters for home-developed software

   - Student management service provider
     - one such vendor is listed at http://www.ade.az.gov/sais/SMvendorlist.htm, or contact Dennis McCreery at 520 325 6992.

3.   Have personnel trained in understanding and dealing with SAIS data

   - Trained in and familiar with requirements of the software
     - Regional Training Centers (RTC) are a good resource for SAIS training
     - The SMS vendor is the source for training on a specific purchased system

     <u>What are we doing to resolve implementation issues?</u>
   - SAIS Program Office
       o   Setup SAIS call center separate from helpdesk
       o   Team of School Finance, Quality Assurance and developers to resolve payment issues
       o   RTC will be trained by ADE and Vendors to assist LEAs/Charters with submission process