

ESS Vouchers

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Types of Vouchers

Institutional Vouchers: Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB) A.R.S. § 15-1201, "Institution" means the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, the Arizona training program facilities as provided in section 36-551, and the Arizona State Hospital.

Residential Vouchers: Residential Treatment Centers (RTC)
Students placed by state agencies and IEP teams into ADE approved RTCs.

ESS Vouchers are different from the Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA).

Exceptional Student Services

Recent Changes with ASDB

Due to the passage of <u>HB 2863</u> during the Spring 2021 legislative session, the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB) is now considered a local education agency (LEA) for the provision of free and appropriate public education (FAPE).

HB 2565 (2022) provided additional clarification, specifically to A.R.S. 15-1306 and 15-1342.

Direct link: ESS Vouchers Web Page

Institutional Voucher Locations

ASDB Shared Locations and Campus Sites

- ELP FBC East Valley Preschool
- ELP FBC West Valley Preschool
- ELP FBC Main Preschool
- ELP Desert Voices Oral Learning Preschool
- ELP Satellite 1 Preschool
- ELP Region 1 Preschool
- ELP Region 2 Preschool
- ELP Region 3 Preschool
- Phoenix Day School for the Deaf
- ELP Phoenix Day School for the Deaf Preschool
- Tucson Campus
- ELP Tucson Campus Preschool

Non-Campus Locations

- Region 1
- Region 2
- Region 3

<u>Direct link: State Institutions Web Page</u>

Institutional Voucher Statutes/FAQs

A.R.S. 15-1201 to 15-1205 (state institution voucher statutes)

A.R.S. 15-1301 to 15-1346 (ASDB's statutes)

A.A.C. R7-2-404 (overview of the process)

Institutional Voucher FAQs

Residential Vouchers

 Approximately 1500 students are placed in ADE-approved RTCs each year by state placing agencies.

55% of students are determined NSE (Non-Special Education).

45% of students are SPED/CSE (Care Special Education).

Residential Voucher Questions?

Is reporting residential voucher students a new requirement?

Does the PEA/HSD need to report non-SPED students also?

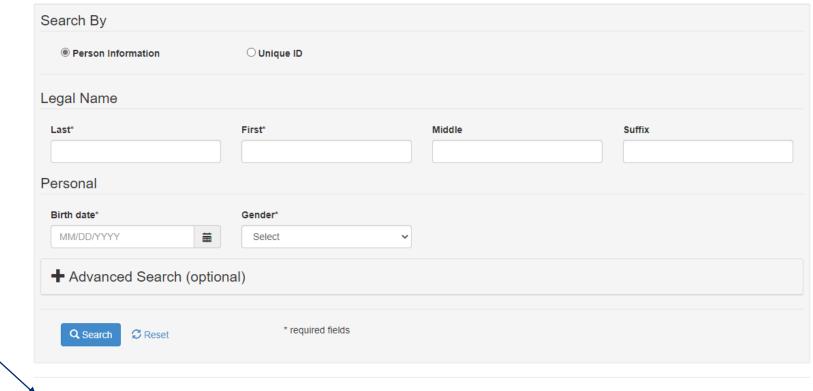
What if the student was placed by a state placing agency and not our PEA?

Home School District is Defined under A.R.S. 15-761(9)

"Home school district" means the "age-appropriate" school district or charter school that the child last attended or, if the child has not previously attended a public school in this state, the school district in which the person resides who has legal custody of the child, as provided in section 15-824, subsection B. If the child is a ward of this state and a specific person does not have legal custody of the child or is a ward of this state and the child is enrolled in an accommodation school pursuant to section 15-913, the home school district is the district that the child last attended or, if the child has not previously attended a public school in this state, the school district within which the child currently resides.

AzEDS Identity

Student Unique Identifier Search



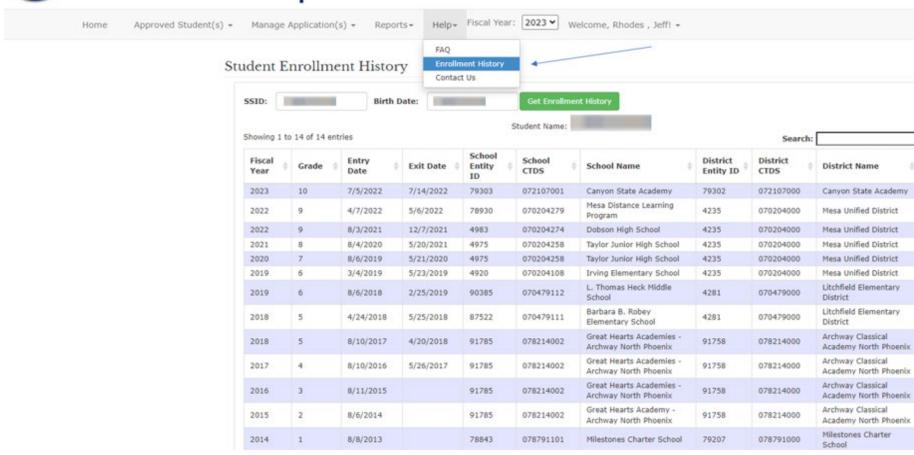
AzEDS Identity Search is used to validate a student ID to a specific student, this application should not be used to validate enrollment or program history. That information should be validated with AzEDS reports under the AzEDS Portal.

Direct link: AzEDS Identity

Exceptional Student Services

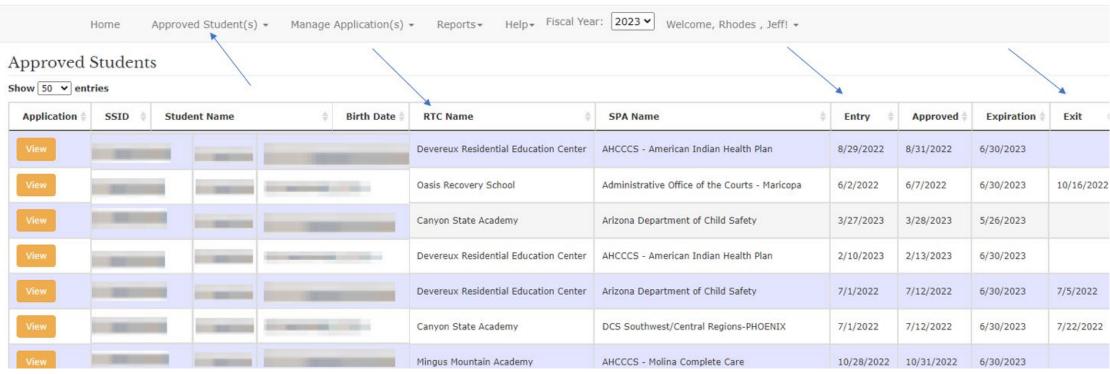
Enrollment History in Vouchers





RTC Name, Entry, and Exit Dates





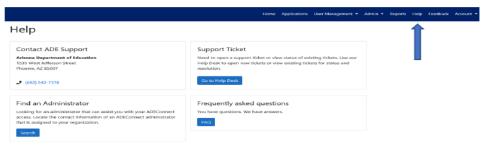
ESS Vouchers/HSD User Role



Voucher Role Assignments

Last Updated 5/6/22

Entity Administrators at your district, charter, state placing agency, residential treatment center, or institution will need to assign roles for the ESS Vouchers application in <u>ADEConnect</u>. To identify your entity administrator, click **Search** under **Find an Administrator** in the **Help** section of <u>ADEConnect</u>. If you have further questions or are having difficulties, contact the ESS Vouchers team at essyouchers@azed.gov.



The necessary roles for the ESS Vouchers application in <u>ADEConnect</u> are as follows:

- Residential Treatment Centers only need the role of ESS Vouchers: RTC User
- Home School Districts only need the role of ESS Vouchers: HSD User
- . State Placing Agencies only need the role of ESS Vouchers: SPA User
- Institutional/ASDB only need the role of ESS Vouchers: Institutional User

Please be sure your entity administrator assigns you the <u>correct</u> role. You will receive the below error message if you have multiple roles or assigned the wrong type of role.

This user is not authorized to access the system at this time. Please view the Voucher Role Assignments guide, then contact the ESS Vouchers team if needed.

Direct Link: Voucher Role Assignments

Where to find RTC calendars?

Approved RTC List, Calendars, and Reporting

2022-23 Approved RTC List

2022-23 RTC Calendars

Camelback Kids Residential (1001886)

Canyon State Academy (79303)

Casa Grande Academy (1001163)

<u>Devereux Residential Education Center (7296)</u>

Mingus Mountain Academy (90049)

Mingus Mountain Academy (Phoenix) (1000153)

Oasis Recovery School (79244)

Sycamore Canyon Academy (89565)

Youth Development Institute (7352)

Brighter Heights (263569) Inactive as of 10/7/22
Zenith Behavioral Health (1001849) Inactive as of 11/1/22

For specific reporting questions contact ESS Data Management.

Contact Us

Additional information is located on the ESS Vouchers web page, you may also contact ESS Vouchers.

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Secondary Transition

Private & Public Programs -

Contact

ESS Reception Desk

(602) 542-4013

ESSInbox@azed.gov

Public Comment

Direct link: Residential Treatment Center Placement

Required Documents



Required Documents for Home School Districts

Last Updated 5/6/22

Your Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET) should determine if the student is currently receiving special education services, if not the MET must complete a Review of Existing Data. Signing the Initial Application is the responsibility of the Home School District. You must then complete a Home School District (HSD) application and upload the required documents (within the HSD application) in ADE Connect/ESS Portal/ESS Vouchers within 60 days of the student's entry to the Residential Treatment Center (RTC).

- Convene MET meeting
- Review existing data, gather additional data (if needed), determine eligibility (Child Find)

Minimum required documents for students not eligible for special education services:

- MET Report/Review of Existing Data (RED)
- PWN for the Referral/Evaluation
- Non-Eligibility Determination
- PWN for Non-Eligibility
- MET participant names

If the student is referred for further evaluation, then determined eligible for special education services, write an IEP with appropriate services in the least restrictive environment with the participation of the RTC and upload the required documents in an ESS Vouchers HSD application in ADE Connect.

Minimum required documents for students receiving special education services:

- MET Report
- MET participant names
- PWN for the MET evaluation
- Eligibility Determination
- PWN for Eligibility
- IEP with participant names
- PWN for IEP must indicate change of placement to the RTC and that it will be implemented there

<u>Direct link: Required Documents for HSDs</u>

Residential Voucher Statutes and FAQs

A.R.S. 15-761 (definitions)

A.R.S. 15-765 (SPED in institutions/rehabilitation facilities)

A.R.S. 15-1181 to 15-1185 (Residential Vouchers)

A.A.C. R7-2-401 (SPED standards/definitions)

A.A.C. R7-2-404 (describes the voucher process)

Residential Voucher FAQs

Determining the HSD FAQs



Contact Us

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ESS Vouchers web page