



Exceptional Student Services

Approved Private Special Education School Statement of Assurance

The applicant assures that special education programs and services approved by the Arizona Department of Education/Exceptional Student Services (ESS) section shall be operated in accordance with all applicable state and federal statutes, regulations, and policies; the applicant agrees to comply with all provisions of such requirements, regulations, and policies. **All requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) must be followed in providing a free appropriate public education for the special education students placed at your school.**

The applicant further agrees (as per **A.A.C. R7-2-402, Standards for Approval of Special Education Programs in Private Schools**):

1. To accept students from public education agencies (PEAs) into a facility that has been approved as meeting the standards as outlined in A.A.C. R7-2-402 when a PEA is unable to provide satisfactory education and services through its own facilities and personnel.
2. To accept only students who meet the categorical eligibility criteria (as defined in A.R.S. 15-761 and A.A.C. R7-2-401 et seq.) for which the private program is approved, regardless of the placing or funding source.
3. To provide special education instructional programs for students with disabilities that **exceed** those provided by school districts of Arizona and that meet the requirements of IDEA.
4. To integrate students placed through the IEP process into less restrictive public-school programs as soon as determined appropriate by the IEP teams (Exit Criterion).
5. To maintain instructional services consistent with the curriculum that is aligned with Arizona state guidelines and to provide for review, upon request, of this curriculum to the contracting public school district or home school district to ensure that students will be eligible for promotion or graduation upon completion of the private school program.
6. To provide appropriately certified special education teachers in each classroom to implement the IEPs of students assigned to those classrooms and to provide documentation of copies of all teacher certifications and related services provider licenses.
7. To administer all required statewide assessments to those students placed in the private facility by a PEA and to submit assessment materials to contracting school districts and home school districts in a timely manner.
8. To accept all responsibilities concerning instructional programs to students with disabilities and parents or guardians that are required of the public schools of Arizona. **Ultimate responsibility for any student under contract in**



Exceptional Student Services

a private special education school rests with the public education agency contracting for the student's education.

9. To provide student documents as required by the contracting public school district or home school district in a timely manner.
10. To provide documentation of special education policies and procedures **as it pertains to the implementation of specially designed instruction based on the specific needs of district-placed students** while maintaining compliance with the IDEA and state statutes.
11. To provide administrative personnel, such as a lead/master teacher, principal, or other administrator, certificated in an administrative area or experienced and certificated in the appropriate area of special education.
12. To maintain an accounting system that is available to review upon request that includes the costs of operation, maintenance, transportation, per-pupil spending, and capital outlay.
13. To maintain adequate liability insurance.
14. To maintain and provide current fire inspection reports that classify the entity as an educational institution and to reflect compliance with safety regulations specific to educational entities.
15. To maintain an attendance reporting system that provides PEAs and the Arizona Department of Education with required information on a **consistent and predictable basis**.
16. To provide notification to contracting PEAs and the Department of any changes in staff, location, area(s) served, or deletion of programs **within 10 school days** of the change or deletion.
17. To provide notification to the contracting PEA of any intent to discontinue, suspend, or terminate a student's services **for longer than 10 days**. Services to the student **must be continued by the private school** until an IEP meeting with the PEA is convened to determine an appropriate alternative placement. The PEA **must be given up to 10 school days** to arrange for the transition of the student after the IEP determination.
18. To permit on-site evaluation and audit of the program by the Arizona Department of Education or its designees and by the representatives of PEAs.
19. To ensure that **all** employees have undergone a background check and have a current fingerprint clearance card per A.R.S. 15-512.

For applicants that are residential treatment centers or have a residential treatment center component, the applicant further agrees to these **Special Education Voucher Policies and Procedures**:

- To provide all student information requested on the residential voucher application to the home school district within **5 school days**.
- To provide documentation of measurable exit criteria and a reintegration plan.



Exceptional Student Services

The applicant recognizes and agrees that approval status and financial assistance from public funds will be based on the representations and agreements made in these assurances and that the United States and the State of Arizona, individually or jointly, shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of these assurances. These assurances are binding on the applicant, and the person whose signature appears below is authorized to sign these assurances on behalf of the applicant.

***Failure to comply with this Statement of Assurances will result in revocation of approval status and removal of state funding from the Arizona Department of Education.**