



# Exceptional Student Services

## Reporting Guidance: Parentally Placed Private School Students (PPSS) Survey

*Technical Assistance Manual*

June 2026



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

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## Introduction

The Parentally Placed Private School Students (PPPSS) Survey is an annual survey intended to collect the number of parentally placed private school students who were evaluated by the public school district during the school year (July 1 – June 30).

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## Requirements

[34 CFR §300.133](#), [ARS 15-101, § 300.132](#), [§ 300.137](#), [§§ 300.190 through §§ 300.198](#), [§ 300.137](#), [§ 300.139](#), [§§ 300.130 through §§ 300.144](#)

The PPPSS survey is for all districts serving K-12 students with a designated boundary. Residential treatment centers, home schools, and parochial private schools all fall within the district's geographical boundaries. For the districts where boundaries overlap, report only for the grades served. Accommodation and Transporting districts, as well as Secure Care entities are exempt from submitting the survey. This survey is for reporting PPPSS student count as a snapshot of the entire school year, whereas the October 1 PPPSS student count looks at a snapshot of the child count as of October 1.

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## How to Access Parentally Placed Private School Students (PPPSS) Survey

Authorized personnel at each PEA need to have appropriate access to view the data surveys application. They will need to reach out to their Entity Administrator to request **ESS Data Surveys User** access. If you do not have login credentials for ADEConnect, please contact your ADEConnect Entity Administrator at [ADEConnect - Help](#). If you do not have an ADEConnect Entity Administrator, please [contact the ADESupport](#) at [ADESupport@azed.gov](mailto:ADESupport@azed.gov).

[Access ADEConnect](#) through your School Management System (SIS) or by using the URL: <http://www.azed.gov>, selecting the ADEConnect tab, and then clicking on "Exceptional Student Services Portal."

The PPPSS survey can be found on the bottom left side of your Exceptional Student Services (ESS) portal once you click on Data Surveys (see Figure 1).

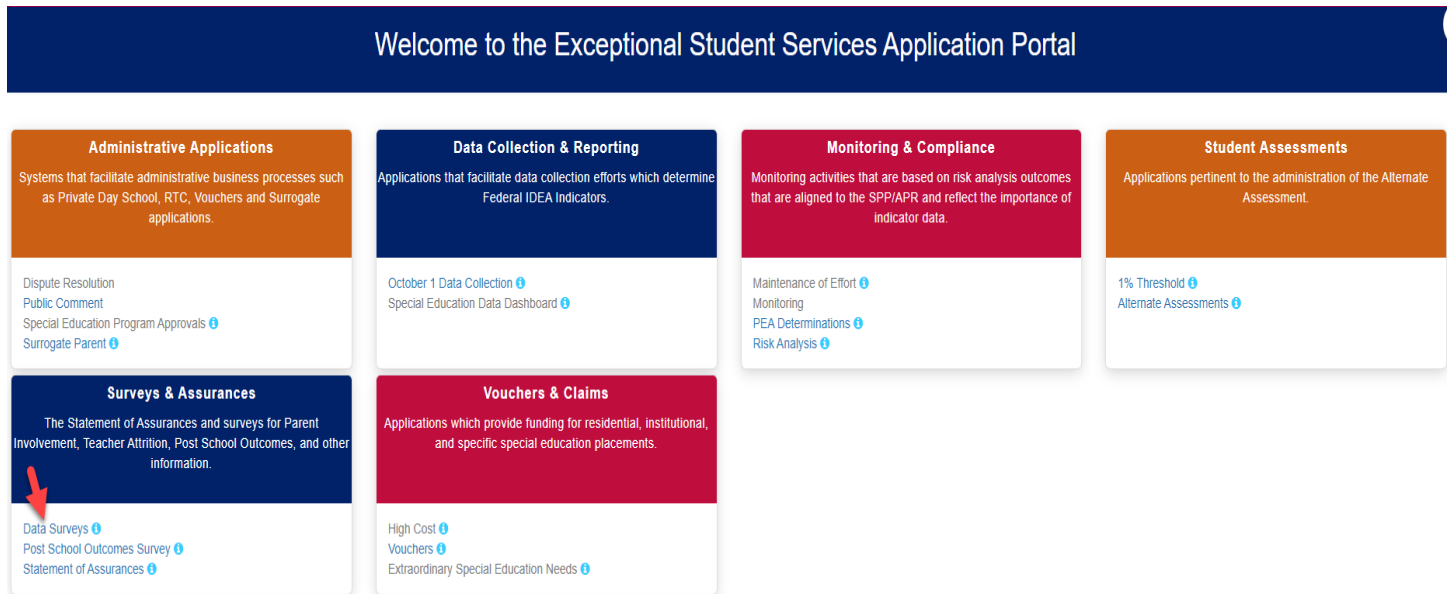


Figure 1: *ESS Portal*

If you do not see the PPPSS application, please reach out to your Entity Administrator. If the **'Take Survey'** option is grayed out, make sure the person signing the survey has the correct role assigned. If they have the correct role assigned and still do not see the survey, they may need to reach out to their entity administrator.

Click **'Take Survey'** (see Figure 2).

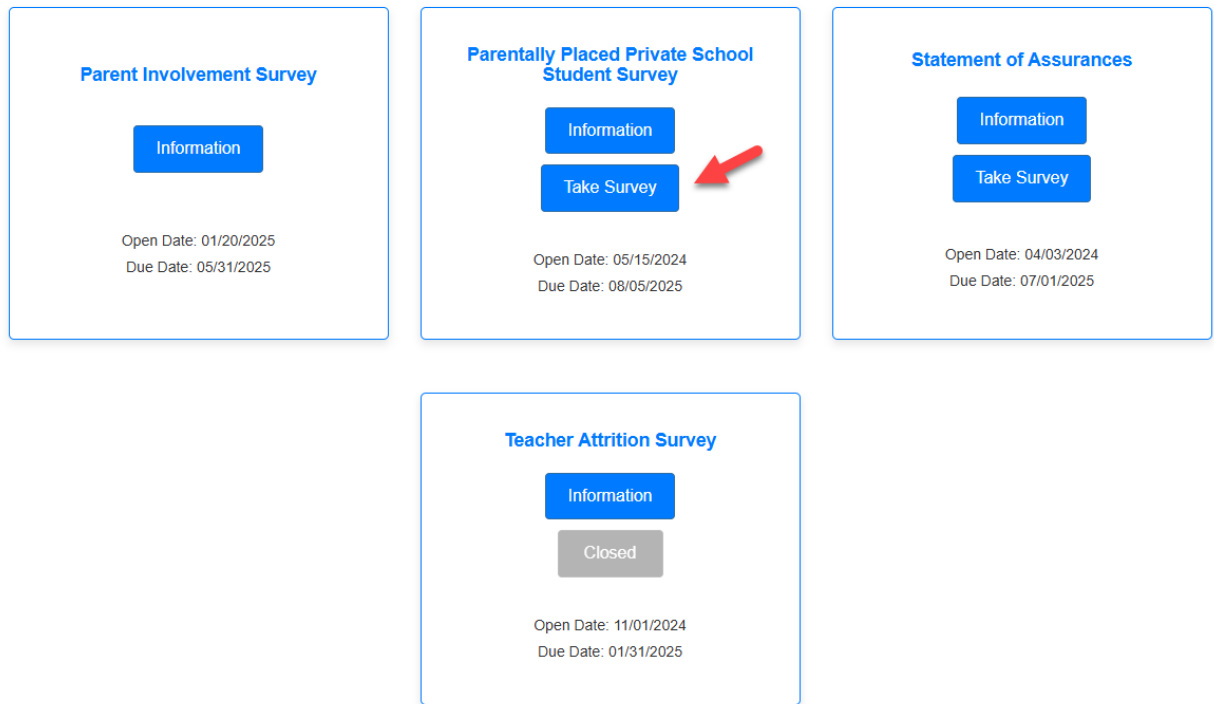


Figure 2: *Survey Section*

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## How to Navigate through the Survey

Follow the steps below to attest that your public education agency (PEA) is meeting the requirements under state and federal statutes for special education in the state of Arizona.

### Enter Survey Code

A unique survey code has been provided to each PEA via email communication. Provide the code in the text box and click “**Please Proceed**” (see Figure 3).

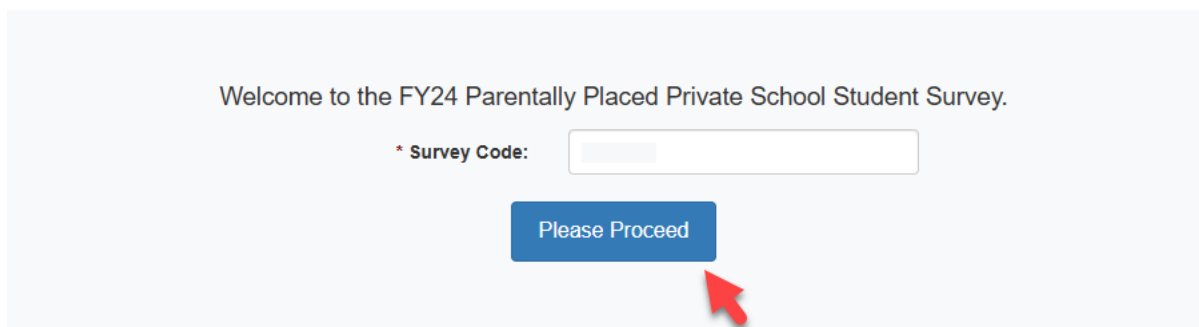


Figure 3: *Welcome Page with Survey Code*

Enter student counts and hit **Submit** (See Figure 4)

\* Please answer the following questions:

1. Report the number of parentally placed private school students who were evaluated by a public school during the school year (July 1 – June 30). Include students who were initially evaluated (i.e. referred via child find) and/or reevaluated.

2. Of the number of children evaluated during the school year (answer in Item #1), report the number of children determined to be children with disabilities (eligible for special education services). This is not the total number of all eligible private school students within the LEA's jurisdiction, it is only those evaluated and found eligible during the school year.

3. Of those determined to be children with disabilities (answer in Item #2), report the number of children who received special education or related services through a public school. This is not the total number of private school students served, it is only those who were evaluated and found eligible and served during the school year.


**Submit** 

Figure 4: *PPPSS Survey Questions*

## Print Survey

The completed survey can now be printed as a PDF document (see Figure 5).

Congratulations!

You have completed the FY24 Parentally Placed Private School Student Survey.


**Print Survey** 

Figure 5: *Print Survey Selection Option*

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## Frequently Asked Questions

What is the citation for collecting parentally placed student counts?

[34 CFR § 300.705\(b\)\(3\)\(i\)](#)

## Which PEAs are required to submit parentally placed student counts?

This requirement applies only to traditional school districts that have non-profit private schools located within their geographic boundaries, as well as homeschooled students residing within those boundaries. If a district's boundaries overlap with another district, it should report private school counts only for the grade levels it serves.

This requirement does not apply to charter schools, Secure Care facilities, state institutions, accommodation districts, transporting districts, or county regional districts, as these entities do not have defined geographic boundaries.

## How would a district know if parents chose a private nonprofit school for their special education students?

A "private not-for-profit school" is defined as a school in which parents pay tuition for a child's education (e.g., a parochial school). All school districts (excluding charter schools) are required to conduct child find activities for any private not-for-profit school located within their geographic boundaries.

## What are the criteria for reporting parentally placed students?

Students must be enrolled in non-profit elementary or secondary schools, residential schools, or homeschooled and participate in a kindergarten program or grades 1–12.

## If a parentally placed student was found eligible with an expired evaluation, would that student be considered eligible?

No, a student whose evaluation has expired cannot be considered eligible and, therefore, is not guaranteed equitable services. When determining eligibility for parentally placed students, the public education agency (PEA) must conduct activities comparable to those carried out for students in the agency's public schools, in accordance with [34 C.F.R. § 300.131](#).

## Do private schools include approved private special education schools?

With respect to the grades served, any student who is parentally placed in a non-profit private elementary or secondary school, or in a residential treatment center (RTC), as of October 1 must be included in the parentally placed student count by the district in which the approved private school is

located. For a complete list of approved private day schools and residential treatment centers, please refer to the [Public & Private Programs](#) section of the [ESS website](#).

If a parentally placed student was found eligible with an expired evaluation, would that student be considered eligible?

If a parentally placed student is determined to be eligible based on an expired evaluation, the student would not be considered eligible. A student with an expired evaluation cannot be counted as eligible and is not guaranteed equitable services. When determining eligibility for parentally placed students, the public education agency (PEA) must conduct activities comparable to those required for public school students, in accordance with [34 C.F.R. § 300.131](#).

Where can I find a list of private schools within my district's geographical boundaries?

The ADE does not maintain a list of all private schools in Arizona. The National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) provides a [private school search tool](#) on its website. The ADE does not endorse this tool.

Do private schools include approved private SPED schools?

For the applicable grade levels served, any student who is parentally placed in a nonprofit private elementary or secondary school, or in a residential treatment center (RTC), as of October 1 must be included in the parentally placed student count by the district in which the approved private school is located. For a complete list of approved private day schools and residential treatment centers, please visit the [Private & Public Programs](#) section on the ESS website.

How can I determine a private school's non-profit status?

You can determine if a private school is non-profit by asking them directly, or you can go through the [Arizona Corporation Commission website](#) to look up the corporation's name.

What if I don't have any private schools within my district boundaries?

If there are no private schools located within your district boundaries, you should report only your homeschooled student count, if applicable. If your district has neither private school students nor homeschooled students to report, you should indicate this by entering "0" in the field requesting the total enrollment count for private school and homeschooled students (Question 1 of the survey).

What obligation, if any, do districts have to serve 3-to-5-year-old children who are parentally placed in private schools?

A PEA's obligation to provide equitable services for children ages 3–5 depends on whether the child is enrolled in a private program that meets the State's definition of an "elementary school" (kindergarten–grade 8 in Arizona). Children in qualifying programs are considered parentally placed and may receive equitable services. Children in preschool-only programs that do not meet this definition are not eligible for equitable services. However, PEAs must still make FAPE available to all eligible children ages 3–5. If parents decline an offered public placement and choose to keep their child in a private preschool, the PEA is not required to provide FAPE.

What about Head Start Programs? Are they considered private schools?

The primary determination of whether a student should be counted or not under parentally placed counts is determined by whether they meet the definition of "elementary school" detailed in the previous question.

How should a district report the parentally placed student count when its geographical boundaries overlap with those of another district?

If a district's geographical boundaries overlap with another district's geographical boundaries, then only report the parentally placed students in private schools for the grade range that a district serves. The homeschool count would only apply to homeschooled students who reside within a district's geographical boundaries.

Should empowerment scholarship account (ESA) students be included in the October 1 count and, if so, how?

Students on an ESA program are eligible for proportionate share funding and thus can be included in the parentally placed student count. ESA students who attend non-profit private elementary or secondary schools within the district's boundaries must be reported in the Parentally placed Private School Student (PPPSS) count. ESA students who are homeschooled on an ESA must be counted in the PPPSS count for your district.

How do PEAs report their obligation regarding the provision of equipment for students with disabilities? For example, a PEA has a hearing impaired (HI) student who is eligible for HI services attend a private school that provides: an audiological evaluation, monitoring of equipment, and training of staff.

When a PEA provides staff training and continues to monitor equipment, this constitutes the provision of a service to a student enrolled in a nonprofit private school. If evaluation, eligibility determination, and services all occur within the same reporting year, the service must be included in the Parentally Placed Private School Students with Disabilities survey. However, if the PEA only provides equipment—without accompanying training or ongoing monitoring—this does not constitute the provision of a service under IDEA.