

State of Arizona Department of Education



Date: October 16, 2018

To: Residential Treatment Center (RTC) Administrators

From: Chris Brown, Director of Operations

Exceptional Student Services (ESS) Vouchers Unit

Subject: IT infrastructure changes, ESS Vouchers payments, and Fiscal Year 2019 Voucher

Rates

Dear RTC Administrator,

This year, the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) changed how calendars are collected and stored for all entities doing business with the department. Calendars for entities used to be collected inside of an application titled "LEA Calendar." This application has closed as the agency has updated the platform to the Arizona Education Data Standards (AzEDS) collection system, which was launched two years ago.

Calendars are now submitted by Public Education Agencies (PEAs) that provide student information directly into AzEDS. As such, many applications that rely on calendar information in the old application no longer work. While ESS tried to come up with solutions beforehand, the current implementation of calendar collection in AzEDS was difficult to scope for integration with our applications. This was because the new calendar system did not exist in a finalized form until June of 2018. ESS is working on a long-term solution and has already implemented a stopgap solution.

The short-term solution is to have everyone use a universal calendar of operation for payments to be approximated for the time being. This temporary measure is planned to last until February or March of next year. A long-term solution will then come into effect. An interface will be added into the ESS Voucher application to allow for RTCs to submit a calendar that matches their operational days. After these calendars are submitted, the ESS Voucher application will then reconcile all payments and monies owed for the whole year.

We appreciate your patience during this process and if there are any questions or concerns, please contact either me (chris.brown@azed.gov) or the vouchers team (vouchersunit@azed.gov). On the second page of this letter, we also include the FY 2019 voucher rates.

Special Education Residential Voucher Daily Rates for FY 2019

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute 15-1184, below is the statutory formula funding daily rates for school year July 2018 through June 2019. Rate calculations are based on Arizona's mandated 180 school session days. Facilities operating outside of Arizona will be funded at the rates below for the legislative mandated school session days of the state in which they are operating. Funding will not be provided for any days that exceed the state's mandated session days. Every facility is required to submit a calendar that defines all session days, observed holidays, spring and winter breaks, and any other exception days. Calendars are limited to state legislature mandated session days. Year-round schools will only be funded for the state legislature mandated session days for the state in which the facility operates. Extended School Year funding is included in the regular session daily rate; additional funding is not available to facilities to provide ESY services.

Category	K-8*	HS (9-12)*
Autism	\$155.47	\$157.89
Development Delay	\$45.67	\$0.00
Emotional Disabled	\$45.67	\$45.67
Emotional Disabled-Private	\$133.23	\$135.65
Hearing Impaired	\$132.11	\$134.53
Multiple Disabilities	\$155.47	\$157.89
Multiple Disabilities w/Severe Sensory Impairment	\$201.98	\$204.40
Mild Intellectual Disability	\$45.67	\$45.67
Moderate Intellectual Disability	\$124.41	\$126.83
Other Health Impairments	\$45.67	\$45.67
Orthopedic Impairment	\$176.15	\$178.57
Preschool Severe Delay	\$106.24	\$0.00
Specific Learning Disability	\$45.67	\$45.67
Speech/Language Impairment	\$45.67	\$45.67
Severe Intellectual Disability	\$155.47	\$157.89

^{*}A student's daily rate is established based on the age of the student on September 1. A student who turns 14 years of age on or before September 1 will be funded for the entire school year at the daily rate in the 9-12 column. A student, who turns 14 years of age after September 1, will be funded for the entire school year at the daily rate in the K-8 column. Fundable Daily Rate is determined by the student's primary disability approved by ESS.