

STUDENT DATA ELEMENTS

2026-27

Data Element Number: **117525**

Data Element Name: **Exceptional Student, IDEA Educational Environments**

A one character code to identify the educational environment in which a student with disabilities is served. Separate codes are provided for (1) students with disabilities ages 3-5, excluding those who are age 5 in Kindergarten and (2) students with disabilities ages 6-21, including those who are age 5 in kindergarten. Use codes applicable to the age of the student and grade level as of date certain for Survey 2. For students identified as gifted, who are not also identified as disabled, use code Z. For all students ages 0-2, use code Z. For all surveys other than Survey 2, the element should be Z-filled.

Code	Definition/Example
Ages 3-5, Excluding Kindergarten students who are age 5	
A	Home - Children with disabilities who do not attend an early childhood program provided in a separate class, separate school, or residential facility, but who receive special education and related services in the principal residence of the child's family or caregivers. Include children who receive special education both at home and in a service provider location.
B	Special Education Program in a Residential Facility -Children with disabilities attending a residential school or residential medical facility on an inpatient basis that includes less than 50 percent nondisabled children.
J	Service Provider - Children with disabilities who do not attend an early childhood program, or special education program provided in a separate class, separate school, or residential facility, who receive all of their special education and related services from a service provider. Examples: speech instruction provided in private clinician's office, clinician's office located in a school building, hospital facility on an outpatient basis, library or other public location.
K	Early Childhood Program Receiving the Majority of Special Education Services Inside the Early Childhood Program - Children with disabilities attending an early childhood program that includes 50 percent or more nondisabled children and who are receiving the majority of special education and related services inside the early childhood program setting. Include any child attending an early childhood program with 50 percent or more nondisabled children for any portion of the week who gets the majority of special education and related services in that program. Examples: The child may receive therapy in the therapy room and the teacher and therapist collaborate regularly. Child may attend programs such as Head Start, private preschools, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) programs, and group child care. Attendance at an early childhood program need not be funded by IDEA, Part B funds
L	Special Education Program at a Regular School Campus or Community Based Setting – Children with disabilities attending an early childhood program that includes less than 50 percent nondisabled children in a regular school building, in a portable building outside a regular school building, in a community-based setting such as a child care facility, or in a hospital facility on an outpatient basis. Examples: Head Start, private preschools, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) programs, and group child care. Attendance at an early childhood program need not be funded by IDEA, Part B funds.
M	Early Childhood Program Receiving the Majority of Special Education Services Outside the Early Childhood Program - Children with disabilities attending an early childhood program that includes 50 percent or more nondisabled children and who are receiving the majority of special education and related services outside the early childhood program setting. Include any child attending an early childhood program with 50 percent or more nondisabled children for any portion of the week who gets the majority of special education and related services outside of that program. Examples: Head Start, private preschools, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) programs, and group child care. Attendance at an early childhood program need not

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be funded by IDEA, Part B funds.

S Special Education Program in a Separate School - Children with disabilities attending an early childhood program in a school designed specifically for children with disabilities.

NOTE #1: FOR ALL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES REPORTED USING ANY OF THE ABOVE CODES, DISTRICTS MUST ALSO REPORT ELEMENTS "TIME WITH NONDISABLED PEERS" AND "TIME TOTAL SCHOOL WEEK".

NOTE #2: Use code Z for all students with disabilities ages 0-2, all students identified as gifted who are not also identified as disabled, and students with disabilities ages 6-21 (including those who are age 5 in kindergarten) for whom codes C, D, F, H or P do not apply.

NOTE #3: Placement should be determined as of date certain of survey week. The element is only reported for exceptional students during Survey 2. Districts must Z-fill this element for other survey periods.

Ages 6-21, Including Kindergarten students who are age 5

C Correction Facility - Students with disabilities receiving special education and related services in Department of Juvenile Justice facilities, county jail or State prison (School Function/Setting D or J in Master School Identification File).

D Separate School - Students with disabilities receiving special education and related services for greater than 50 percent of the school day in non-residential public or private separate day school facilities. (Also known as center schools, where all of the students are disabled.) This would also include students who may attend school at a residential facility but do not live there.

F Residential Facility - Students with disabilities receiving special education and related services, at public expense, for greater than 50 percent of the school day in public or private residential facilities and live in the residential facility during the school week.

H Homebound/Hospital - Students with disabilities receiving special education and related services at home or in an inpatient hospital program.

P Private Schools - Students with disabilities enrolled by their parents or guardians in regular parochial or other private schools and who receive special education and/or related services at public expense from a local educational agency. Include McKay Scholarship students who have a services plan. Do not include charter school students.

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NOTE #2: Use code Z for all students with disabilities ages 0-2, all students identified as gifted who are not also identified as disabled, and students with disabilities ages 6-21 (including those who are age 5 in kindergarten) for whom codes C, D, F, H or P do not apply.

NOTE #3: Placement should be determined as of date certain of survey week. The element is only reported for exceptional students during Survey 2. Districts must Z-fill this element for other survey periods.

Other

Z None of the Above - For these students, educational environment will be calculated using the two elements, Time, Total School Week and Time with Non-disabled Peers found on the Exceptional Student Format.

NOTE #1: FOR ALL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES REPORTED USING ANY OF THE ABOVE CODES, DISTRICTS MUST ALSO REPORT ELEMENTS "TIME WITH NONDISABLED PEERS" AND "TIME TOTAL SCHOOL WEEK".

NOTE #2: Use code Z for all students with disabilities ages 0-2, all students identified as gifted who are not also identified as disabled, and students with disabilities ages 6-21 (including those who are age 5 in kindergarten) for whom codes C, D, F, H or P do not apply.

Data Element Number: 117525

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Data Element Detailed Information

Length:	1	Use Types:	
Data Type:	Alphabetic	State Reporting:	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>
Year Implemented:	0001	Local Accountability:	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>
State Standard:	Yes	FASTER:	<input type="text" value="No"/>
Required Grades:	PK-12	Migrant Tracking:	<input type="text" value="No"/>

Applicable Format And Edit

Formats Required:

Exceptional Student

Edits Required:

18, 19, 29, 31, 32, 33, 35

Programs Required:

Exceptional Student Education

Surveys Required:

Survey 1	Default
Survey 2	Yes
Survey 3	Default
Survey 4	Default
Survey 5	Default

Appendices:

Description of Changes:

- 7/1/2020 Updated 2nd Note to include age 5, in KG, to the ages 6-21 reference.
- 7/1/2020 Updated Codes and Notes (within Code sections) to exclude age 5, in KG, from codes A, B, J, K, L, M and S; included age 5, in KG, in codes C, D, F, H and P. Changed title for code H from Home/Hospital to Hospital/Homebound.
- 7/1/2020 Updated language in definition to exclude age 5, in KG, from the ages 3-5 reference; and include age 5, in KG, to the ages 6-21 reference.
- 7/1/2017 All NOTES were placed below the codes. Age group 0-2 were removed and the information was added as a note.
- 7/1/2017 Removed language re: pullout services from code M
- 7/1/2016 Added more information to the "Example" for Code K.
- 7/1/2015 Survey 7 Removed from Required Surveys
- 7/1/2015 Ages 6-21: Added additional language to code C.
Removal of 'kindergarten' in the definition for codes A, J, K, L, M and S