



Memorandum

To: Public Education Agency Special Education Administrators
From: Exceptional Student Services
Date: March 25, 2025
Re: Special Education Emotional Disabilities Public Programs FY26 Update

Exceptional Student Services (ESS) is providing an update for Emotional Disabilities Public (ED-P) programs. This will be effective July 1, 2025.

Arizona Revised Statutes § 15-765 require that no student may attend ED-P programs who is not “diagnosed with an emotional disability.”¹ Any location earmarked for purposes of ED-P shall require that each child has an evaluation with at least emotional disability as a disability category. If these programs contain children who do not have an emotional disability, then students coded with ED-P in AzEDS must now be coded as ED. The ED-P funding support exists when appropriate services are not provided in traditional resource and self-contained special education classes. It does not compel PEAs to change how they operate their programs or the services needed for students with disabilities.

For any questions, please [contact the ESS Private Day/EDP inbox](#).

¹ Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 15 § 15-761(2025). <https://www.azleg.gov/ars/15/00765.htm>