# Special Education Student Placement Codes

The placement code identifies the physical location where a student receives special education and/or related services. Placement categories are mandated by federal reporting requirements and are determined by age, not grade or classroom designation. For students with more than one placement, the placement code reflects where the student spends the majority of the day.

## Placement Reporting Categories for School-Aged Children with Disabilities (This includes children who are age five and in kindergarten)

### Placement Code 1: Regular Education Setting

The student is served in the regular school building, either in a special education class or in a regular class. This is also referred to as a public day school/setting.

* For federal placement reporting purposes, age-appropriate community-based settings that include individuals with and without disabilities are considered regular school buildings, (e.g., libraries, vocational settings, job sites, and community colleges).
* Use this code for students placed by parents in private schools for educational reasons but who receive special education and/or related services through an Individual Services Plan (ISP).
* Also use this code for students placed by parents in residential facilities for non-educational reasons but for whom the school division is still responsible for providing special education and/or related services.
* Placement Code 1 includes five-year-olds enrolled in kindergarten with a KA (half-day AM) or KP (half-day PM) or KG (kindergarten) grade level code on December 1.

### Placement Code 2: Public Separate School

The student is served in a building that only serves students with disabilities.

### Placement Code 3: Private Day School

The student is served in a private day program.

* Use for students placed by the school division in approved private school programs, e.g., licensed private special education schools through the Virginia Department of Education.
* Do not use this code for unilateral parent placements into private schools.
* Private day school placements are funded through the *Children’s Services Act*.

### Placement Code 4: Public Residential School

The student is served in a state operated program (SOP); these include mental health facilities, training centers, and local and regional detention homes, but not the hospital programs. This also includes Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind.

* School divisions do not use this placement code.
* Students in SOPs are reported by the state operated program.

### Placement Code 5: Private Residential School

The student is served in a private residential program.

* Use for students placed by the school division in a private residential school/program or students placed by a local Family Assessment and Planning Team (FAPT) through the *Children’s Services Act* (CSA) for non-educational reasons into a residential program (school divisions are still responsible for developing an IEP for these students).
* Private residential schools are funded through the CSA.
* Do not use this code for students placed by parents into residential programs for non-educational reasons.

### Placement Code 6: Home Placement

The student receives special education services at home.

* This includes Homebased and Homebound students.

### Placement Code 7: Hospital Program

The student receives services in one of the State Operated Program (SOP) hospital programs.

* School divisions do not use this code.
* Students who are placed in and receiving special education and related services in hospital programs are reported by the SOP hospital programs.

### Placement Code 8: Correctional Education Program

The student receives services in a program run by the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Corrections, or in a local or regional jail.

* School divisions use this code for students served in local or regional jails.

## Placement Reporting Categories for Non-School-Aged Children with Disabilities,

## Ages 0-5 (Not in kindergarten)

### Placement Code 17: Regular Early Childhood Program

The student receives services in a program that includes a majority *(equals 50 percent or greater)* of nondisabled children (i.e., children without an IEP). This category may include but is not limited to:

* Head Start;
* preschool classes offered to an eligible prekindergarten population by the public school system;
* private preschools; and
* group child development center or childcare.

Use this code for every child attending a regular early childhood program, even if the child receives special education services in other environments.

A student who spends a small amount of time with nondisabled peers (e.g., for snack, lunch, or recess) does not meet the definition for placement code 17.

**Note:** Additional information is required when Placement Code 17 is reported:

1. Time in Regular Early Childhood Setting: report Y (Yes) or N (No) to identify whether the student spends ten or more hours a week in the Regular Early Childhood Setting or less than ten hours a week in the Regular Early Childhood Setting.
2. Special Education in Regular Early Childhood Setting: report Y or N to identify whether the student receives most (the majority) of their special education and related services in the Regular Early Childhood Setting.

### Placement Code 18: Special Education Classroom

The student receives services in a program that includes at least 50 percent of children with disabilities. Special education classrooms include, but are not limited to:

* regular school buildings;
* trailers or portables outside regular school buildings;
* childcare facilities;
* hospital facilities on an outpatient basis; and
* other community-based settings.

### Placement Code 19: Separate Special Education School

The student receives special education services in public or private day schools designed specifically for children with disabilities.

* Students who are placed by school divisions in approved private day schools are funded through the *Children’s Services Act* (CSA).

### Placement Code 20: Special Education Residential Facilities

The student receives special education services in publicly or privately-operated residential schools or residential medical facilities on an inpatient basis.

* School divisions use this code for students placed by the division in private residential programs. State operated programs use this code for students served in SOPs.
* Students who are placed by school divisions in private residential programs are funded by the *Children’s Services Act* (CSA).

### Placement Code 21: Home Placement

The student receives the majority of their special education and related services in the principal residence of the child's family or caregivers.

* Include the children who receive special education and related services both at home and in some other location if they are receiving the majority of their services in the home. “Caregiver” includes babysitters.
* This includes Homebased and Homebound students.

### Placement Code 22: Service Provider Location

The student receives the majority of their special education and related services in a service provider location or some other location that is not in any other category, e.g., speech instruction provided in private clinicians’ offices, clinicians’ offices located in school buildings, or hospital facilities on an outpatient basis.

* Do not use this code for students who also receive special education at home.
* Children who receive services both in a service provider location and at home are reported using placement code 21 (Home Placement).

## Edit Checks for Special Education Student Placement Codes

* If the Placement Code is 17, the Time in Regular Early Childhood Setting cannot be blank.
* If the Placement Code is 17, the Special Education in Regular Early Childhood

Setting cannot be blank.

* If the Placement Code is 3, 5, 19, or 20, then the tuition paid code must be 3 or 7.

## Additional Notes

* Placement codes 1-8 are used for students who are ages 6-21+ and 5-year-old kindergarten (KA, KP, or KG) students (i.e., children who are age five and in kindergarten).
* Placement codes 17-22 are used for students who are ages 0-5 and ***not*** enrolled in kindergarten.
* For students who have more than one placement, the placement code reflects where the student spends the majority of their day.