

Child Count and Educational Environments

Q&A

March 2016

1. How are students with disabilities reported on the MOSIS December Student Core?

For the December Student Core File, you must mark “Enrolled on count date” for students who had an IEP and were receiving special education services on December 1.

2. What does the Enrolled on Count Date field mean in the MOSIS Student Core file?

The definition varies by cycle, but for December it indicates the student has an IEP/service plan and was receiving services on December 1.

3. What is the difference between a student’s “placement” and “educational environment” and which do I report?

The “placement” is the decision that the IEP team makes, regarding how special education services are to be delivered. The placement decision is required for and recorded on the IEP. The “educational environment” refers to where the child is spending their time.

For school-age, if the IEP team decides that services will be provided primarily in the regular classroom, then the educational environment and the placement are the same. The only categories for school age that are truly environments and not placement are the correctional facility and parentally-placed private school student categories. This means that a student in a local jail would still need a placement decision on the IEP, but for MOSIS data reporting purposes, the code reported should be the correctional facility.

For ECSE, the placement and educational environment are two different concepts and very rarely can the placement and environment be cross-walked. The IEP still needs to show the placement decision, but the environment needs to be reported on the MOSIS December Student Core.

4. Where can I find more information on the ECSE educational environments?

See our website at

<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/special-education-data/data-collections>.

5. Where do I find all of the Special Education codes?

The Core Data Manual has several exhibits that contain special education codes. Exhibit 18 contains disability codes and Exhibit 19 contains educational environment/placement codes. The codes are also available at

<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/special-education-data/data-collections>

6. In which category do I report students with disabilities who are receiving services from the resource teacher outside of the regular classroom for less than 21 percent of the time?

Students with disabilities who are receiving special education instruction outside of the regular classroom up to 20.9 percent of the time (approximately six hours per week or less depending on your school day) would be reported under 1100-Inside Regular Class at Least 80% of the Day. The educational environment category should correspond with the amount of special education services that the student receives inside the regular classroom.

7. I have a student with a disability who goes to the self-contained teacher for three periods a day and is in a regular classroom for another four periods a day. What placement do I use?

The student's amount of time inside the regular classroom is used to calculate the placement. If it is between 40 percent and 79 percent of the school day (four periods out of seven period day) it would be a placement category of 1201-Inside Regular Class no more than 79% of the day and no less than 40% of the day.

8. We have an alternative school that is in a separate building. How do we report those students?

The students could be reported in any of the "Inside Regular Classroom..." categories including 1100, 1201 and 1301. The only time the 1403-Public Separate (Day) Facility category would be used is if the separate school services only students with disabilities.

9. What if the student attends a home, private or parochial school and is receiving special education services from the school district?

Use educational environment code 2100 - Parentally-Placed Private School Students.

10. What educational environment code do we use for students who are placed in separate or residential facilities?

Students should only be reported in the separate or residential facility categories (1402; 1403 and 1701) if they have been placed there by the IEP team and it must be a setting for students with disabilities only. Students in integrated separate schools, even those operated by another school district, possibly by contract, should be reported in the appropriate "Inside Regular" categories.

11. We have students who attend the Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled, Missouri School for the Blind or Missouri School for the Deaf. How do we report these students on the MOSIS December file?

You will not report these students on the MOSIS December File. These students are reported by the Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled, Missouri School for the Blind or Missouri School for the Deaf.

12. How do I report five- and six-year-olds whom the IEP team suggested continue in early childhood settings rather than starting kindergarten?

Five and six-year-olds who are kindergarten age eligible must be coded under a school-age educational environment category, even if they are still in an early childhood setting. Select the school-age placement which most clearly reflects the student's placement.

13. We have children who are in an early childhood program in another district. Who should count those children?

Early childhood special education students are generally reported by the district providing the services.

14. Where would I report students receiving instruction in adult incarceration or in youth services facilities?

Are these students served (and counted) by Department of Corrections or the Division of Youth Services? If yes, you should not report them. If no, then report them in the closest school or alternative placement center that would be appropriate.

15. Can we report all of our Early Childhood children under "YCDD" even if some of them have been identified under another disability category?

No, students should be reported under their identified disability category.