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Approved Memos: Special Education Programs: Transition Course Code 971560



ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Version History

Title	Special Education Programs: Transition Course Code 971560
Memo Number	LS-14-028
Memo Date	10/24/2013
Attention	Co-op Directors; Elementary Principals; Middle School Principals; High School Principals; Superintendents; LEA Supervisors; Curriculum Coordinators; Instructional Facilitators; Special Education Data Entry Staff
Memo Type	Informational
Response Required	No
Section	Learning Services
Regulatory Authority	20 U.S.C § 1400 et seq (IDEA)
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Memo Text	<p>This Commissioner's Memo provides clarification regarding course coding for a special education elective course identified as a "Transition Class." This course is considered a non-core academic course that is taken only by a special education student and is taught by a special education teacher. Such classes are developed to provide correlation of the class components with the needs identified in the transition plan of each student of the class. Components will include provision of transition assessments, exploration and preparation for employment and post-secondary education options, independent living skills (including self-determination), resource assistance, transition, or learning strategies and are designed to fulfill activities as they relate to post-secondary goals in the transition plan of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) or in the Course of Study (Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) IEP Forms 400-402). Non-core academic courses of this type should be coded as 971560, for a Transition Class. This code is now in the ADE Course Code Management System and</p>

does not require course approval. Courses coded in this manner, as noted in Commissioner's Memo LIC-07-029 dated 03/09/2007, do not meet the definition or standard for a core academic class under the No Child Left Behind Act, nor can this code be substituted for special education core academic alternative courses for special education students because each special education core academic course carries its own course code designation, as noted in the referenced Commissioner's Memo. All special education Transition Class offerings must use the course code **971560** beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. The course code may be used this school year if the LEA chooses.

For this non-core academic course coded as 971560, the class size may go up to, but not exceed 30 students. However, it is recommended that the per period class size be fewer than 30 to better accommodate the learning needs of students, given that this class is entirely populated by students receiving special education services.

971530 Special Education Resource Services -- This is a special education program that does not meet the standard for a No Child Left Behind (NCLB) core academic content course and therefore is not considered a core academic class. This course code may still be used for special education elective courses other than transition courses. The 971530-course code should not be utilized to schedule students into any core academic courses.

All other special education course codes remain the same for the 2013-2014 school year. Please see the attached document for a full listing of special education course codes.

Attachments[Special Education Course Codes.pdf](#)

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