

Directions Related to New Preschool Setting Codes

October, 2010

Selection of the appropriate reporting category involves a multi-stage procedure – identifying the type of program the child attends, if any, (and the number of hours per week in attendance), then further identifying the setting in which the child receives the majority of special education and related services.

1. The first factor to consider is whether the child is attending a Regular Early Childhood Program, as defined below.

A Regular Early Childhood Program is a program that is designed for typically developing children (ages 3-5) and is not specifically or primarily designed for children with disabilities. This category may include, but is not limited to:

- Head Start;
- kindergartens;
- preschool classes offered to an eligible pre-kindergarten population by the public school system;
- private **kindergartens**¹ or preschools; and
- group **child development center** or child care.

Include children with disabilities enrolled by their parents in a private elementary school and receiving special education and related services in accordance with a services plan. The private elementary school must be a nonprofit institutional day or residential school, including a public elementary charter school, that provides elementary education, as determined under State law.

2. Children attending Regular Early Childhood Programs are then classified into one of four subcategories:
 - a. children attending a Regular Early Childhood Program at least 10 hours per week
 - i. If the child attends a Regular Early Childhood Program at least 10 hours per week, identify which of categories best represents the environment in which the child receives the majority of hours of special education and related services
 1. At the Regular Early Childhood Location (**code 16**)
 2. At a location other than the Regular Early Childhood Location (**code 17**)
 - b. children attending a Regular Early Childhood Program less than 10 hours per week
 - i. If the child attends a Regular Early Childhood Program at least 10 hours per week, identify which of categories best represents the environment in which the child receives the majority of hours of special education and related services
 1. At the Regular Early Childhood Location (**code 18**)
 2. At a location other than the Regular Early Childhood Location (**code 19**)
