

Frequently Asked Questions: Annual Child Count Reporting

The Annual Child Count is a survey of the number of students who lived in State or local institutions for neglected and delinquent youth during the previous year. The purpose of this survey is to collect the child count data needed to generate Title I, Part D, Subparts 1 and 2 funding allocations for States.

These questions were presented to NDTAC through technical assistance communications with States. In some cases, questions and responses were revised to provide context or clarification. The questions are organized by the two separate child count sections in the survey: State Agencies and Local Education Agencies. NDTAC welcomes any additional questions from the field.

General Questions

Q: When are the child counts due to the Department of Education?

A: For 2007, Child Counts are due to the Department of Education on January 16, 2007. The same date applies to Subparts 1 and 2.

State Agencies / Part D, Subpart 1

Q: For State Agencies, what period of time should States use to count children and youth who are N or D?

A: For the Subpart 1 count due in January 2007, the State must specify a single date during the 2006 calendar year and report the number of eligible children and youth who were N or D and enrolled in a regular program of education on that date. That date must: (a) be consistent for all institutions or community day programs operated by the SA, and (b) represent a school day in the calendar year preceding the year in which funds became available.

For information on what constitutes "eligible children and youth," please see the official *Title I, Part D Nonregulatory Guidance*. The guidance can be downloaded from USED at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/titleipartd/legislation.html>.

Local Education Agencies / Part D, Subpart 2 (and Part A)

Q: Please provide clarification on child counts for Subpart 2.

A: ED calculates fund allocations for each State based on its "October" caseload data. The caseload data is determined by counting eligible children and youth who live in a locally operated facility--which meets the definition provided in section 1432(1) or (4)(B) of Subpart 2--for at least one day during a consecutive 30-day count period (of which one day is in October). To be eligible, a child or youth must:

- Be 5-17 years old
- NOT be counted in the Subpart 1/State Agency section of the survey
- Reside at a live-in institution or facility for at least one day within the 30-day count window (of which one day must be in October)

NDTAC

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Students residing in delinquent facilities and adult corrections should be reported under the delinquent count (for Part D, Subpart 2 funding purposes), and students residing in neglected facilities should be reported under the neglected count (for Part A funding purposes). Students cannot be counted under both areas.

Q: Can States count students if they were enrolled for only 1 day within the count period, or is the count restricted to students who have been in the facility for 30 consecutive days or more?

A: Students do not need to be enrolled for 30 consecutive days to be counted for local programs; they are only required to be there for 1 day out of the 30-day count period, of which one day is in October.

Q: Can students be included in the child count if they reside in a group home where they were placed voluntarily by their parents?

A: Children and youth residing in neglect institutions cannot be counted under the delinquent count (for Part D, Subpart 2). If the student and facility meet the criteria for being reported under the neglected count (for Part A funding purposes) they may be counted there.

Q: Can a division count students residing in religiously affiliated facilities?

A. For the delinquent count, the answer is yes (if the facility is a delinquent institution); private facilities are eligible under the definition of "delinquent institution" as defined in Section 1432 of the Part D statute. No exception is made for faith-based institutions.

(citation: <http://www.neglected-delinquent.org/nd/resources/legislate/subpart2.asp#sec1432>).

Q: Can a division count homeless students as part of the neglected or delinquent count if the students are not residing in an identified institution?

A: No, although these students should be eligible for Title X, Part C, the Homeless Education Act. To be eligible for the Part D count, students must live in a locally operated facility that meets the definition of an institution for delinquent children and youth or an adult correctional institution as provided in Section 1432(1) or (4)(B) of the Title I statute.

(citation: <http://www.neglected-delinquent.org/nd/resources/legislate/subpart2.asp#sec1432>).

Q: Can students be included in the Subpart 2 count if they are attending a community day program at the facility, but not residing overnight?

A: No, the count only includes youth residing in local institutions; community day school students may not be part of the Subpart 2 count for generating funding. However, once funding is determined, community day school students may be served by the LEA with a Subpart 2 grant.