

# Education of Incarcerated Youth

## Frequently Asked Questions

Pursuant to [Chapter 152](#) of the Public Acts of 2017, local education agencies (LEAs) must provide educational services to students incarcerated in detention centers licensed by the Department of Children’s Services (DCS).

The following is a list of questions and answers to assist districts in ensuring that general educational services are provided. To access the State Board Rules, please click [here](#).

**1. Whom do I contact if I have questions about T.C.A. §49-6-3023?**

For logistical support, Non-Traditional Educational Program Consultants have been assigned to each region to assist with this new law. The contact information of these non-traditional education program consultants is below:

Erin Christian <a href="mailto:Erin.Christian@tn.gov">Erin.Christian@tn.gov</a> (901) 504-9627	Earl Lattimore <a href="mailto:Earl.Lattimore@tn.gov">Earl.Lattimore@tn.gov</a> (615) 390-4549	Daniel Froemel <a href="mailto:Daniel.Froemel@tn.gov">Daniel.Froemel@tn.gov</a> (615) 351-1208
Northwest Southwest MNPS	Mid-Cumberland (except MNPS) Upper Cumberland South Central Southeast	First East

Questions can also be directed to the Tennessee Department of Education General Counsel, Christy Ballard, at (615) 741-2921 or [Christy.Ballard@tn.gov](mailto:Christy.Ballard@tn.gov).

**2. Do I need to appoint a contact for juvenile justice if I do not have a juvenile detention center (JDC) in my district?**

Yes. All districts are required to appoint a point of contact for juvenile justice. This person will be responsible for communicating with the JDC and the LEA in which the JDC is located in order to assist with the transfer of school records in an expedited manner. The point of contact will also be the individual who is notified when a child from that district is incarcerated. The rules state that this person shall be the person currently filling the attendance officer position unless the LEA designates another position. Any designation other than attendance officer shall be done in writing and sent to the commissioner of education for approval.

**3. How do I code a student (in the student information system) who is placed in a JDC?**

Each detention center has a separate code, which will be the letters “JDC” followed by a number from 01 through 17 (see below). When an LEA receives notification from a JDC that a student has been detained, enter the juvenile detention center student classification for that facility in your student information system and upload it to EIS. Please note that these codes will not be accessible until July 1, 2018.

- JDC01      Bedford County Juvenile Detention Center
- JDC02      Blount County Juvenile Detention Center

JDC03	Bradley County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC04	Davidson County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC05	Hamilton County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC06	Madison County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC07	Middle Tennessee Juvenile Detention Center
JDC08	Putnam County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC09	Rhea County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC10	Richard L. Bean Service Center/Knox County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC11	Rutherford County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC12	Scott County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC13	Sevier County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC14	Shelby County Juvenile Detention Center
JDC15	UHS/McDowell Juvenile Detention
JDC16	Upper East Tennessee Regional Juvenile Detention Center
JDC17	Williamson County Juvenile Detention Center

**4. When do I start using the new coding system?**

The new codes will appear in local student information systems on July 1, 2018.

**5. What happens if a student who is expelled is later sent to a JDC?**

Students who are expelled should be re-enrolled in their home LEA when they enter a JDC. When the LEA receives notification that a student has entered the JDC, the LEA re-enrolls the student and enters the juvenile detention center student classification for the facility in the student information system, which will upload to EIS.

**6. How do I schedule courses for a student who is in a JDC?**

Students with one of the juvenile detention center student classifications retain the course schedules/codes that existed prior to their placement in the juvenile detention center.

**7. Will a student's attendance be counted against the LEA if he/she is in a JDC?**

No. While a student is coded with a JDC code, he/she is considered present and should not be coded as absent.

**8. How many hours a day do incarcerated students have to go to school?**

Students in a JDC should receive a minimum of four hours a day of schooling.

**9. Will a receiving LEA receive funding for students who were being homeschooled at the time of their incarceration?**

T.C.A. § 49-6-3023 does not address the education of students who were homeschooled prior to being incarcerated in a detention center. Students who are homeschooled do not receive educational funding from an LEA and therefore would not generate educational funds for the receiving LEA (LEA in which the JDC is located).

**10. What is the process for students receiving special education services?**

The Tennessee Educational Policy and Procedures for Incarcerated Children with Disabilities should be followed when students with individualized education programs (IEPs) are in a JDC. Click [here](#) for a copy

of the policy. This group of students should be un-enrolled from their home LEAs and enrolled in the LEA in which the detention facility is located. This process will allow the receiving LEA to have access and authority over the IEP in EdPlan (EasyIEP). In addition, the receiving district (the one in which the facility is located) has the responsibility to ensure compliance with IDEA.

**11. How will the receiving district receive educational funds for a student?**

The JDC codes input into the student information system will notify the department of the change of placement for students. The department will transfer (reimburse) the funds from the home LEA to the receiving district on a regular basis. For fiscal questions, please contact [Maryanne.Durski@tn.gov](mailto:Maryanne.Durski@tn.gov).