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Education Program (JJAEP)	

### Juvenile Justine Alternative Education Program (JJAEP)

Every expelled student who is not detained or receiving treatment under an order of the juvenile court must be enrolled in an educational program. *Education Code 37.010(a)* 

The district will establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a county program operated under the authority of a juvenile board and provides supervision and rehabilitative services appropriate for expelled students and students assigned to disciplinary alternative education programs.

Academically, the mission of the JJAEP shall be to enable students to perform at grade level. The JJAEP shall focus on English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and self-discipline. The JJAEP shall administer assessment instruments under Education Code Chapter 39, Subchapter B. The JJAEP shall offer a high school equivalency program.

For purposes of accountability under Education Code Chapters 39 and 39A, a student enrolled in a JJAEP is reported as if the student were enrolled at the student's assigned campus in the student's regularly assigned education program, including a special education program.

### Memorandum of Understanding

A district and the county juvenile board shall, no later than September 1 of each school year, enter into a joint MOU that:

- 1. Outlines the responsibilities of the juvenile board concerning the establishment and operation of a JJAEP;
- 2. Defines the amount and conditions on payments from the district to the juvenile board for students who are served in the JJAEP whose placement was not made on the basis of expulsion required under Education Code 37.007(a), (d), or (e);
- 3. Establishes that a student may be placed in the JJAEP if the student engages in serious misbehavior, as defined by Education Code 37.007(c);
- 4. Identifies and requires a timely placement and specifies a term of placement for expelled students for whom the district has received a notice under Family Code 52.041(d);
- 5. Establishes services for the transitioning of expelled students to the district before the completion of the student's placement in the JJAEP;
- 6. Establishes a plan that provides transportation services for students placed in the JJAEP;



- 7. Establishes the circumstances and conditions under which a juvenile may be allowed to remain in the JJAEP setting once the juvenile is no longer under juvenile court jurisdiction; and
- 8. Establishes a plan to address special education services required by law.

The memorandum of understanding must be submitted to TJJD no later than October 1 of each year. *37 TAC 348.200(c)* 

# Placement of Students in JJAEP

An expelled student shall, to the extent provided by law or by the MOU, immediately attend the educational program from the date of expulsion. *Education Code 37.010(a)* [See FOD]

If a student admitted under Education Code 25.001(b) is expelled for conduct for which expulsion is required under Education Code 37.007(a), (d), or (e) or for conduct that contains the elements of the offense of terroristic threat as described by Penal Code 22.07(c-1), (d), or (e), the juvenile court, juvenile board, or juvenile board's designee, as appropriate, shall:

- 1. If the student is placed on probation under Family Code 54.04, order the student to attend the JJAEP in the county in which the student resides from the date of disposition as a condition of probation, unless the child is placed in a post-adjudication treatment facility;
- 2. If the student is placed on deferred prosecution under Family Code 53.03 by the court, prosecutor, or probation department, require the student to immediately attend the JJAEP in the county in which the student resides for a period not to exceed six months as a condition of the deferred prosecution;
- 3. In determining the condition of the deferred prosecution or court-ordered probation, consider the length of a district's expulsion order for the student; and
- 4. Provide timely educational services to the student in the JJAEP in the county in which the student resides, regardless of the student's age or whether the juvenile court has jurisdiction over the student. This provision does not require that educational services be provided to a student who is not entitled to admission under Education Code 25.001(b).

A student transferred to a JJAEP must participate in the program for the full period ordered by the juvenile court, unless a district agrees to accept the student before the date ordered by the juvenile court. *Education Code* 37.011(i)

If a student who is ordered to attend a JJAEP moves from one county to another, the juvenile court may request the JJAEP in the county to which the student moves to provide educational services to the student in accordance with the local MOU between the district and the juvenile board in the receiving county. *Education Code 37.011(n)* 

For each student, the JJAEP must coordinate with the sending school district to develop a written transition plan for entrance into the JJAEP. For each student, the JJAEP must develop a written exit transition plan,



provide the plan to the receiving school district, and maintain written verification that the plan was sent. The exit transition plan must include all information regarding courses in progress or completed, current grades for courses in progress, and the number of attendance days and absent days. *37 TAC 348.212(b)* 

[See FOCA for requirements regarding transition to the regular classroom.]

# Funding

A district is not required to provide funding to a juvenile board for a student who is assigned by a court to a JJAEP but who has not been expelled. *Education Code 37.012* 

A district shall reimburse a JJAEP in which a student is placed under Education Code 37.0081 [see FOE] for the actual cost incurred each day the student is enrolled in the program. For purposes of this subsection:

- 1. The actual cost incurred each day for the student is determined by the juvenile board of the county operating the program; and
- 2. The juvenile board shall determine the actual cost each day of the program based on the board's annual audit.

Subject to Education Code 37.011(n) [see Students Who Move, above], the district in which a student is enrolled on the date the student is expelled for conduct for which expulsion is permitted but not required under Education Code 37.007 shall, if the student is served by the JJAEP, provide funding to the juvenile board in an amount determined by the MOU under Education Code 37.011(k).

The amount of the funds transferred is determined by the portion of the school year for which the JJAEP provides educational services to a district.

# Fees

Except as otherwise authorized by law [see FP], a JJAEP may not require a student, or the parent or guardian, to pay any fee, including an entrance or supply fee, for participating in the program. *Education Code 37.012(e)* 

# **Arbitration of Disputes**

If a district elects to contract with the juvenile board for the placement of students who are expelled for conduct for which expulsion is permitted but not required under Education Code 37.007, and the juvenile board and the district are unable to reach an agreement in the MOU, either party may request that the issues of dispute be referred to a binding arbitration process that uses a qualified alternative dispute resolution arbitrator.

Each party shall pay its pro rata share of the arbitration costs and shall submit its final proposal to the arbitrator. If the parties cannot agree on an arbitrator, the juvenile board shall select an arbitrator, the



district shall select an arbitrator, and those two arbitrators shall select an arbitrator who shall decide the issues in dispute.

The arbitration decision is enforceable in a court in the county in which the JJAEP is located. Any decision by an arbitrator concerning the amount of the funding for a student who is expelled and attending a JJAEP must provide an amount sufficient based on operation of the JJAEP. In determining the amount to be paid by a district for an expelled student enrolled in a JJAEP, the arbitrator shall consider the relevant factors, including evidence of:

- 1. The actual average total per student expenditure in the district's DAEP;
- 2. The expected per student cost in the JJAEP as described and agreed on in the MOU and in compliance with Education Code Chapter 37; and
- 3. The costs necessary to achieve the accountability goals under Education Code Chapter 37.