



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Fifth Legislature, Second Regular Session

AMENDED
FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1361

schools; certificates of educational convenience
(NOW: exchange programs; certificates of convenience)

Purpose

Modifies certificate of convenience (CEC) application procedures, adds to the circumstances for CEC eligibility and prescribes reporting requirements.

Background

A CEC authorizes a pupil to attend school in an adjoining school district (district) or county that is within or outside of Arizona. A pupil may apply for a CEC to the applicable county school superintendent (county superintendent) if the pupil: 1) resides in unorganized territory; or 2) is precluded from attending a school in the pupil's district or county of residence by specified factors. For the purposes of school financing, a pupil precluded from attending an Arizona school who receives a CEC to attend school in another state is counted in the district or county of residence. A pupil is considered enrolled in the district of actual attendance if the pupil is from unorganized territory or from another district. A county superintendent may also issue a CEC to a student placed by a court or a state agency in certain institutions or facilities ([A.R.S. § 15-825](#)).

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) fiscal note on S.B. 1361, Senate Engrossed, states that CEC eligibility and administration changes may increase CEC utilization, but that the associated Basic State Aid costs to the state General Fund would be minimal given the small number of students impacted ([JLBC](#)).

Provisions

1. Allows a pupil to apply for a CEC if the employment of the pupil's parent or guardian precludes a pupil from attending a school in the pupil's district or county of residence.
2. Directs a pupil applying for a CEC to apply to the following entities, rather than the county superintendent:
 - a) the pupil's district of residence; or
 - b) for a pupil residing in unorganized territory, the district of attendance.
3. Requires the parent of a pupil seeking a CEC who resides in unorganized territory and does not have a district of attendance to:
 - a) enroll the pupil in a school according to open enrollment law; and
 - b) apply to the district operating that school.
4. Directs a district receiving a CEC application to submit, to the county superintendent, the completed application electronically, in person or by regular mail.

5. Directs each county superintendent to report to ADE the total number of CECs the county superintendent issued in the previous calendar year for each category:
 - a) pupils who reside in unorganized territory or are precluded from attending a school in the pupil's district or county of residence as specified; and
 - b) pupils placed in certain institutions or facilities by a court or a state agency.
6. Makes technical and conforming changes.
7. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Amendments Adopted by Committee

- Adopted the strike-everything amendment.

Amendments Adopted by the House of Representatives

- Removes the elimination of the limit on the number of J-1 Visa foreign exchange students a school district governing board may admit without the payment of tuition and the authorization for school districts and charter schools to obtain state funding to for J-1 Visa students beyond the cap.

Senate Action

ED 2/15/22 DPA/SE 8-0-0
3rd Read 2/24/22 28-0-2

House Engrossed

ED 3/22/22 DP 9-1-0-0
3rd Read 6/22/22 44-13-3

Prepared by Senate Research

June 22, 2022

LB/slp