2020
BACK TO SCHOOL RESOURCES
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BACKPACKS & SCHOOL SUPPLIES

AID TO ADOPTION OF SPECIAL KIDS (AASK)
www.aask-az.org

If you are a foster family licensed through AASK, your licensing worker (family specialists) will provide the foster children in your care with backpacks and school supplies. If a family has a specific school-related need, they should let their family specialist know.

ARIZONA BAPTIST CHILDREN’S SERVICES
https://abcs.org/resources/

If you are a foster family licensed through Arizona Baptist Children’s Services (ABCS), your licensing worker will provide you with information about the back to school items ABCS will provide to the foster children in your care.

ARIZONA’S CHILDREN ASSOCIATION
https://www.arizonaschildren.org/

If you are a foster family that is licensed through Arizona’s Children Association or a young adult working with a Youth Support Specialist, Arizona’s Children Association will have backpacks and school supplies available in limited supply. Arizona’s Children Association is also working to address technology needs, as able.

ARIZONA FAITH AND FAMILIES
http://www.faithandfamilies.com/

If you are a foster parent licensed with Arizona Faith and Families, Arizona Faith and Families will provide you with backpacks and school supplies for the foster children in your care. Families can reach out to their licensing specialist for more information.
ARIZONA HELPING HANDS
https://azhelpinghands.org/

Arizona Helping Hands is excited to continue to provide new backpacks with grade appropriate school supplies to children in foster care entering pre-school through high school.

Additionally, foster families with children in foster care entering kindergarten through 6th grade can also request school appropriate clothing, limited to the first 700 requests.

You must have one of the following documents in order to request items:
- Notice to Provider
- SRPMC CPS Investigations-Ongoing
- Gila River Judgement Order
- Order of Appointment of a Permanent Guardian of a Minor

Pickup date and time will be confirmed via email. There is currently a wait list. To be placed on the wait list, please submit your information at the below link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QMTHTWW

ARIZONA SUNSHINE ANGELS
http://sunshineangelsaz.org/

The Arizona Sunshine Angels work in concert with Sunshine Residential Group Homes, Garden House Group Homes, A Blessed Nest Group Home, and Sacred Journey Group Homes around the Valley of the Sun.

The Arizona Sunshine Angels and our Angel Partners organize an annual Backpack & School Supplies for Kids Drive to ensure all the children who reside in those group homes begin the school year with a new backpack and much-needed school supplies.

If you are a staff member with Sunshine Residential Group Homes, Garden House Group Homes, A Blessed Nest Group Home, or Sacred Journey Group Home, please see the below link for information about getting backpacks and school supplies for the children who reside in your homes.

http://sunshineangelsaz.org/programs/backpack-for-kids/
ASA NOW/JACOB’S MISSION COMMUNITY CENTER
http://www.asanow.org/
ASA Now will provide free backpacks for children impacted by foster care.

Saturday, August 1 | 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

To receive backpacks for your children, please sign up through this link:

https://form.jotform.com/201924947399167

AVIVA CHILDREN’S SERVICES (TUCSON, AZ)
https://avivatucson.org/
Aviva Children’s Services will be offering back to school supplies for foster children. Aviva will provide a new backpack along with supplies such as composition books, folders, pencils, pens, ruler, crayons and or colored pencils. Binders, filler paper, calculators, scissors, index cards, glue sticks, and highlighters. The backpacks will be pre-filled and will be school age appropriate.

Pick-up times are to be determined. Please call 520.327.6779 for more information. Available only while supplies last.

CASA COUNCIL HELPING CHILDREN OF MOHAVE COUNTY
https://casasupport.org/
CASA Council provides children in foster care in Mohave County (dependents of the Court in Mohave County) with school backpacks filled with age-appropriate school supplies (folders, paper, pens, pencils and sharpeners, erasers, glue sticks, three-ring binders, ruler, markers, highlighters, colored pencils, pencil case, mechanical pencils and subject folders).

Children must be referred for the back to school assistance by their Department of Child Safety (DCS) caseworkers.
CATHOLIC CHARITIES COMMUNITY SERVICES  
https://www.catholiccharitiesaz.org/  

If you are a foster parent licensed with Catholic Charities, Catholic Charities will set up a back-to-school “shop” so children in foster care and their foster parents can select backpacks and school supplies. Catholic Charities will send out a flyer to all the Catholic Charities Foster Care families advising them of the dates. If families are unable to attend in person, they can let their worker know what they need and staff will “shop” for them.

CHILD CRISIS ARIZONA  
https://childcrisisaz.org/  

If you are a foster parent licensed with Child Crisis Arizona, Child Crisis Arizona will provide you with backpacks for the foster children in your care. Families can reach out to their specialist for more information.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY CARE  
https://cfcare.org/  

If you are a foster parent licensed with Christian Family Care, Christian Family Care will provide you with a backpack and school supplies for the foster children in your care. Families can reach out to their licensing specialist for more information.

GRACE RETREAT FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION SERVICES  
https://www.graceretreatfostercare.org/  

If you are a foster parent licensed with Grace Retreat, Grace Retreat will provide you with school supplies for the foster children in your care. Families can reach out to their licensing specialist for more information.
HELEN’S HOPE CHEST
https://www.mesaunitedway.org/helenshope/

Helen’s Hope Chest will provide backpacks to children in foster care and biological and adopted children, as long as there is a foster or kinship child in the household.

Helen’s Hope Chest will schedule times for families to pick up backpacks the weeks of July 20, July 27 and August 3, 2020. If you are in need of a backpack please visit their website or call 480.969.5411 to make an appointment.

HOPE AND A FUTURE, INC
https://azhope.com/

Families who have participated in Hope and A Future programs or camps can contact Hope and A Future to complete a form to receive a backpack.

A MIGHTY CHANGE OF HEART
https://www.amchaz.org/

A Mighty Change of Heart provides personalized duffle bags to foster children moving to a new placement. If you are requesting a bag for a child who will be moving to your home and the child also needs school supplies, you can request to add school supplies to the order.

MORE THAN A BED (TUCSON, AZ)
https://morethanabed.org/

More Than a Bed provides offer a selection of backpacks for all ages and school supplies including notebooks, pens, pencils, glue, erasers, scissors, etc. for children in foster, kindship and adoptive care. They also provide essentials such as beds, clothes, shoes, toys and diapers.
NAVAJO COUNTY FRIENDS OF CASA
http://navajocountyfriendsofcasa.com/

For more than 12 years, each year prior to the beginning of the school year, Navajo County Friends of CASA provides $250 per child in foster care working with a CASA volunteer toward clothing and school supplies. They partner with local Walmart stores in Show Low and Winslow to provide this service. On a specified day, the child, accompanied by their caregiver, CASA volunteer or DCS caseworker shop for their clothes and supplies.

If a child cannot attend on the specified day, their caregiver works with the DCS caseworker to provide a shopping list which the caseworker or CASA volunteer will shop for the child.

OCJ KIDS
https://www.ocjkids.org/

OCJ Kids will hold its 13th annual Tools 4 Success back-to-school event for local foster group homes on August 1, 2020.

Due to COVID restrictions, they will limit attendance at the event and will add scheduled pick-up days for those unable to attend. OCJ Kids expects to provide up to 900 backpacks with a full list of school supplies.

ONWARD HOPE
https://onwardhope.org/

If you are a foster parent licensed with Onward Hope, Onward Hope will provide you with a backpack and school supplies for the children in your foster care. Families can reach out to their licensing specialist for more information.
THREE PRECIOUS MIRACLES
http://www.threepreciousmiracles.com/

With the generosity of donors and volunteers from across the valley, Three Precious Miracles selects one Native community to bless 400 - 500 children each year to have a successful coming school year by providing needed items, such as backpacks with school supplies, shoes, socks, underwear and a toy.

In past years they have provided back-to-school items for Gila River Indian Community, Tohono O’odham Nation, White Mountain Apache, San Carlos & Hopi Tribe.

TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS
https://www.herozona.org/programs/phoenix-tools-4-school/

The Phoenix Tools 4 School event is annual initiative that provides basic school readiness supplies for students whose families cannot afford any or all the necessary items to start off the school year. The initiative provides students with book bags, notebooks, writing utensils and other necessary supplies to K - 8 students. Their 2020 event will be a drive-thru giveaway.

Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020
Time: 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Location: South Mountain Community College, 7050 S 24th St, Phoenix, AZ 85042

To control the distribution line and provide a safe experience you must preregister to reserve your backpack(s). Register at the below link:

https://www.herozona.org/programs/phoenix-tools-4-school/

YAVAPAI COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Unfortunately, due to the continually changing COVID-19 mandates and restrictions, the Yavapai County School District made the decision to cancel their annual quad city back-to-school year. Instead, they will hold a drive-thru backpack giveaway at the Heights Church in August, where families can drive up to receive a backpack filled with school supplies for each student. For more information, please call 928.759.5109.
CLOTHING & OTHER NEEDS

ARIZONA FRIENDS OF FOSTER CHILDREN FOUNDATION
https://www.affcf.org/

Children in foster care who need back-to-school clothing can request clothing assistance from AFFCF via the “Supplemental Clothing” category (if it has not yet been awarded this year). AFFCF also provides assistance with book, school pictures and extracurricular activities.

ARIZONANS FOR CHILDREN
https://arizonansforchildren.org/

Arizonans for Children can provide new tennis shoes (kids sizes 11, 12, and 13) for students in addition to sizes 1 - 7 including half sizes. Foster families in need can contact Kaye McCarthy at kayemccar@cox.net.

ASA NOW / JACOB’S MISSION COMMUNITY CENTER
http://www.asanow.org/

In addition to providing backpacks, Jacob’s Mission Community Center is an after-school center powered by ASA Now. It serves students K - 12 by offering after-school tutoring, dance, art, reading music, keyboard, ukulele, guitar, karate, yoga and cooking lessons. The Resource Center and mentorship program will help transition youth into adulthood by providing classes such as budgeting, cooking and nutrition, job resume, college prep, housing and more.

BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHING DRIVE
https://www.backtoschoolclothingdrive.com/

Due to the challenges associated with COVID-19, the Back to School Clothing Drive will work with their partner schools to register their students and deliver the items directly to the districts. The students will receive their packages at the start of the school year.
FREE ARTS FOR ABUSED CHILDREN OF ARIZONA
https://www.freeartsaz.org/

Free Arts is working on developing free arts kits “to go” for children in foster care. Please watch for more information on their website once the kits are available.

JESSE’S CLOSET FOSTER CHILD RESOURCE CENTER (YUMA, AZ)
https://www.jessiescloset.org/

Jesse’s Closet has clothes and school uniforms available for foster families. Please contact them for an appointment at 928.769.4004 or 928.769.4000. You can also contact them via email at info@jessiescloset.org or info@desertgrace.org Some foster parents contact them through Facebook Messenger, and that is okay, too! www.Facebook.com/jessiesclosetyuma

MORE THAN A BED (TUCSON, AZ)
https://morethanabed.org/

More Than a Bed provides essentials to the children in foster, kinship, and adoptive care including beds, clothes, shoes, toys and diapers.

SPREADING THREADS CLOTHING BANK (TUCSON, AZ)
https://spreadingthreads.com/

Families who have a need for back to school clothing for children in foster care can make an appointment to receive clothing. School supplies and backpacks may be available, if donated.
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES & SUPPORT

ADVOCACY 31 NINE
www.advocacy31nine.org

Advocacy 31 Nine provides educational resources and advocacy support. If you are in need of support around the areas of special education, individual education plans (IEPs) and 504 plans for a student who has been impacted by the foster care system, Advocacy 31 Nine can help.

GENERATION JUSTICE
https://www.genjustice.org/

Gen Justice, through its Children’s Law Clinic, offers a series of educational presentations for foster and kinship parents, older children in foster care, and child welfare professionals. The presentations, each about one hour long, offer an overview of Arizona’s child welfare laws, the court and dependency process, special education information, as well as useful resources.

For more information, visit https://www.genjustice.org/ or email info@genjustice.org
TUTORING
The list below consists of Arizona Friends of Foster Children (AFFCF) preferred partners for tutoring. Each of these tutoring options offer a discount for children in foster care and how they are serving kids in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. AFFCF can fund up to 12 weeks of tutoring for a child in foster care at a maximum of $500. To learn more about AFFCF guidelines, please visit: https://www.affcf.org/guidelines-a/

A ROAD TO LEARNING, LLC
1611 E. Main St.
Mesa, AZ 85203

Locations: Tutoring provided statewide

Contact: Corina Gastony
Tel: 480.545.2475

Email: cgastony@aroad2learning.com
www.aroad2learning.com

Regular rate: $50 per hour/Discounted rate: $40 per hour

COVID-19 Response:
Because of COVID-19, A Road to Learning has suspended their tutoring services to ensure the safety of their tutors and the families they serve. They do not currently have a targeted date to return to service as yet.

COGNITUTOR, LLC
Locations: In-home tutoring available throughout Arizona

Contact: Loni Lebanoff
Tel: 863.521.3892

Email: loni@cognitutor.com
www.cognitutor.com

Regular rate of $50/hour discounted to $42/hour

COVID-19 Response:
COGNITUTOR, LLC (cont.)
Tutors are meeting students online and in person if needed (during school, some students didn't have access to a laptop or phone and couldn't continue schooling without assistance). Cognitutors are advising everyone to meet online as much as possible and if meeting in person, to abide by the CDC's guidelines.

FOCUS TUTORS
Locations: Mobile tutoring, serving North Phoenix and Scottsdale

Contact: Tina Kanelos Jones
Tel: 480.428.8322

Email: tina@focustutorsaz.com
www.focustutorsaz.com

Regular rate: $70 - $80 per hour, depending on grade level/Discounted rate: $55 per hour

COVID-19 Response:
Focus Tutors still provide in-person tutoring in accordance to safety guidelines. They have also modified their services by adding online tutoring as a option for families.

KUMON LEARNING CENTER — GILBERT/VAL VISTA LAKES*
Locations: 1

Contact: Jose Penaloza
Tel: 480.813.1153

Email: mr.jose@kumonofgilbert.com
www.kumon.com/gilbert

10% off currently monthly fee (Regular rates = $145/month for first subject; $135/month for second subject)

*Please note this vendor requires a minimum enrollment period, depending on the child’s grade level. AFFCF funding is not guaranteed for the full enrollment period. Be sure to review our Award Guidelines for more details.
KUMON LEARNING CENTER – GILBERT/VAL VISTA LAKES (Cont.)

COVID-19 Response:  
Kumon – Gilbert/Val Vista Lakes is applying every suggested precaution by the CDC and local health officials. The Center is open with limited space for social distancing, with only students allowed in the Center.

Students are required to sanitize their hands before and after class. Kumon checks each student’s temperature checked and students must wear a face mask at all times. The staff follows the same requirements as students, in addition to wearing gloves and shields.

For families that prefer to keep their children at home, Kumon – Gilbert/Val Vista Lakes offers individualized Zoom meetings. Parents may request Zoom meetings for their children because it maintains the one-on-one work relationship students enjoyed before the pandemic.

For families interested in home-schooling, Kumon is working on a plan to help families achieve their goals.

SYLVAN LEARNING CENTER – ARROWHEAD
8190 W Union Hills Rd #120
Glendale, AZ 85308

Locations: 1

Contact: Victoria Sherrard
Tel: 623.537.3611

Email:  sylvan0418@sylvanarrowhead.com
www.sylvanarrowhead.com

Discounted hourly rate of $46/hour (regularly $52/hour)

COVID-19 Response:  
Sylvan Learning – Arrowhead is operating both in-person and online. In-person tutoring follows CDC guidelines. They are limited the number of students allowed in the facility, keeping students at least six feet apart and using plexiglass partitions between students and teachers. They sanitize all surfaces and shared technology items between student visits.
Compensatory Education Guide

The purpose of this guide is to answer common questions and provide a summary of Compensatory Education (CompEd) for students receiving Special Education Services in light of the impacts of COVID-19 and distance learning. This guide is intended to be a resource for IDEA Parents, School Staff, and anyone who is involved with a student who receives Special Education Services.

What is CompEd? Who is it for?

Compensatory Services (CompEd) are services that are in addition to already established services within the student’s IEP and designed to assist the student in regaining lost skills and learning due to services that were not appropriately/adequately provided during school closures.

Schools recognize that students with disabilities may not have received appropriate special education services as described in their IEP due to the impacts of COVID-19 and distance learning. Because of this, schools recognize that some students might have lost skills or made little progress toward IEP goals during this time. To address this, IEP Teams should consider whether students with IEPs were denied a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) during school closures and if the student had a significant loss in skills due to distance learning, and are therefore eligible for CompEd Services. CompEd services are additional services, above and beyond those already established services within the student’s IEP, designed to assist students in regaining lost skills. Some students may not need CompEd services, others will. It is an individualized determination by the IEP Team.

Why would a student need CompEd?

A student may be entitled to receive CompEd services if the student has displayed regression/loss in skills related to their IEP goals. CompEd may also be needed if a student was unable to access their IEP services being offered by the school, during distance learning, due a wide variety of barriers (ex. internet, technology issues, etc.)

While all students are likely to display a loss in skills due to the school closures and lack of instruction, students with special needs have a higher level of potential learning loss. However, it is important to remember CompEd services are related to the loss of progress towards IEP Goals because of the distance learning situation. When considering whether or not a student has experienced this regression or skill loss, student work samples, data, and IEP goals progress before the school closures along with these data collected during the closures (if available) should be utilized.

Key Terms

IEP Team:
The IEP Team Includes: The IEP Case Carrier, Special Education Teachers, General Education Teacher, Service Providers (ex. Speech and Language Pathologist), District Representation, IDEA Parent, and the Student.

IDEA Parent:
The adult in the student’s life who holds the student’s Educational Rights. For some students this might be a biological or adoptive parent, a foster parent, or a court appointed Educational Surrogate. Not a DCS Case Worker.

FAPE:
Free and Appropriate Public Education.

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Who in a student's life should be a part of discussing CompEd services?

A student's IEP Team should work to identify each student's individual CompEd needs within 30 school days of resuming in-person instruction. It should be noted that this process may take longer than 30 school days and may not be entirely smooth as this is a learning experience for everyone. Schools will be tasked with identifying the individual needs for many students. With that being said, schools MUST consider IDEA parent input during this process of identifying needs, offering, and implementing CompEd Services.

IDEA Parents: You'll want to reach out to the staff person that writes your student's IEP such as the Case Carrier/IEP Coordinator, service providers, and their teachers to meet to discuss CompEd services. If you are having trouble getting ahold of these individuals, try contacting the special education director for the district or charter network. Contact information can usually be found online. Check in with these staff early on to discuss how distance learning went, any concerns you might have about loss of skills and what the school is seeing from your student so far. It is always best to document in writing your requests. If you call to speak directly with school staff, follow it up with an email. You can also submit a request in writing to meet with your student's IEP team to discuss CompEd Services.

School Staff & IEP Teams: Check in with the IDEA Parents early on to see how distance learning went and discuss what you are seeing in the student's work as they return to school. Best practice would be to document these discussions in writing as well. You should set a meeting using phone or video conferencing to discuss CompEd Services. Agreed upon services should be documented in writing as well, a Prior Written Notice (PWN) could be appropriate to use.

What should be considered when deciding if CompEd is needed?

A School Representative, per ADE guidelines, and/or the IEP Teams should be meeting with every single students' IDEA Parent and the student to consider whether or not CompEd services are needed. This meeting should include a discussion in which the following things are considered:

- Has there been regression/loss in the student's skills?
- What sort of progress or lack of progress has the student made on their IEP Goals?
- What services were provided during school closures?
- How well was the student able to access those services, taking into account any and all barriers (ex. technology, student's ability to learn online, etc.)
- What are the IDEA Parent and student's thoughts and opinions on these things?
What can CompEd services look like & what should it not look like?

CompEd services should not interfere with a student’s time in the classroom or impact their Least Restrictive Environment (LRE). Delivery of these services should not be a punishment or hardship to the student. The school district or charter that the student was attending during the school closures is the responsible party for these CompEd Services.

CompEd should be thought about creatively. CompEd services are a remedy for a past failure to provide FAPE. This means CompEd can be anything that the school and IDEA Parent agree will be adequate to make up for what was denied to the student. Once the agreement is made, the services should be put into place and utilized to make up for what was lost during the school closures and address the student’s needs. Be sure that the details of the CompEd agreement, including factors like type of services, where and how often the services will be provided, who will provide the services, and how long the services will be provided, are recorded in a written agreement.

Some CompEd service ideas to consider:

- Additional services above and beyond what is listed in the IEP to be delivered during the school day
  - With this option it is critical to ensure that the increase in services is not altering the student’s LRE or negatively impacting their time in the General Education setting.
- Services, such as tutoring, before or after school.
  - This can be done in-person or online and can also be provided by private tutoring outside of the school.
- Before or After School period for service time with a teacher/school staff.
- Online Options: Online Skills Programs, Virtual Tutoring
- Camps/Workshops/Special Services:
  - Examples: Summer writing camp, Equine Therapy, Aquatic therapy, Student leadership workshop

FAQs:

What is the time frame for an initial decision to be made on a student’s need for CompEd services?

- Within the first 30 school days, per ADE guidelines.

How do you get the services, if they weren’t identified or agreed upon within the first 30 days of returning to school?

- IDEA Parent: Reach out to your IEP Point of Contact and request a meeting to discuss what you are seeing. This should be done in writing. Sample: PULL/AZ-CDL, letter
- Schools/IEP Teams: If you are seeing an area of potential need, reach out to the IDEA parent.

What if my student is doing online school this upcoming school year?

- If a student is participating in distance learning this year, they are still able to receive CompEd services. The IEP team and IDEA parent should still discuss and consider if CompEd services are needed. These services could be provided virtually and through a variety of online platforms. Students who have IEPs and are learning virtually or remotely are still entitled to their IEP services including specially designed instruction and FAPE.
- If an IEP team determines a student cannot receive FAPE through distance learning, the school must make in-person specially designed instruction and related services available to the student. If CompEd cannot be effectively provided virtually, that must also be provided in-person whenever it is safe and feasible to do so.

What if a student changed schools?

- If a student is at a different school than they were attending during Spring 2020, the previous and present school need to work together to discuss what the student’s CompEd service needs are, along with the IDEA Parent and student. The previous school is the responsible party for the providing the CompEd services; because these services are to compensate for services that the school should have provided originally.
- The previous school and the current school can develop an agreement by which the previous school pays for the new school to provide the student with CompEd services, if that is found to be most convenient and efficient for all parties.

Should CompEd services match services listed on an IEP or match minute for minute what was denied during school closures?

No, CompEd services are not minute for minute. Based on IEP Services, they should be for however long the IEP Team thinks it will take for the student to regain the skills being focused on. The services also do not have to match the service areas listed on the IEP but do need be services that the everyone thinks will best make up for the previous denial of FAPE.

Where to go for additional resources, information, and more support related to Special Education and/or CompEd needs.

- The Arizona Center for Disability Law: azdisabilitylaw.org
- Raising Special Kids: raisingspecialkids.org
- Arizona Department of Education’s Exceptional Education and Student Services: azed.gov/specialeducation

Skills that can be supported:

- Academics: reading, writing, math
- Career/Employment Coaching
- Behavioral Coaching Support
- Speech/OT/PT/Counseling

PLUS: Other services that the school and IDEA Parent agree are needed for the student to access and benefit from their education.