

This guidance outlines the responsibilities of school systems to provide information regarding State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs) when a residential placement is discussed for a student with a disability.

STATUTORY OVERVIEW

Texas Education Code (TEC) §29.0056 requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to provide materials to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) regarding educational residential placement options for students with disabilities who may qualify for placement in an SSLC; TEA must in turn make the materials available to school systems. When residential placement is discussed during a student's Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) committee meeting, the school must provide the materials to the student's parent/guardian.

SSLC Admissions

Parents and guardians considering having their child live at an SSLC should fully understand care options and the admission process.

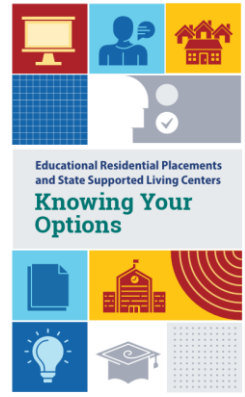
SSLCs aren't appropriate for everyone with intellectual disabilities, and some people may be able to receive care in less restrictive settings.

Unlike the ARD committee process for educational placements, admission to an SSLC often requires a civil court commitment. A local intellectual and developmental disability authority (LIDDA) can help with the court process after a team of care providers recommends admission to a center. This team can include the person's parents or legal guardian.

A parent or legal guardian can also apply for a civil court commitment by completing and submitting the application through the local county court.

Connect with a LIDDA

LIDDAs serve as the point of entry for publicly funded intellectual and developmental disability programs, including SSLCs. To find the LIDDA that serves your area, go to resources.hhs.texas.gov/directories/lidda



Educational Residential Placements and State Supported Living Centers
Knowing Your Options



When This Requirement Applies

Since the statute refers to a school system providing these materials to a parent/guardian "at a meeting of a child's ARD committee at which residential placement is discussed," TEA expects the materials to be provided at *each* ARD committee meeting at which residential placement is discussed. The commissioner's rule implementing the statute provides at 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §89.1050(k) that the school system must provide the materials required by the statute whenever a new, proposed, or existing residential placement is discussed at a student's ARD committee meeting. TEA expects documentation to reflect both the discussion and the provision of the materials.

Required ARD Committee Actions

When residential placement is discussed at an ARD meeting, the school must:

Provide the HHSC/TEA-developed materials regarding educational residential placement options, including SSLCs, to the parent.

Document evidence that:

1. Residential placement was discussed; and
2. The materials were provided to the parent/guardian.

Documentation Expectations

Schools have flexibility in **how** they document compliance with special education legal requirements. TEA does **not** require a specific form, but documentation **must be clearly identifiable** during monitoring or review.

Acceptable documentation may include, but is not limited to:

- **IEP deliberations** noting:
 1. Residential placement was discussed; and
 2. SSLC informational materials were provided to the parent/guardian.
- Other **written evidence in the IEP** that reasonably demonstrates the requirement was met.

Key Compliance Reminders for School Systems

- This is an annual requirement when residential placement is discussed.
- This applies to all residential placements (proposed, new and existing) discussed at an ARD committee meeting.
- Documentation is required, but school systems may choose how they document.