



Model Policies and Procedures 2026/2027: Part 3 Suggested Updates

Updates

The Trust is issuing policy and procedure updates in segmented parts for the 2026–2027 school year.

Part 1 (addressing USFR requirements) was issued on July 22, 2026. Part 2 (addressing legislative requirements) was issued on August 3, 2026. The current document, Part 3, is the next installment for updates related to the recent legislative session. The Trust anticipates that there may be additional clean up changes and review of forms in the coming weeks based upon the Auditor General’s interpretation of the USFR changes.

Chapter 102, House Bill 2621

Part 3 addresses new enrollment requirements relating to three topics stemming from recently passed House Bill 2621: (1) enrollment of students from unorganized territories; (2) enrollment of students who are placed by state agencies or courts of competent jurisdiction in residential placements; and (3) enrollment of students from military families moving into school districts. Part 3 also addresses additional changes made by House Bill 2621, including: (1) the responsibilities of adjoining school districts regarding enrollment of students from unorganized territories; (2) responsibilities regarding the provision of special education services and (3) definitions in Arizona’s open enrollment statute.

Policy and Procedure Revision

The Trust has revised three (3) policies and one (1) procedure based on Chapter 102/House Bill 2621 and recommends adding one (1) new procedure.

General Recommendations

The Trust recommends that districts work with legal counsel to review and assist in policy and procedure revisions. The Trust also advises districts to retain copies of their

existing procedures prior to making changes.
Proposed Changes to Trust Model Policy and Procedure Templates 2

Please note that districts must obtain governing board approval for policy revisions. Unless board policy dictates otherwise, governing boards are not required to approve procedures. The Trust recommends, however, that governing boards be advised of any changes to procedures. Additionally, we ask that you send your final approved policies and revised procedures to the Trust for placement on the district's MicroScribe platform.

The tables below describe proposed changes to the Trust model policies and procedures, along with a corresponding summary of the underlying legislation, regulation, or court holding. Actual proposed policy and procedure changes begin on p. 4, with additions and deletions noted in bold.

If you would like us to make these changes on the district's MicroScribe platform, please notify either Jennifer MacLennan at jmaclennan@the-trust.org or Lilian Le at lle@the-trust.org, or contact your member services coordinator.

Policy and Procedure	Legal Foundation	Subject Matter
© 5-102 Enrollment Requirements Procedure © 5-102.A Enrollment Requirements— <u>Requirements for Enrollment</u> Procedure © 5-102.D Enrollment Requirements— Protections for Students in Unorganized Territories NEW	Chapter 102 (HB 2621) to be codified at A.R.S. § 15-768; A.R.S. § 15-823 and A.R.S. § 15-823.01	Enrollment Requirements for Students in Unorganized Territories, Students Placed by the State, and Military Families
School districts that adjoin unorganized territories and school districts that have students from unorganized territories educated in their boundaries via parental or state placement may have responsibilities to enroll. New statutory requirements also address responsibilities to students who are placed in residential placements by the state. The legislature also adjusted requirements for enrollment of students from military families. The Trust recommends: (1) revision to Policy 5-102 regarding enrollment; (2) revision to the accompanying procedure 5-102.A; and (3) the addition of a new procedure to address the complicated requirements of the new law.		

Proposed Changes to Trust Model Policy and Procedure Templates 3

Policy	Legal Foundation	Subject Matter
© 5-105 Open Enrollment	Chapter 102 (HB 2621) to be codified at A.R.S. § 15-816.	Open Enrollment Definitions
The Trust recommends changes to the open enrollment policy to incorporate revisions to definitions made in A.R.S. § 15-816 regarding resident student, non-resident student, and resident school.		

Policy	Legal Foundation	Subject Matter
© 5-203 Students with Disabilities (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [IDEA])	Chapter 102 (HB 2621) to be codified at A.R.S. § 15-768	Special Education Responsibilities for Students in Unorganized Territories
School districts are required to provide child find activities and special education services to students with disabilities who enroll from unincorporated areas or as otherwise required by A.R.S. § 15-768.		