



About

The [Office of Facility Schools](#) is one of three offices under the Exceptional Student Services Unit along with the [Office of Special Education](#) and the [Office of Gifted Education](#) at the Colorado Department of Education.

The goal of the Office of Facility Schools is to ensure that all students in placement receive a quality education and to improve educational outcomes for those students. A number of initiatives are underway statewide in an effort to accomplish that goal.

The terms **Eligible Facility** and **Approved Facility School** are both used in Colorado Statute.

- The term *Eligible Facility* means a day treatment center, residential child care facility or a hospital licensed by either the Colorado Department of Human Services or the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
- The term *Approved Facility School* refers to an educational program that is operated by a licensed agency and that has been approved by the CDE to receive reimbursement for education services for students placed in the program.

In the spring of 2008, legislation was passed that addressed approved facility schools in a number of ways. Commonly referred to as H.B. (House Bill) 1204 (22-2-401 C.R.S.), it established a board with rule making authority to set graduation requirements and the approval process for facility schools.

Facts

- On average there are approximately 5,000 placements made per year in facility schools.
- Currently there are 34 Facility Schools located throughout Colorado.
- 76 school districts are represented within our population.
- Student placements come from 8 different types of public agencies.
- Facility program types include residential, day treatments and hospitals.
- The Office of Facility Schools has adopted a K-12 curriculum in reading, writing, mathematics, and science that align with the Colorado Academic Standards for all of our programs.
- Students in facility schools are assessed using the iReady Diagnostic Assessment system in Reading and Mathematics.
- Grades and transcripts are provided for all grades 9-12 students that align with state common course codes.
- All students are required to participate in State Assessments.

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