

POLICY SERVICES

ADVISORY

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Policy Advisory No. 716.....(*New Policy*) JLDAB — Referrals to Other Agencies
(*New Regulation*) Regulation JLDAB-R — Referrals to Other Agencies
(*New Exhibit*) Exhibit JLDAB-E --- Referrals to Other Agencies

POLICY ADVISORY DISCUSSION

This policy advisory derives from legislation passed in 2020. In 2020, the Arizona legislature passed “Jake’s Law” which created a fund that provides uninsured and underinsured children access to behavioral health services when they are referred through an educational institution—otherwise known as “school-based referrals.” To make school-based referrals, the legislature required school districts and charter schools to pass a policy that outlined the law as it relates to school-based referrals. The policy must include: (1) an opt-in process for parents; (2) a survey to parents whose children utilize school-based referrals; (3) a list of service providers published on the district website; and (4) an annual report to the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). The policies must be published on the school’s website.

Policy Advisory No. 716

JLDAB – Referrals to Other Agencies
JLDAB-R – Referrals to Other Agencies
JLDAB-E – Referrals to Other Agencies

JLDAB, JLDAB-R, and JLDAB-E, are new to ASBA’s manual. The documents provide a mechanism for school districts and charter schools to refer children to community based behavioral health providers and to have those services paid for by the Children’s behavioral health services fund or AHCCCS. The policy is optional, meaning that the law does not require schools to make school-based referrals. However, if the school elects to make these referrals, then **a** policy is mandatory. JLDAB is a policy that enables the statute to work as intended; JLDAB-R is a regulation the Superintendent may utilize to achieve the goals of policy JLDAB; and JLDAB-E is an exhibit of the survey Superintendents may utilize to comply with the statute and policy.

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