

## Briefing Notes for Special Education Access and Referrals for Individuals Under International or Temporary Protection - Compiled by ESWG Türkiye

### STEPS TO ACCESS SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES/ REFERRAL MECHANISMS:

**Option 1:** Registered in a school. The guidance and counseling teacher directs the student to the Counseling and Research Center (RAM).

Note: There are a total of 295 RAM centers, with at least one in every province. Those who are under international or temporary protection (IP or TP) are also eligible to use RAM services in their registered province.

**Option 2:** Not currently attending any educational institution. The family directly contacts RAM to initiate the application process.

Please note: In both scenarios, it is mandatory to register at the Provincial Directorate of Migration Management (PDMM).

### Scheduling an Appointment for Educational Assessment and Diagnosis through RAMs

1. If the individual is at the age of compulsory education, he/she must be registered in the school and apply to the RAM affiliated with the school he/she is currently attending,
2. If the individual is out of school age. The individual must apply to the RAM to which his/her residence address is affiliated.
3. Having the individual's identity card.
4. For educational assessment, the person to be evaluated individually and his or her parents or legal guardian must be present at the RAM on the appointment date and time.
5. If the mother and father are separated, there must be a custody certificate, and if there is another person taking care of the child, there must be a guardianship certificate.

Following link with provides a presentation for parents on how to use the RAMDEVU system: [https://orgm.meb.gov.tr/meb\\_iys\\_dosyalar/2016\\_01/26040952\\_veli\\_ramdevu.pdf](https://orgm.meb.gov.tr/meb_iys_dosyalar/2016_01/26040952_veli_ramdevu.pdf)

### Purpose of the RAMDEVU System?

- This system allows individuals with special needs who want to receive Educational Assessment and Diagnosis service from RAMs to schedule and follow up appointments through computer/tablet/phone without going to RAMs.

### Access the RAMDEVU System

- Login the website, <https://ramdevu.meb.gov.tr>

### Support for Special Education and Inclusion

- The provided link (<https://orgm.meb.gov.tr/>) offers access to resources from the Ministry of National Education (MoNE), covering special education, inclusion and integration practices. It includes information on guidance and psychological consultation programs, and e-guidance system. The link also provides access to forms and measuring tools, educational assessment and diagnosis procedures, textbooks, digital materials, curriculum, and publications.
- According to the 2018 Regulation on Special Education Services, transportation to public special education schools and classes is provided free of charge, as per the MoNE's Regulation on Transportation for Access to Education (Official Gazette, 11/9/2014, No. 29116). Individuals under

## Briefing Notes for Special Education Access and Referrals for Individuals Under International or Temporary Protection - Compiled by ESWG Türkiye

Temporary Protection (TP) and International Protection (IP) are also eligible for this transportation support without any legal restrictions.

### Eligibility for Scheduling an Appointment

- Only individuals with prior recommendations for support education are eligible to schedule appointments.
- In instances where the referral is to a special education school located in a different province, the PDMM facilitates the required relocation of the family. Typically, this route is pursued primarily for cases that are particularly severe.

### Educational Environments and Special Education Services Referred by RAMs

According to the result of educational assessment and diagnosis RAMs can refer to special education schools, early childhood education, special education classes, inclusion/integration, home education, hospital education and non-formal education services.

### Primary Types of Special Education Service Providers

- 1) **Special Education Schools:** Education in these schools is offered at no cost to all individuals. In total, there are 1,630 special education schools, which include vocational (special education) high schools.
- 2) **Special Education Rehabilitation Centers:** These centers are privately owned. MoNE pays the participation fee for 8 hours private and 4 hours group lessons on behalf of the individuals with special needs. However, these services are not complimentary for refugees. Those who are under IP or TP need to pay the fees to benefit from these centers. MoNE determines the amount of education support for individuals with special needs annually. For 2024 amounts: <https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/MevzuatMetin/yonetmelik/9.5.40648.pdf>

### Challenges and Solution

- **Language and Cultural Barriers:**

Efforts are ongoing to address language and cultural barriers, with a focus on developing culturally sensitive approaches and providing language support services. Arabic and Farsi translators would help in communicating with parents and children. If translation support is unavailable at the centers, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the field can provide translator assistance.

- **Medical Report:**

For appropriate education setting referral applications, whenever needed, RAMs could request Health Board Report for People with Disabilities, Special Needs Report for Children (ÇÖZGER), Health Board Status Report, Single Physician Health Status Report signed by specialist. These medical reports may not be necessary for all cases, but RAMs might ask for it as an additional requirement to issue the educational assessment and diagnosis. Individuals under IP or TP are required to pay a certain amount to obtain this report from the hospitals, which imposes an additional financial responsibility on families.

- **Capacity Building:**

Continuous efforts are continuing by MoNE and sector partners to enhance the capacity of teachers and support staff in addressing the needs of refugee children with diverse special needs, ensuring they receive quality education.

## Briefing Notes for Special Education Access and Referrals for Individuals Under International or Temporary Protection - Compiled by ESWG Türkiye

### Monitoring and Evaluation:

Regular monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are in place to assess the effectiveness of support and referral mechanisms, with adjustments made based on the evolving needs of the refugee population.

Overall, MoNE in Türkiye is committed to providing robust support and referral mechanisms for refugee children with special needs. Through a combination of inclusive policies, specialized training, and collaboration with various stakeholders, the Ministry aims to create an environment where every child, regardless of their background, can access quality education.

### Recommendations

- Additional initiatives on behalf of sector partners are recommended to foster collaboration with the government in order to enhance their support to special education among refugees.

Please note: Further elaboration on this point is necessary.

- There is a need for increased awareness and advocacy endeavors on behalf of our sector partners to support special education to refugees.