More support for pupils with special educational needs: Moldovan government changes way inclusive education is financed



Schools will benefit from a new inclusive education funding mechanism as of January 1, 2028, under which 4 per cent of the expenditure ceiling allocated to educational institutions will be earmarked on this purpose. Resources will be distributed according to the needs of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, in line with the amendments approved by the government today.

The funding will cover expenses for specialized staff, including support teachers, psychologists, speech therapists, and psycho-pedagogues, as well as the activities of inclusive education resource centers.

The new funding mechanism will take into account the number of students with special educational needs, the type of difficulties they face and the degree of disability. Additional funding is provided for pupils with severe disabilities when calculating the financing for inclusive education resource centers. At the same time, resources for specialized staff will be calculated differently, depending on the pupils' support needs.

The rules for financing pupils’ meals are also being updated. Expenditure on purchasing food products will be separated from the costs required to organize the meal service, including staff salaries, as well as the maintenance and equipment of food service facilities. The amendments will allow for more flexible management of the financial resources allocated to these services.

The decision also aligns the funding mechanism for educational institutions with the new administrative structure of the education system, by including territorial education agencies in the planning, allocation and management of financial resources.

The new provisions will enter into force on January 1, 2027, while the updated inclusive education funding mechanism will be applied starting from January 1, 2028.

