

OPEN ENROLLMENT

The District has an open-enrollment program as set forth in A.R.S. 15-816 *et seq.* The open enrollment program described in this policy shall be placed on the District website and made available to the public on request.

No tuition shall be charged for open enrollment, except as authorized by applicable provisions of A.R.S. 15-764, 15-797, 15-823, 15-824, and 15-825.

Definitions

Resident transfer pupil means a resident pupil who is enrolled in or seeking enrollment in a school that is within the school district - but outside the attendance area - of the pupil's residence.

Nonresident pupil means a pupil who resides in this state and who is seeking enrollment in a school district other than the school district in which the pupil resides.

Enrollment Options

District resident pupils may enroll in another school district or in another school within this District. Resident transfer pupils and nonresident pupils may enroll in schools within this District, subject to the procedures that follow.

Information and Application

The Superintendent shall prepare a written information packet concerning the District's application process, standards for acceptance or rejection, and policies, regulations, and procedures for open enrollment. The packet will be made available to everyone who requests it.

The information packet shall include the enrollment application form and shall advise applicants that they must submit enrollment applications on or before March 1 of each year to be considered for enrollment during the following school year.

Capacity

The Superintendent shall annually estimate how much excess capacity may exist to accept transfer pupils. The estimate of excess capacity shall be made for each school and grade level and shall take into consideration:

- District resident pupils in assigned school attendance areas, including those issued certificates of educational convenience and those required to be admitted by statute.

- The enrollment of eligible children of persons who are employed by the District.
- Resident transfer pupils who were enrolled in the school the previous year.
- Nonresident pupils who were enrolled in the school the previous year.

The Governing Board shall make the final determination of excess capacity and may require resident transfer pupils and/or nonresident pupils to be subject to the enrollment priorities and procedures found below. The excess-capacity estimates shall be made available to the public in May of each year.

Enrollment Priorities

If the Governing Board has determined that there is excess capacity to enroll additional pupils, such pupils shall be selected on the basis of designated priority categories from the pool of pupils:

- Who have properly completed and submitted applications; *and*
- Who meet admission standards.

Enrollment priorities and procedures for selection shall be in the order and in accordance with the following:

- Enrollment preference shall be given to resident transfer pupils who were enrolled in the school the previous year and any sibling who would be enrolled concurrently with such pupils. If capacity is not sufficient to enroll all of these pupils, they shall be selected through a random selection process adopted by regulation of the Superintendent.
- Enrollment preference shall be given to nonresident pupils who were enrolled in the school the previous year and any sibling who would be enrolled concurrently with such pupils. If capacity is not sufficient to enroll all of these pupils, they shall be selected through a random selection process adopted by regulation of the Superintendent.
- Enrollment preference shall be given to resident transfer pupils who were not enrolled in the school the previous year. If capacity is not sufficient to enroll all of these pupils, they shall be selected through a random selection process adopted by regulation of the Superintendent.
- Enrollment preference shall be given to nonresident pupils who were not enrolled in the school the previous year. If capacity is not sufficient to enroll all of these pupils, they shall be selected through a random selection process adopted by regulation of the Superintendent.

Admission Standards

A pupil who has been expelled by any school district in this state or who is not in compliance with a condition of disciplinary action imposed by any other school or school district or with a condition imposed by the juvenile court shall not be admitted. Acceptance for enrollment may be revoked upon finding the existence of any of these conditions.

A school shall not admit a pupil if the admission of the pupil would violate the provisions of a court order of desegregation or agreement by a school or district with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights directed toward remediating alleged or proven racial discrimination.

Notification

The District shall notify the emancipated pupil, parent, or legal guardian in writing by June 1 whether the applicant has been accepted, placed on a waiting list pending the availability of capacity, or rejected. The District shall also notify the resident school district of an applicant's acceptance or placement on a waiting list. If the applicant is placed on a waiting list, the notification shall inform the emancipated pupil, parent, or legal guardian of the date when it will be determined whether there is capacity for additional enrollment in a school. If the pupil's application is rejected, the reason for the rejection shall be stated in the notification.

As provided by A.R.S. 15-816.07, the District and its employees are immune from civil liability for decisions relative to the acceptance or rejection of the enrollment of a nonresident student when the decisions are based on good faith application of this policy and the applicable statutory requirements and standards.

Transportation of Students Admitted Through Open Enrollment

A resident transfer student is eligible for District transportation on routes within the attendance boundaries of the school to which the student has been accepted for open enrollment transfer. It is the responsibility of the parents or guardians of the resident transfer student to have the student at a designated pickup point within the receiving school's transportation area.

Nonresident open enrollment students are eligible for District transportation from a designated pickup point on a bus route serving the attendance area of the school to which the student has been admitted, or as may be otherwise determined by the District.

The District *may* provide transportation for open enrollment nonresident students who meet the economic eligibility requirements established under the national school lunch and child nutrition acts for free or reduced price lunches:

- of not more than twenty (20) miles to and from:
 - the school of attendance, or
 - a pickup point on a regular District transportation route, or
 - for the total miles traveled each day to an adjacent district.

The District *shall* provide transportation for nonresident transfer students with disabilities whose individualized education program (IEP) specifies that transportation is necessary for fulfillment of the program:

- of not more than twenty (20) miles to and from:
 - the school of attendance, or
 - a pickup point on a regular District transportation route, or
 - for the total miles traveled each day to an adjacent district.

Exception

Should there be excess capacity remaining for which no applications were submitted by the date established, the Superintendent, upon approval by the Board, shall authorize additional enrollment of nonresident pupils:

- Up to the determined capacity.
- On the basis of the order of the completed applications submitted after the notification date established in this policy.
- Without regard to enrollment preference.
- As long as admission standards are met.
- Whose applications are submitted by November 1.

Adopted: November 10, 2010

LEGAL REF.: A.R.S. 15-764
15-797
15-816 *et seq.*
15-823
15-824
15-825
15-922

CROSS REF.: EEAA - Walkers and Riders
IIB - Class Size
JF - Student Admissions
JFAA - Admission of Resident Students
JFAB - Admission of Nonresident Students
JFABD - Admission of Homeless Students
JG - Assignment of Students to Classes and Grade Levels

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Selection Process

All applicants will be accepted if there is sufficient capacity. If there is insufficient capacity, applicants will be selected from the submitted applications for enrollment in a school in accordance with a random selection process except where policy may indicate otherwise. **After** May 1, pupils shall be selected for enrollment from the waiting list in the order in which the pupils were placed on the waiting list through the random selection process, or as otherwise provided by policy.

Procedure

The procedure for selection shall be as follows:

- The applicants will be divided by priority categories and have their names placed on separate pieces of paper and the papers placed in a container. Names will be drawn by priority categories and numbered in the order in which they are drawn. All applications properly submitted will be drawn and numbered for enrollment consideration. The applicants whose names are selected in order, up to the capacity limitations established, shall be permitted to enroll in the school. All others drawn will be placed on a waiting list with priority in accord with the lowest number. Parents are encouraged to be present at the drawing.

EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT

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ATTENDANCE APPLICATION

File this application at the School District Office

Student's name _____
Last First M.I.

Current grade _____ Birth date _____ Home phone _____

Siblings' Names:

Name Birth Date

Name Birth Date

Name Birth Date

Work phone _____ Message phone _____

Parent's name _____
Last First M.I.

Home address _____
Street City Zip

E-mail address _____

The above-named student: resides outside the School District; *or*
 resides within the School District

Present school of attendance

School _____ District _____

City _____ County _____

Request assignment to _____ School

Is the above-named student:
 Yes No Expelled or long-term suspended from any school or school district?
 Yes No Currently subject to expulsion or long-term suspension from a school or school district?
 Yes No N/A In compliance with conditions imposed by a juvenile court?
 Yes No N/A In compliance with a condition of disciplinary action in any school or school district?

EXHIBIT **EXHIBIT**

Note: The following conditions apply to the open-enrollment program:

1. An attendance application must be completed and submitted on or before March 1.
2. Enrollment is subject to the capacity limit established for the school and/or its grade levels.
3. On or before June 1, the parent or legal guardian will be notified in writing whether the application has been accepted, rejected, or placed on a waiting list.
4. Transportation for the student may be the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian.
5. Providing false information on this form may result in the application being denied or admission being revoked.

The signatory affirms that the student will abide by the rules, standards, and policies of the school and the District if enrolled.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

FOR DISTRICT USE ONLY ♦ DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Student number _____ **Date stamp** _____

Filing Date

Accepted Placed on waiting list Principal _____

Date

Rejected - Reason for rejection _____

Copies sent by school to applicant and Superintendent's office.

Date sent _____