

INTRADISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT

The Board of Education desires to provide enrollment options that meet the diverse needs and interests of district students, while maximizing the efficient use of district facilities. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the selection and transfer of students among district schools in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

The parents/guardians of any student who resides within district boundaries may apply to enroll their child in any district school, regardless of the location of residence within the district. (Education Code 35160.5)

The Board shall annually review this policy. (Education Code 35160.5, 48980)

Enrollment Priorities

Priority for attendance outside a student's attendance area shall be given as follows:

1. The Board believes it is the best interest of students that firm ties are established between families and schools. Therefore, once a family has received an Intradistrict permit, the receiving school shall be regarded as the home school of that family, and all siblings in the family may attend that school. Enrollment of Intradistrict siblings will be automatic, and shall not be subject to permit priorities or space availability.
2. If while on school grounds a student becomes the victim of a violent criminal offense, he/she shall be provided an option to transfer to another district school or charter school. (20 USC 7912)
3. If a student attends a school designated by the California Department of Education as "persistently dangerous," he/she shall be provided an option to transfer to another district school or charter school. (20 USC 7912; 5 CCR 11992)
4. The Superintendent or designee may approve a student's transfer to a district school that is at capacity and otherwise closed to transfers upon finding that special circumstances exist that might be harmful or dangerous to the student in the current attendance area, including, but not limited to, threats of bodily harm or threats to the emotional stability of the student.

To grant priority under these circumstances, the Superintendent or designee must have received either: (Education Code 35160.5)

- a. A written statement from a representative of an appropriate state or local agency, such as a law enforcement official, social worker, or a properly licensed or registered professional, such as a psychiatrist, psychologist, or marriage and family therapist
 - b. A court order, including a temporary restraining order and injunction
5. Any student whose parent/guardian is assigned to that school as his/her primary place of employment.

Application Process

In order to ensure that priorities for enrollment in district schools are implemented in accordance with law, applications for Intradistrict open enrollment shall be submitted on or before the last Friday of April ~~April 30~~ of the school year preceding the school year for which the transfer is requested.

For all other applications for enrollment from outside a school's attendance area, the Superintendent or designee shall use a random, unbiased selection process to determine who shall be admitted whenever the school receives admission requests that are in excess of the school's capacity. A school's capacity shall be calculated in a nonarbitrary manner using student enrollment and available space. (Education Code 35160.5)

Enrollment decisions shall not be based on a student's academic or athletic performance, except that existing entrance criteria for specialized schools or programs may be used provided that the criteria are uniformly applied to all applicants. Academic performance may be used to determine eligibility for, or placement in, programs for advanced learners (gifted and talented students). (Education Code 35160.5)

No student currently residing within a school's attendance area shall be displaced by another student transferring from outside the attendance area. (Education Code 35160.5)

Transportation

Except as required by 20 USC 6316 for transfers out of Title I program improvement schools, the district shall not be obligated to provide transportation for students who attend school outside their attendance area.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200 Prohibition against discrimination

35160.5 District policies; rules and regulations

35291 Rules

35351 Assignment of students to particular schools

46600-46611 Interdistrict attendance agreements

48200 Compulsory attendance

48204 Residency requirements for school attendance

48300-48316 Student attendance alternatives, school district of choice program

48350-48361 Open Enrollment Act

48980 Notice at beginning of term

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

11992-11994 Definition of persistently dangerous schools

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6311 State plans

7912 Transfers from persistently dangerous schools

COURT DECISIONS

Crawford v. Huntington Beach Union High School District, (2002) 98 Cal.App.4th 1275

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

85 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 95 (2002)

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Public School Choice FAQs

Every Student Succeeds Act 2016-17 School Year Transition Plan, April 2016

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Transitioning to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA): Frequently Asked Questions, rev. May 4, 2016

Unsafe School Choice Option, May 2004

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

Policy SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: August 19, 2009 Santa Monica, California

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