

Students

Interdistrict Attendance – District of Choice

Interdistrict Attendance Agreements and Permits

In accordance with an agreement between the Governing Board and the board of another district, a permit authorizing a student of either district to enroll in the other district may be issued upon approval of both districts.

The district shall post on its web site the procedures and timelines for requesting an interdistrict transfer permit, including a link to BP 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance. The posted information shall include, but is not limited to: (Education Code 46600.1, 46600.2)

1. The date upon which the district will begin accepting and processing interdistrict transfer requests for the following school year
2. The reasons for which the district may approve or deny a request, and any information or documents that must be submitted as supporting evidence
3. If applicable, the process and timelines by which a denial of a request may be appealed within the district before the district renders a final decision
4. A statement that failure of a parent/guardian to meet any timelines established by the district shall be deemed an abandonment of the request
5. Applicable timelines for processing a request, including the following statements:
 - a. For an interdistrict transfer request received by the district 15 or fewer calendar days before the commencement of instruction in the school year for which the transfer is sought, the district will notify the parent/guardian of its final decision within 30 calendar days from the date the request was received.
 - b. For an interdistrict transfer request received by the district more than 15 days before the commencement of instruction in the school year for which the interdistrict transfer is sought, the district will notify the parent/guardian of its final decision as soon as possible, but no later than 14 calendar days after the commencement of instruction in the school year for which transfer is sought.
6. The conditions under which an existing interdistrict transfer permit may be revoked or rescinded

Priority for interdistrict attendance shall be given to a student who has been determined, through an investigation by either the district of residence or district of proposed enrollment, to be a victim of an act of bullying, as defined in Education Code 48900(r), committed by a student of the district of residence. (Education Code 46600)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

Until the district is at maximum capacity, the district shall accept any student whose interdistrict transfer application is based on being the victim of an act of bullying or a child of an active duty military parent/guardian. The district shall ensure that such students are admitted through an unbiased process that prohibits an inquiry into or evaluation or consideration of whether or not a student should be enrolled based on academic or athletic performance, physical condition, proficiency in English, family income, or any of the individual characteristics set forth in Education Code 220, including, but not limited to, race or ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, and immigration status. (Education Code 46600)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee may approve an interdistrict attendance permit for a student for any of the following reasons when stipulated in the agreement:

1. To meet the child care needs of the student, only as long as the student's child care provider remains within district boundaries

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

2. To meet the student's special mental or physical health needs as certified by a physician, school psychologist, or other appropriate school personnel

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

3. When the student has a sibling attending school in the receiving district, to avoid splitting the family's attendance

4. To allow the student to complete a school year when the student's parents/guardians have moved out of the district during that year

5. To allow the student to remain with a class graduating that year from an elementary, middle, or senior high school

6. To allow a high school senior to attend the same school attended as a junior, even if the student's family moved out of the district during the junior year

7. When the parent/guardian provides written evidence that the family will be moving into the district in the immediate future and would like the student to start the school year in the district

8. When the student will be living out of the district for one year or less

9. When recommended by the school attendance review board or by county child welfare, probation, or social service agency staff in documented cases of serious home or community problems which make it inadvisable for the student to attend the school of residence

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

(cf. 5113.12 - District School Attendance Review Board)

10. When there is valid interest in a particular educational program not offered in the district of residence

11. To provide a change in school environment for reasons of personal and social adjustment

The Superintendent or designee may deny initial requests for interdistrict attendance permits due to limited district resources, overcrowding of school facilities at the relevant grade level, or other considerations that are not arbitrary. However, once a student is admitted, the district shall not deny continued attendance because of overcrowded facilities at the relevant grade level.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

If the transfer request is for a school year that begins within 15 calendar days of the receipt of the request, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of the final decision within 30 calendar days of receiving the request. If the transfer request is for a school year that begins more than 15 calendar days after the receipt of the request, the parent/guardian shall be notified of the final decision as soon as possible, but no later than 14 calendar days after the commencement of instruction during that school year. (Education Code 46600.2)

If a student's interdistrict transfer request is denied, the Superintendent or designee shall, in writing, notify the parents/guardians of their right to appeal to the County Board of Education within 30 calendar days from the date of the final denial. (Education Code 46600.2)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

All notices to parents/guardians regarding the district's decision on any request for interdistrict transfer shall conform to the translation requirements of Education Code 48985, and may be provided by regular mail, electronic format if the parent/guardian provides an email address, or by any other method normally used to communicate with parents/guardians in writing. (Education Code 46600.2)

Pending a decision by the two districts or by the County Board on appeal, the Superintendent or designee may provisionally admit a student who resides in another district for a period not to exceed two school months, provided the district is the district of proposed enrollment. If the decision has not been rendered by the conclusion of two school months and the districts or County Board is still operating within the prescribed timelines, the student shall not be allowed to continue attending the district school to which the student was provisionally admitted. (Education Code 46603)

Students who are under consideration for expulsion or who have been expelled may not appeal interdistrict attendance denials or rescissions while expulsion proceedings are pending or during the term of the expulsion. (Education Code 46601)

Bases for Revocation/Termination of Interdistrict Attendance Permit

Every interdistrict attendance permit shall stipulate the terms and conditions under which the permit may be revoked. (Education Code 46600)

An interdistrict attendance permit may be revoked by the Superintendent or designee for any of the following reasons:

1. Unsatisfactory academic performance (as defined above under Bases for Denial) at the district.
2. Unsatisfactory attendance (as defined above under Bases for Denial) at the district.
3. Providing incomplete, false or misleading information on the Application.
4. Repeated disruptive or otherwise unsatisfactory conduct in violation of Education Code sections 48900 et seq.
5. Suspension from the district as authorized by Education Code sections 48900 et seq.
6. Recommendation for expulsion or expulsion from the district as authorized by Education Code sections 48900 et seq.
7. The district makes the determination that the continuing presence of the student would interfere with the needs of the district, the best interests of students, or both.
8. Any other lawful, non-arbitrary basis for the district to conclude it would be in the best interest of the student, the student's school, or the district for the interdistrict attendance permit to be revoked.

If an interdistrict attendance permit is revoked by the Superintendent or designee, the parent/guardian of the student may appeal to the Superintendent for further consideration. An appeal must be submitted in writing to the Superintendent of Student Services and received in the District Office on or before the fifth calendar day following the date of the Notice of Revocation, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and days when the District Office is closed, or the right to appeal shall be deemed waived.

Pending a decision by the two districts or an appeal by the County Board, the Superintendent or designee may provisionally admit a student who resides in another district for a period not to exceed two school months. (Education Code 46603)

Students who are under consideration for expulsion or who have been expelled may not appeal interdistrict attendance denials or decisions while expulsion proceedings are pending or during the term of the expulsion. (Education Code 46601)

(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Once a student is admitted to a school on the basis of an interdistrict attendance permit, the student will be required to reapply annually for an interdistrict transfer and will be allowed to continue to attend the school of enrollment only if reapplication standards are met. Existing interdistrict attendance permits shall not be rescinded after June 30 following a student's completion of grade 10 or for any student entering grade 11 or 12 in the subsequent school year. (Education Code 46600)

OPTION 2: School District of Choice Program

The Superintendent or designee shall communicate with parents/guardians regarding transfer opportunities under the school district of choice program. Communications sent to parents/guardians shall be available in all languages for which translations are required pursuant to Education Code 48985, shall be factually accurate, and shall not target particular neighborhoods or individual parents/guardians on the basis of a child's actual or perceived academic or athletic skill or any other personal characteristic. (Education Code 48301, 48980)

The Superintendent or designee shall also make public announcements regarding district schools, programs, policies, and procedures, including transportation options if applicable, during the enrollment period. (Education Code 48312)

The Superintendent or designee may hold informational meetings on the district's current educational programs, so that parents/guardians can provide input to the district on methods to improve current programs and make informed decisions regarding their children's education. (Education Code 48302)

The process for student transfers into the district under the school district of choice program, including, but not limited to, any applicable form, the timeline for a transfer, and an explanation of the selection process, shall be posted on the district's web site. (Education Code 48301)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

Parents/guardians shall submit applications for interdistrict attendance to the district office before January 1 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student is requesting to be transferred. The application deadline may be waived upon agreement between the district and the student's district of residence. (Education Code 48308)

The application deadline shall not apply to an application requesting a transfer if the parent/guardian with whom the student resides is enlisted in the military and was relocated by the military within 90 days prior to submitting the application. (Education Code 48308)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

Any existing entrance criteria for specialized schools or programs shall be uniformly applied to all applicants. (Education Code 48305)

The district may deny a transfer into the district under the school district of choice program if the transfer would require the district to create a new program to serve that student, except that the district shall not reject the transfer of a student with disabilities or an English learner. (Education Code 48303)

Whenever the number of transfer applications exceeds the number of interdistrict transfers that may be accepted as annually determined by the Governing Board, students accepted for transfer shall be selected by a random

drawing held in public at a regularly scheduled Board meeting before February 15 of the school year preceding the school year for which the transfer is sought. (Education Code 48301)

Priority for transfer under the school district of choice program shall be granted as follows: (Education Code 48306)

1. First priority shall be given to siblings of students already in attendance in the district.
2. Second priority shall be given to students eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

3. Third priority shall be given to children of military personnel.

No later than February 15 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student is requesting to be transferred, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian in writing whether the application has been provisionally accepted or rejected or of the student's position on any waiting list. (Education Code 48308)

If a student's application for transfer is accepted, the Superintendent or designee shall so notify the student's district of residence no later than February 15 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student is requesting to be transferred. (Education Code 48308)

The number of students accepted for transfer into the district, by school and grade level, shall be reported to the district of residence on or before February 15. (Education Code 48308)

If a student's application is denied, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parents/guardians that the number of students requesting to transfer exceeded the district's capacity and that the student was not selected during the random drawing. Such determination shall be accurately recorded in the minutes of the Board meeting at which the determination was made. (Education Code 48308)

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

For a student whose parent/guardian was relocated by the military less than 90 days prior to the submission of the application, the district shall make a final decision to accept or reject the application within 90 days of its receipt. If the student's application has been submitted less than 90 days prior to the beginning of the school year, then the district shall accept or deny the application before the school year begins. Upon acceptance, the student may immediately enroll in a district school. (Education Code 48308)

Vacancies may be filled from the waiting list until May 1 of the school year preceding the school year for which students are requesting to be transferred. (Education Code 48308)

The final number of students enrolled in the district through the school district of choice program, by school and grade level, along with the names of the students, shall be reported to the district of residence on or before May 2. (Education Code 48308)

Students admitted through the school district of choice program are deemed to have fulfilled district residency requirements pursuant to Education Code 48204. (Education Code 48301)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

Final acceptance of the transfer is applicable for one school year and shall be renewed automatically each year unless the Board, by adoption of a resolution, withdraws from participation in the program and no longer accepts transfer students from other districts. (Education Code 48308)

Even if the district withdraws from participation in the program, students who attended or received a notice of acceptance into the district before the Board's resolution of withdrawal shall be permitted to attend school in the

district, and admitted high school students may continue attending school in the district until they graduate from high school. (Education Code 48307, 48308)

The district may accept any completed coursework, attendance, and other academic progress credited to an accepted student by any district(s) the student has previously attended and may grant academic standing to the student based upon the district's evaluation of the student's academic progress. (Education Code 48309)

(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

The district may revoke a student's enrollment if the student is recommended for expulsion pursuant to Education Code 48918. (Education Code 48309)

Transfers Out of the District

A student whose parent/guardian is in active military duty shall not be prohibited from transferring out of the district, provided the school district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. (Education Code 46600, 48307)

If the district is unable to provide an intradistrict transfer to a student who is a victim of an act of bullying, as defined in Education Code 46600, the district shall not prohibit the student from transferring out of the district if the district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. (Education Code 46600)

The district may limit transfers out of the district to a school district of choice under any of the following circumstances: (Education Code 48307)

1. The number of student transfers out of the district to a school district of choice has reached the limit specified in Education Code 48307 based on the district's average daily attendance.
2. The County Superintendent of Schools has given the district a negative budget certification or has determined that the district will not meet the state's standards and criteria for fiscal stability in the subsequent fiscal year exclusively as a result of student transfers from this district to a school district of choice.

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

3. The Board determines that the transfer would negatively impact any of the following: (Education Code 48307)
 - a. A court-ordered desegregation plan
 - b. A voluntary desegregation plan of the district, consistent with the California Constitution, Article 1, Section 31
 - c. The racial and ethnic balance of the district, consistent with the California Constitution, Article 1, Section 31

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