

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF JOHNSON CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY	POLICY: 425
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Open Enrollment Program

This policy shall be administered by the District Administrator in accordance with the State Public School Open Enrollment law.

The Board of Education has determined that it may allow non-resident students residing within the State of Wisconsin, but whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) does not reside in the District, and who qualify, to enroll in the District through an Open Enrollment Program during the forthcoming school year.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall apply to the District’s Open Enrollment Program.

Non-resident District – A school district located in Wisconsin which is not a student’s district of residence.

Non-residents Student – A student who is a legal resident or otherwise legally entitled to attend school in another school district in Wisconsin who does not have a parent residing in the District and who seeks admission to this District under the Open Enrollment Program.

Tuition Student – A non-resident student who has been approved by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to enroll in this District with the tuition paid by the district of residence.

Full-time Enrollment – A student is enrolled for the entire school day and receives all of his/her required education in this District.

Class Size – The District shall determine, for purposes of this policy only and not for use for any other purpose, the maximum number of students who can be enrolled in a particular classroom without jeopardizing the quality of the instructional program.

Program Size – The enrollment or size restrictions in a specific program within a class or building. The District reserves the exclusive right to establish program size and to limit enrollment based upon the capability to properly allocate available resources, create and maintain a proper learning environment, and comply with contracts, grants, and applicable laws and regulations.

Resident Student – A student who is a legal resident of this District and is consequently entitled to attend school in this District.

ENROLLMENT OF NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

A non-resident student may apply for full-time or part-time enrollment in a district school or program. A non-resident student may attend a Johnson Creek pre-kindergarten, early childhood, or school operated daycare program, if any, only if the student's resident district offers the same type of program in his/her resident school district.

Enrollment may not be available to any non-resident student who meets one or more of the following criteria.

The District Administrator shall make the decision based on the circumstances involved.

1. Space Availability

The District Administrator and the Board of Education shall determine the availability of openings, subsequent to District resident enrollment, for non-resident students based on the established maximum number of students that can be accommodated in each school, class, and program. The availability of space in the schools, programs, and classes may be based on class size limits, student-teacher ratios, students attending the District for whom tuition is paid under 121.78(1)(a), or enrollment projections established by the District.

If the number of applications for admission from non-resident students exceeds the number of available enrollment opportunities, non-resident students shall be selected for admission using a random selection process established by the District Administrator. If, in the random selection process one student from a family is chosen, then the district shall give preference to the remaining siblings in the family for whom the parent applied at the same time.

Enrollment priority shall be given for any of the following reasons.

Students who currently reside in the district but plan to move out of the district prior to the beginning of the next school year and students who moved out of the district during the current school year but have continued to attend Johnson Creek School District.

- Students who are attending a district school and whose tuition is paid by another school district.
- Students who are currently attending a district school under the full-time Open Enrollment Program.
- Students who are siblings of pupils already attending a district school.

A parent of a non-resident student who wishes his/her child to attend school in this District in the subsequent school year shall submit a request to the District Administrator of the current school year.

Non-resident, elementary students who are attending school in the District under this policy are

required to reapply prior to entering Middle School. Re-application may only be required once during a given student's tenure in the District.

2. Discipline-Related Criteria

Consistent with District policy and state law requirements, the District may deny the enrollment of any student who is under expulsion for any reason from any public school or independent charter school in Wisconsin or out-of-state public school during the proposed period of open enrollment. For students currently serving an expulsion from another public school in Wisconsin or an out-of-state public school, the District may allow the student's enrollment on a conditional basis if he/she meets the established enrollment conditions. The enrollment conditions established shall relate to the reasons for the student's expulsion and may not extend the term of the student's expulsion.

Except as otherwise provided by policy or the Board, the District shall not accept any student for full-time open enrollment in the District who has been expelled by any Wisconsin school district during the current school year or preceding two school years for any of the following specified conduct:

- a. endangering the health, safety or property of others
- b. conveying or causing to be conveyed any threat or false information concerning an attempt or alleged attempt being made or to be made to destroy any school property by means of explosives
- c. possessing a dangerous weapon while at school or under the supervision of a school authority; or,
- d. engaging in conduct while not at school or while not under the supervision of a school authority that endangered the health, safety or property of others at school or under the supervision of a school authority or of any school district employees or school board member. In addition, if any disciplinary proceeding regarding conduct falling in one of the foregoing categories is pending at the time of the student's application, the district may deny the application. If any such conduct occurs after the student has been accepted for open enrollment and prior to the beginning of the school year in which the student attends school in the District under open enrollment, the District may prohibit the student from attending school in the District under open enrollment.

3. Special Education Criteria

The Special Education Program or related services described in the child's Individualized Education Program is not available in the District or there is no space available in the appropriate Special Education Program. Further, if after a non-resident student begins attending the District, the IEP for the student requires a Special Education Program or related service that is not available in the district, or if there is not space available in the Special Education Program, the student shall be transferred to his/her resident district.

The child has not been properly screened by his/her resident school district to determine if there is reasonable cause to believe that the child is a child with exceptional educational needs or the

child has been reported or identified by his/her resident school district but not yet evaluated by a multidisciplinary team appointed by the resident district.

The student has not met the academic prerequisites for participation in a particular program in which the student wishes to enroll.

The District shall not discriminate on the basis of an applicant's intellectual, academic, artistic, athletic, or other ability, talent, or accomplishment, or based on a mental or physical disability.

The District Administrator shall be responsible for developing and promulgating administrative guidelines to implement this policy.

4. Truancy-Related Criteria

An open enrollment application shall be denied if the District previously revoked the student's status as an open enrollment student in the District due to habitual truancy during any semester of attendance at a District school in the current or previous school year. Once enrolled as an open enrollment student, if a nonresident student is habitually truant from the District during either semester in the current school year, the District may prohibit the student from attending school in the District under the full-time open enrollment program beginning in the succeeding semester or school year.

5. "Best Interests" Determinations Under the Alternative Open Enrollment Application Criteria and Procedures

If a parent or guardian applies for open enrollment under the alternative open enrollment application criteria and procedures and relies on the "best interests of the student" criteria, the district shall review the information and rationale provided by the parent(s) or guardian and make a determination as to whether the District agrees with the parent(s) or guardian that attending school in the District pursuant to the application is in the student's best interests. If the District determines that attendance would not be in the student's best interests, the application shall be denied on that basis.

Notification

The District Administrator shall notify the applicant whether or not the application has been accepted pursuant to State Law and Administrative guidelines.

If the application is accepted, the District Administrator shall also provide written notification to the applicant, of the specific program or school the student shall be attending. The parent must, in turn, notify the District Administrator, on or before the last Friday in June, if his/her child shall be attending school in this District the following year or within 15 days of receiving an exception acceptance.

The District Administrator shall notify the district of residence by no later than July 7th of each non-resident student who shall be attending school in this District in the forthcoming school year.

Parents of non-resident students accepted for enrollment shall be responsible for transporting their child to the school the child will attend or to a scheduled in-district bus stop as designated by the transportation director.

RELEASE OF RESIDENT STUDENTS

The Board shall release any resident student who wishes to apply for enrollment in another school district. The District Administrator shall ensure that the records of a resident student who transfers to a non-resident district are sent promptly to the other district.

If the student has applied for open enrollment under the alternative open enrollment application criteria and procedures authorized by law, the District may also deny the student's enrollment if the district determines that the criteria relied on by the student to submit the application do not apply to the student.

The District shall not provide transportation to resident students wishing to attend another school district.

The parent(s) or guardian of a resident open enrollment student shall be responsible for student transportation, except as otherwise provided by law. Requests from other public school districts to enter the boundaries of the District for the purpose of providing optional transportation to resident open enrollment students shall be denied.

Revised: 1/14/98
Revised: 5/11/06
Revised: 9/15/08
1st Reading: 6/26/13
Revised: 7/17/13
Revised: 1/19/15
Revised: 2/15/16
Reviewed: 5/10/21