

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians of students who reside within the geographic boundaries of one district may, for a variety of reasons, desire to enroll their children in a school in another district.

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)
(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)
(cf. 5118 - Open Enrollment Act Transfers)

Interdistrict Attendance Permits

The Board may enter into an agreement with any other school district, for a term not to exceed five school years, for the interdistrict attendance of students who are residents of the districts. (Education Code 46600)

The agreement shall specify the terms and conditions under which interdistrict attendance shall be permitted or denied. It also may contain standards agreed to by both districts for reapplication and/or revocation of the student's permit. (Education Code 46600)

Upon receiving a permit for transfer into the district that has been approved by the student's district of residence, or upon receiving a written request from the parent/guardian of a district student who wishes to enroll in another district, the Superintendent or designee shall review the request and may approve or deny the permit subject to the terms and conditions of the interdistrict attendance agreement.

Transportation

The district shall not provide transportation beyond any school attendance area. Upon request of a student's parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee may authorize transportation for an interdistrict transfer student to and from designated bus stops within the attendance area of the school that the student attends if space is available.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

41020 Annual district audits

46600-46611 Interdistrict attendance agreements

48204 Residency requirements for school attendance

48300-48317 Student attendance alternatives, school district of choice program

48350-48361 Open Enrollment Act

48900 Grounds for suspension or expulsion; definition of bullying

48915 Expulsion; particular circumstances

48915.1 Expelled individuals: enrollment in another district

48918 Rules governing expulsion procedures

48980 Notice at beginning of term

52317 Regional occupational center/program, enrollment of students, interdistrict attendance

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 31 Nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

87 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen.* 132 (2004)

84 *Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen.* 198 (2001)

COURT DECISIONS

Walnut Valley Unified School District v. the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, (2011) 192 Cal.App.4th 234

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

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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

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

Policy

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revised: June 26, 2018

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia, California

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE

Interdistrict Attendance Permits

In accordance with an agreement between the Governing Board and the board of another district, a permit authorizing a student's attendance outside his/her district of residence may be issued upon approval of both the district of residence and the district of proposed attendance.

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. When the student has been determined by staff of either the district of residence or district of proposed attendance to be a victim of an act of bullying as defined in Education Code 48900(r). Such a student shall be given priority for interdistrict attendance under any existing interdistrict attendance agreement or, in the absence of an agreement, shall be given consideration for the creation of a new permit. (Education Code 46600)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

2. To meet the child care needs of the student. Such a student may be allowed to continue to attend district schools only as long as he/she continues to use a child care provider within district boundaries.

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

3. 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)

4. When the student has a sibling attending school in the receiving district, to avoid splitting the family's attendance.
5. To allow the student to complete a school year when his/her parents/guardians have moved out of the district during that year.
6. To allow the student to remain with a class graduating that year from an elementary, middle, or senior high school.
7. To allow a high school senior to attend the same school he/she attended as a junior, even if his/her family moved out of the district during the junior year.

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

8. 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 year in the district.
9. When the student will be living out of the district for one year or less.
10. 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)

11. When there is valid interest in a particular educational program not offered in the district of residence.
12. 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 may not deny him/her continued attendance because of overcrowded facilities at the relevant grade level.

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

Within 30 calendar days of a request for an interdistrict permit, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parents/guardians of a student who is denied interdistrict attendance regarding the process for appeal to the County Board of Education as specified in Education Code 46601. (Education Code 46601)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

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)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

(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, he/she shall not be required to reapply for an interdistrict transfer and shall be allowed to continue to attend the school in which he/she is enrolled, unless reapplication standards are otherwise specified in the interdistrict attendance agreement. Existing interdistrict attendance permits shall not be rescinded for students entering grade 11 or 12 in the subsequent school year. (Education Code 46600)

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 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 by January 1 of the school year preceding the school year for which the student may 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)

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

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

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.

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 under either of the following circumstances:

1. The transfer into the district 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)
2. The Board determines that the transfer into the district 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

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. (Education Code 48301)

Between January 1 and 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)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

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. The 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 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 his/her 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 accepted for transfer into the district, 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)

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

The district may accept any completed coursework, attendance, and other academic progress credited to an accepted student by any district(s) he/she 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 he/she 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)

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

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- c. The racial and ethnic balance of the district, consistent with the California Constitution, Article 1, Section 31

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VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Visalia, California