

## **Students**

### **Intra-District Open Enrollment**

The Governing Board desires to provide enrollment options that meet the diverse needs and interests of district students and parents/guardians, while also maximizing the efficient use of district facilities and resources. 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 their residence within the district. (Education Code 35160.5)

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

### **Enrollment Priorities**

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)

The Superintendent or designee shall grant priority for the enrollment of a student in a district school outside of the student's attendance area, if the student:  
Is enrolled in a district school designated by the California Department of Education (CDE) as "persistently dangerous" (20 USC 7912; 5 CCR 11992)

1. Is a victim of a violent crime while on school grounds (20 USC 7912)
2. Is a victim of an act of bullying committed by another district student, as determined through an investigation following the parent/guardian's submission of a written complaint with the school, district, or local law enforcement agency pursuant to Education Code 234.1 (Education Code 46600)
3. If the district school requested by the student is at maximum capacity, the Superintendent or designee shall accept an intra-district transfer request for another district school. (Education Code 46600)
4. Is currently enrolled in a district school identified by CDE for comprehensive support and improvement, with priority given to the lowest academically achieving students from low-income families as determined pursuant to 20 USC 6313(a)(3) (20 USC 6311)
5. Is experiencing special circumstances 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. Any such student may transfer to a district school that is at capacity and otherwise closed to transfers. To grant priority under these circumstances, the Superintendent or designee must have received either: (Education Code 35160.5)

**Intra-District Open Enrollment (Cont.)**

- a. A written statement from a representative of an appropriate state or local agency, including, but not necessarily limited to, a law enforcement official or a social worker, or a properly licensed or registered professional, including, but not necessarily limited to, a psychiatrist, psychologist, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, or professional clinical counselor
  - b. A court order, including a temporary restraining order and injunction
6. Is a sibling of another student already attending that school
7. Has a parent/guardian whose primary place of employment is that school

**Application and Selection Process**

In order to ensure that priorities for enrollment in district schools are implemented in accordance with law and Board policy, applications for intra-district open enrollment shall be submitted between November 30<sup>th</sup> and January 10<sup>th</sup> of the school year preceding the school year for which the transfer is requested.

The Superintendent or designee shall calculate each school's capacity in a non-arbitrary manner using student enrollment and available space. (Education Code 35160.5)

Except for the enrollment priorities listed above, the Superintendent or designee shall use a random, unbiased selection process to determine which students shall be admitted whenever a district school receives admission requests that are in excess of the school's capacity. (Education Code 35160.5)

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

**Transportation**

In general, the district shall not be obligated to provide transportation for students who attend school outside their attendance area.

However, upon parent/guardian request, the district shall provide transportation assistance to any student who is eligible for free or reduced-price meals and whose enrollment in a district school outside the student's attendance area is a result of being a victim of bullying. (Education Code 46600)

<b>State Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
5 CCR 11992-11994	Definition of persistently dangerous schools
Ed. Code 200	Equal rights and opportunities in state educational institutions
Ed. Code 35160.5	District policies; rules and regulations
Ed. Code 35291	Rules
Ed. Code 35351	Assignment of students to particular schools
Ed. Code 46600-46611	Inter-district attendance agreements
Ed. Code 48200	Compulsory attendance

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**Intra-District Open Enrollment (Cont.)**

Ed. Code 48204	Residency requirements for school attendance
Ed. Code 48300-48316	Student attendance alternatives, school district of choice program
Ed. Code 48980	Notice at beginning of term

<b>Federal Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
20 USC 6311	State plan
20 USC 6313	Eligibility of schools and school attendance areas; funding allocation
20 USC 7912	Transfers from persistently dangerous schools

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## **Students**

### **Intra-District Open Enrollment**

#### **Transfers for Victims of a Violent Criminal Offense**

Within a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed 14 calendar days, after it has been determined that a student has been the victim of a violent criminal offense while on school grounds, the student's parents/guardians shall be offered an option to transfer their child to an eligible school identified by the Superintendent or designee. In making the determination that a student has been a victim of a violent criminal offense, the Superintendent or designee shall consider the specific circumstances of the incident and consult with local law enforcement as appropriate. Examples of violent criminal offenses include, but are not limited to, attempted murder, battery with serious bodily injury, assault with a deadly weapon, rape, sexual battery, robbery, extortion, or hate crimes.

The Superintendent or designee shall consider the needs and preferences of the affected student and parent/guardian in making the offer. If the parent/guardian elects to transfer the student, the transfer shall be completed as soon as practicable.

#### **Transfers from a "Persistently Dangerous" School**

Upon receipt of notification from the California Department of Education (CDE) that a district school has been designated as "persistently dangerous," intra-district transfers shall be granted as follows:

1. Within 10 days of receipt of the notification from CDE, the Superintendent or designee shall provide parents/guardians of students attending the school with notice of the school's designation. Along with this notification, or at least 14 calendar days before the start of the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a list of other district schools to which any student of the school that is designated as persistently dangerous may transfer.
2. Parents/guardians who desire to transfer their child out of the school shall provide a written response to the Superintendent or designee and shall rank-order their preferences from among all schools identified by the Superintendent or designee as eligible to receive transfer students.
3. The Superintendent or designee shall consider the needs and preferences of students and parents/guardians before making an assignment, but is not obligated to accept the parent/guardian's preference if the assignment is not feasible due to space constraints or other considerations. The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parents/guardians of the assigned school.
4. For students whose parents/guardians accept the offer, the transfer shall be made as quickly as possible. If the parents/guardians decline the assigned school, the student may remain in the current school.

The transfer shall remain in effect as long as the student's school of origin is identified as "persistently dangerous." The Superintendent or designee may choose to make the transfer permanent based on the educational needs of the student, parent/guardian preferences, and other factors affecting the student's ability to succeed if returned to the school of origin.

**Intra-District Open Enrollment (Cont.)**

The Superintendent or designee shall cooperate with neighboring districts to develop an inter-district transfer program in the event that space is not available in a district school.

Other Intra-district Open Enrollment

Except for transfers for victims of a violent crime and from a "persistently dangerous school," the following procedures shall apply to intra-district open enrollment:

1. The Superintendent or designee shall identify those schools which may have space available for additional students. A list of those schools and open enrollment applications shall be available at each school site, the district office, and on the district's web site.
2. After the enrollment priorities have been applied in accordance with Board policy, if there are more requests for a particular school than there are spaces available, a random drawing shall be held from the applicant pool. A waiting list shall be established to indicate the order in which applicants may be accepted if openings occur during the year. Late applicants shall not be added to the waiting list for the current year but shall instead wait for a subsequent lottery.
3. The Superintendent or designee shall provide written notification to applicants as to whether their applications have been approved, denied, or placed on a waiting list. If the application is denied, the reasons for denial shall be stated.
4. Approved applicants must confirm their enrollment within 10 school days.

Any student who is granted a transfer out of a school that had been identified by CDE for comprehensive support and improvement shall be allowed to remain in the school of enrollment until completing the highest grade offered at that school. (20 USC 6311)

A student granted intra-district enrollment under other circumstances shall not be required to reapply for readmission but may be subject to displacement due to excessive enrollment.

Any complaints regarding the open enrollment process shall be submitted in accordance with the applicable complaint procedure.

**Notifications**

Notifications shall be sent to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year describing all current statutory attendance options and local attendance options available in the district. Such notification shall include: (Education Code 35160.5, 48980)  
All options for meeting residency requirements for school attendance

1. Program options offered within local attendance areas
2. A description of any special program options available on both an inter-district and intra-district basis
3. A description of the procedure for application for alternative attendance areas or programs and the appeals process available, if any, when a change of attendance is denied

**Intra-District Open Enrollment (Cont.)**

4. A district application form for requesting a change of attendance
5. The explanation of attendance options under California law as provided by CDE

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