

Policy JECA-2: ELIGIBILITY TO ENROLL

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: Pending

EXPLANATION

MSBA is amending this policy due to changes in the law under Senate Bill 681 (2022). Please note that these changes go into effect on July 1, 2023, and should not impact enrollment of nonresident students for the 2022-23 school year.

This is a dramatic change to the current Missouri law, which had been in effect for many decades. Regardless of whether a district allows nonresident students to attend on a tuition-paying basis, all districts have been required to allow enrollment of students whose parents pay school taxes to the district or children who live on agricultural land that is partially located in the district. These exceptions have now been replaced with a very narrow exception for residential or agricultural property owners. Parents/Guardians who meet the narrow parameters are not required to pay tuition—their children may attend for free. Please note that business property does not qualify for this exception.

The statute uses the term "children," so districts can count only biological or adopted children for state aid. Students being raised by persons other than their legal parents cannot attend under this new exception.

MSBA encourages districts to begin identifying students who are attending under the provisions of the previous law and work with the families to determine whether those students can still attend under the new law. If not, the district will need to make some decisions. The district could simply apply the law and tell the families that the student is no longer eligible for enrollment. The district could also grandfather these students into the district and allow them to continue to attend by paying tuition discounted by the amount of school taxes paid. The district cannot allow these students to attend without the payment of tuition.

(District Allows Nonresident Students to Enroll and Attend Only When Required by Law)

The Raytown C-2 School District (District) encourages all eligible students to enroll in the dDistrict. The superintendent or designee will develop an admission process that meets legal requirements and is efficient and welcoming to parents/guardians and students.

Enrollment

In general, in order to enroll a student in the DistrictCommonNameDistrict, a student, the parent, legal guardian, military guardian, person acting as a parent or the student must provide proof of legal residency in the dDistrict or request a waiver of proof of residency (as outlined in this policy) and must complete all admission requirements as determined by board policies, regulations and procedures. Students whose parents/guardians are being relocated to Missouri under military orders and who are registering remotely are required to provide proof of residency within ten days of the student's actual attendance in the dDistrict.

Students who do not provide proof of residency in the district will be admitted without payment of tuition only as permitted in this policy or required by law. ThisThe dDistrict does not allow nonresident students to enroll in and attend thisthe dDistrict upon payment of tuition unless otherwise required by lawexcept as detailed in this policy.

Resident and Nonresident Students

A student is a "resident" student if the studenthe or she meets at least one of the following criteria:

1. The student physically resides and is domiciled in the dDistrict. The domicile of a minor child shall be the domicile of a parent, military guardian pursuant to a military-issued guardianship or court-appointed legal guardian. A "power of attorney" document alone, with the exception of a special power of attorney document relevant to the guardianship of a child in the household of an active duty member of the military, is insufficient to satisfy the "court-appointed legal guardian" requirement.
2. The student does not live with a parent, military guardian or court-appointed guardian but does physically resides in the dDistrict for reasons other than obtaining access to the dDistrict's schools, regardless of with whom the student is living, and has a waiver of proof of residency on file.

3. The student will soon physically reside in the dDistrict due to relocation to Missouri of one or both of the student's parents/guardians under military orders.

Students who do not meet the requirements to be a resident student of the dDistrict, as defined in board policies and law, will be considered nonresidents.

Waiver of Proof of Residency

In cases where a student living in the dDistrict wishes to enroll, but the student does not live with a parent, military guardian or court-appointed guardian in the dDistrict and is not otherwise allowed by law or a contractual relationship with another school district to attend, the student, parent, military guardian, legal guardian or person acting as a parent must request a waiver of proof of residency. Waivers of proof of residency will be granted only on the basis of hardship or good cause. Good cause shall include situations where the student is living in the dDistrict for reasons other than attending school in the dDistrict. Under no circumstances shall athletic ability be a valid basis of hardship or good cause for the issuance of a waiver.

The board delegates to the superintendent or designee the responsibility for bringing to the board's attention any waiver application in which the student is not clearly entitled to attend school in the dDistrict. All other applications will be accepted and granted by the superintendent or designee on behalf of the board. Once a waiver application has been identified for board review, the board shall convene a hearing to consider the request as soon as possible, but no later than 45 days after the receipt of the waiver request, or else the waiver shall be granted. The board president may appoint a committee of the board to act in lieu of the board to consider waiver requests.

If a waiver request has been forwarded to the board for review, the superintendent or designee may permit a student to temporarily enroll and attend school until the board meets to decide whether the waiver request will be granted, if it is determined to be in the best interest of the student. If the board grants the waiver request, the student will be allowed to continue attending school in the dDistrict. If the board denies the waiver request, the student shall not be allowed to continue attending school in the dDistrict.

In instances where there is reason to suspect that admission of the student will create an immediate danger to the safety of other students and employees of the district, the superintendent or designee may convene a hearing within five working days of the enrollment request to determine whether the student may enroll.

Students Otherwise Entitled by Law to Enroll

In accordance with law, students will be enrolled and admitted without going through the waiver process when they attend under one of the following conditions, and tuition for these students, when applicable, will be charged in accordance with policy DFI. These conditions include students who:

1. Are considered homeless in accordance with state and federal law (42 U.S.C. § 11431 - 11435; § 167.020, RSMo.).
2. Are attending the district as participants in an interdistrict transfer program established under a court-ordered desegregation program (§ 167.020, RSMo.).
3. Are wards of the state and have been placed in a residential care facility within the dDistrict by state officials (§ 167.020, RSMo.).
4. Have been placed in a residential care facility within the dDistrict due to a mental illness or developmental disability (§ 167.020, RSMo.).
5. Have been placed in a residential care facility within the dDistrict by a juvenile court (§ 167.020, RSMo.).
6. Are assigned to the dDistrict by the commissioner of education due to an unusual or unreasonable transportation hardship (§ 167.121, RSMo.). The residentschool district the student lives in will pay the tuition.
7. Have been identified as students with disabilities under state eligibility criteria and are in the dDistrict for reasons other than accessing the dDistrict's educational program (§ 167.020, RSMo.).
8. Have a permanent or temporary home in the dDistrict and are orphans, have only one parent living or their parents do not contribute to their support, as long as the students are between the ages of 6 and 20 years old

and are unable to pay tuition (§ 167.151, RSMo.).

9. Are children of parents/guardians who pay school taxes on property in the school district but do not live in the district. These students may attend school in the district on a tuition basis and will receive a credit for the school taxes paid (§ 167.151, RSMo.). Are children whose parent:

- Currently owns residential or agricultural real property in the District or is a named beneficiary of a trust that owns such property;
- Provides proof of ownership, or proof of the trust's ownership, of the property for at least the previous four consecutive years;
- Provides proof that the parent or the trust has annually paid a minimum of \$2,000 in school taxes to the school district levied on the property;
- Resides in the same county as the District; and
- Provides 30 days' written notice to the District of their intent to enroll the child.

The parent may send up to four of their children to the District under this provision. For the purposes of this exception, "residential real property" does not include multi-family residential property that exceeds four units.

10. Are children of parents/guardians who own real estate of which 80 acres or more are used for agricultural purposes and upon which their residence is situated. These children may attend school, without paying tuition, in any district in which a part of such real estate, contiguous to that upon which their residence is situated, lies, provided that 35 percent of the real estate is located in the district of choice (§ 167.151, RSMo.). Such parents/guardians are required to send notification by June 30 to all school districts involved specifying which district their children will attend, and the children will only attend the district notified for that school year. If notification is not received, such children shall attend the school in which the majority of the parent's/guardian's property lies.

10. Have been placed by the Missouri Department of Mental Health, the Missouri Department of Social Services or by court order in facilities or programs located within the dDistrict, even if their domicile is in another school district (§ 167.126, RSMo.). Tuition will be collected in accordance with policy DFI.
11. Are residing in a Missouri school district that has been declared unaccredited by the Missouri State Board of Education (State Board) and that is located in the same county as the DistrictCommonNameDistrict or an adjoining county (§167.895, RSMo.). The unaccredited school district will pay tuition as required by law. The DistrictCommonNameDistrict is not responsible for providing transportation.
12. Are living in a school district that does not provide education for all grade levels (such as K-6 or K-8 school districts) that is located in the same county as the DistrictCommonNameDistrict or an adjoining county. The sendingschool district the student lives in will pay tuition as calculated by the DistrictCommonNameDistrict or the State Board in accordance with law. The DistrictCommonNameDistrict is not responsible for providing transportation. Before the dDistrict will enroll the student, the student must first enroll in the sendingschool district the student lives in and verify residency in that school district.
13. Are placed in the care of another person living in the dDistrict because one or both of their parents/guardians have been stationed or deployed out of state or deployed within Missouri by the military or because of active duty military service. These students will be allowed to attend school in the district without the payment of tuition (§§ 160.2000, 167.020, RSMo.). In addition, if the active duty orders expire during the school year, the students may finish the school year in the dDistrict in accordance with law.
14. Were enrolled in the DistrictCommonNameDistrict but, due to the active duty military service of a parent/guardian, are placed in the care of a person who resides in another school district. These students will be allowed to continue to attend school in the DistrictCommonNameDistrict without payment of tuition (§ 160.2000, RSMo.).
15. Attend a private school within the dDistrict and are enrolled in the dDistrict for the limited purpose of special education identification and the receipt of some special education services when available as mandated by federal special education law (§ 167.020, RSMo.).

16. Previously attended the dDistrict and have been placed in foster care in an adjacent school district (§ 167.019, RSMo.).
17. Are otherwise required by law to be enrolled and admitted.

Enrollment at the Option of the District

The board, in its discretion, may also allow students to enroll and attend under the following circumstances without going through the waiver process. Unless required by law, no student will be enrolled in the DistrictCommonName if the enrollment might result in overcrowding, disruption to the educational environment or a financial hardship to the dDistrict.

1. The dDistrict may enroll and educate nonresident students on a contractual basis with another school district that will pay the tuition or educational expenses (§ 167.020, RSMo.). For example, students may attend a dDistrict alternative education program on a contractual basis or as part of a regional or cooperative education program.
2. The children of nonresident teachers and regular employees may enroll in the district without paying tuition when the resident school district is not otherwise liable for tuition (§§ 163.011, 168.151, RSMo.). In accordance with law, these students will be considered resident students for the purpose of determining average daily attendance, and the board shall not solicit or receive money from a teacher employed by the dDistrict for the purpose of paying tuition or any other expenses for the operation of schools.
3. The dDistrict may enroll students pursuant to a contractual arrangement that complies with the Enrollment Option Act when permitted by law (§§ 162.1040 - .1059, RSMo.). A nonresident student enrolled pursuant to an enrollment option program shall be counted as a resident student for the purposes of determining state aid.
4. In accordance with law, the dDistrict may enroll nonresident students in its summer school program if there is room in the district's program to accommodate the students and the students are not attending summer school in another school district (§ 167.227, RSMo.). The dDistrict will either count the students as residents for state aid purposes or allow them to attend upon payment of tuition by another school district or the parents/guardians.

The dDistrict will not enroll nonresident students in summer programs funded entirely by federal funds unless there is an interdistrict agreement to provide those services.

5. Foreign exchange students living within the boundaries of the school dDistrict who have obtained a J-1 visa and who are sponsored by an organization listed on the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) Advisory List will be allowed to enroll in the school dDistrict. Such enrollment will be conditioned upon approval of the superintendent and in accordance with procedures set forth by the superintendent or designee. The board of education reserves the right to limit the number of foreign exchange students enrolled in a given year. Attendance by foreign exchange students is a privilege, not a right.
6. Children residing in institutions located within the district that provide a place of residence for three or more such children whose domicile is not in the state of Missouri may be admitted pursuant to a contractual arrangement, provided that the school dDistrict, its taxpayers, the state of Missouri or its political subdivisions bear no financial burden as a result of the placement (§ 167.126, RSMo.).

Tuition

This dDistrict does not allow nonresident students to enroll and attend the dDistrict upon payment of tuition unless otherwise required by law. However, when the law requires enrollment of nonresident students on a tuition basis, the District will determine the amount of tuition will be determined by the district in accordance with law and policy DFI.

In these circumstances, students will not be entitled to attend schools in the district until the full payment of tuition is received. All costs of transportation for any student so admitted will be the sole responsibility of the person/entity paying the tuition, unless otherwise required by law.

Removal of Students Ineligible to Attend

The superintendent or designee will investigate any information the dDistrict receives indicating that a student is not a resident of the dDistrict or not otherwise entitled to attend the dDistrict in accordance with law or this policy. If the superintendent or designee determines after the investigation that the student is not a resident of the dDistrict and is not otherwise entitled to enroll in and attend the dDistrict in accordance with law and the dDistrict's policy, the dDistrict will notify the student's parents/guardians, and ask them to withdraw the student by a specific date. If the parents/guardians do not withdraw the student, the dDistrict will formally remove the student from its rolls and notify the parents/guardians that the student may no longer attend school in the dDistrict.

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the dDistrict may exclude students from the district's education programs for failure to pay tuition after the responsible party is notified of the delinquency and given a reasonable amount of time to pay the dDistrict.

Educational Larceny

It is a crime to provide the dDistrict false information regarding residency. The board authorizes the superintendent or designee to make a criminal complaint and pursue civil recourse against any person who fraudulently asserts claims or attempts to fraudulently assert claim residency in the dDistrict.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

Description

§§ 162.1040-.1059, RSMo.

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§160.2000, RSMo.

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§163.011, RSMo.

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.019, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.020, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.022, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.121, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.126, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.131, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.151, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.227, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.895, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§167.898, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§168.151, RSMo

State Statute - <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slashVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==>

§431.058, RSMo.	State Statute - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slshVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==
§475.060, RSMo.	State Statute - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/slshVClyWU73Tdpv4JZYxrPDw==
MO COURT	Blue Springs R-IV Sch. Dist. v. Sch. Dist. of Kansas City, 415 S.W.3d 110 (Mo. banc 2013) - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UbQL1xGtQpuhwEoCYu2lOw==
MO COURT	Breitenfeld v. Sch. Dist. of Clayton, 399 S.W.3d 816 (Mo. 2013) - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UbQL1xGtQpuhwEoCYu2lOw==

Federal References

42 U.S.C. §§ 11431-11435	Description McKinney - Vento Homeless Children's Assistance Act - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/plusSLEkiEKYG9tr1Va3O8c8g==
8 U.S.C. § 1101	Federal Statute - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/plusSLEkiEKYG9tr1Va3O8c8g==
FEDERAL COURT	Martinez v. Bynum, 461 U.S. 321 (1983) - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/wetoaJSTYbApluslshomcUbe4pA==
FEDERAL COURT	Washington v. Ladue Sch. Dist. Bd. of Educ., 564 F. Supp. 2d 1059 (E.D. Mo. 2008) - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/buleBac7vUQEPkDzL6PLwg==
FEDERAL COURT	Horton v. Marshall Public Sch., 769 F.2d 1323 (8th Cir. 1985) - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/RxrCIKwX01SL2JnFj29bw==

Cross References

DFI-1	Description SETTING TUITION FOR DISTRICT PROGRAMS - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/6VsGpcZslshu70uZSTSAU8n2A==
IGBCA	PROGRAMS FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/PPO4rWEMfsAfoLo90snKUw==
IGBCA-AF(1)	PROGRAMS FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/C48wPztP3pByNe3jUQD8Nw==
IGBCB	PROGRAMS FOR MIGRATORY STUDENTS - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/8H9D8en1pluskPUslshlu9O7P6CA==
IGBCB-AP(1)	PROGRAMS FOR MIGRATORY STUDENTS - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/NIT7slshslsh6Ax0Xj2OcWm1GJFQ==
IGBCB-AF(1)	PROGRAMS FOR MIGRATORY STUDENTS - PROGRAMS FOR MIGRANT STUDENTS - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/S4LwiplusVJpnlv8VaMEqDvw==
IGBE	STUDENTS IN FOSTER CARE - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/wjJGb1yXsuabUrQykMsKvA==
IGBE-AP(1)	STUDENTS IN FOSTER CARE - (Dispute Resolution Process) - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/OOCOGskUeKbbubnchavN8w==
IHB	CLASS SIZE - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BdsuJ9TslshCnmZ1ZyXqDajxw==