

Policy Code: 4130 Out-of-County Student Transfer

Enrollment in the school system generally is limited to those students who meet the domicile or residence requirements outlined in policy 4120, Domicile or Residence Requirements. However, on occasion, special circumstances may warrant a student's enrollment in a different school system. The board, in its discretion, may admit students who are domiciled outside of Rockingham County into the school system and may release domiciled students to another school system in accordance with this policy.

All discretionary admissions decisions to admit students who are domiciled outside Rockingham County will be made in a manner that is not arbitrary, capricious, discriminatory, or prohibited by state or federal law, or made for personal or political reasons.

A. Admission Criteria

The board may choose to admit a non-domiciled student only if the following conditions are met:

1. The parent, legal guardian, or judge's court ordered legal custodian explains in writing why, in the opinion of the parent, legal guardian, or judge's court ordered legal custodian, the student needs to attend school in the school district. An explanation of need will be considered valid grounds for discretionary admission only if there are compelling, specific circumstances indicating that the student should attend school in the Rockingham County school system.

Any reason having to do with athletics or participation in athletics is not a valid or sufficient explanation of need.

2. The board must have determined that space is available in the school district and in the particular school or program in which the student seeks to enroll.

3. The student must demonstrate that he or she was in good standing in the previous school attended by that student, in terms of academics, discipline, and other measures of standing and progress in the school district. The student also must satisfy the requirements in policy 4115, Behavior Standards for Transfer Students.

4. The student must furnish a transcript and other student record data, including evidence of compliance with the North Carolina immunization requirements.

5. If the student is transferring from another school district in North Carolina, the student must submit a release approved by the board of education of the school system from which the transfer is being made. If the student's discretionary admission request is granted, the admission will be subject to the terms and conditions agreed to in writing between the board and the board of education of the other school system.

6. If the student resides with an adult who is not the student's parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian, the student must furnish the school system with a notarized document showing that the parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian consents to the student attending school in the school system and authorizes the adult with whom the student lives to make all decisions relating to the student's education, including, but not limited to, any decisions relating to placement, services, field trips, medical treatment, grading and reporting, discipline, participation in extracurricular activities, and participation in athletics.

7. If the student does not reside within the assignment area of the school the student will attend, the parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian must agree to provide transportation

to and from school.

8. If the student is asserting residency in the geographic area served by the school system, sufficient evidence must be provided with the initial application. Evidence establishing legal residence will include:

- a. complete utility bill with address;
- b. rental contract/agreement giving evidence of residence;
- c. real estate property tax notice with address of domicile; and
- d. notarized statement from rental agent or landlord and Driver License showing residence address.

9. The parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian must agree to pay tuition as required by policy 4135, Tuition for Out-of-County Students.

B. Application and Decision

Out-of-county students who meet the admission criteria may submit a written application for discretionary admission to the superintendent or designee. The application must be accompanied by all required supporting documents, as described above in Section A. Applications from students domiciled outside Rockingham County but who are residents of the geographic area served by the school system will have first priority.

Applications for admission to the Rockingham County Schools Administrative Unit under this policy will be approved only if space is available in the school or program in which the student seeks to enroll.

After reviewing the application and supporting documents, the superintendent or designee shall make a recommendation to the board to approve or deny the discretionary admission request. The district may grant admission for up to one full school year based upon the information contained in the application and supporting documents.

Students who are admitted under this policy based upon false or misleading information on their application will have their application voided and said acceptance will be rescinded.

C. Assignment

Although the intent of the board is that all students admitted under this policy be assigned to the school in the school system located closest to their permanent residence, the board reserves the right to assign such students as it deems necessary for the efficient operation and the best interests of the schools. The parent/guardian is responsible for transportation of students admitted under this policy.

D. Renewals

An application must be submitted each subsequent school year in which admission is desired. For the renewal of admission in subsequent school years, the student must continue to meet all admission criteria and be in good standing in terms of academics, attendance, discipline and discipline.

E. Release to Another School System

A student domiciled in Rockingham County may request a release from the board to attend a school in a different school system in North Carolina. The student must have approval both of the Rockingham County Board of Education to release the student and approval of the receiving board of education to admit the student. The decision whether to admit the student is made under the policies of the receiving board of education.

The superintendent or his or her designee may develop and administer a procedure to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: [G.S. 7A, art. 56](#); [35A, art. 6](#); [50-13.1 to 13.3](#); [115C-231, -364 to -366.2](#)

Cross Reference: Behavior Standards for Transfer Students (policy 4115), Domicile or Residence Requirements (policy 4120), Tuition for Out-of-County Students (policy 4135),

Adopted: April 17, 2006

Revised: March 12, 2007; February 27, 2023

Rockingham County Schools
