

Policy Code: 4135 Tuition for Out-of-County Students

Unless provided otherwise in this policy, tuition will be charged to students admitted under board policy 4130, Out of County Student Transfer, if the students are (1) not domiciled in the State or (2) are domiciled in the State and residing outside of the school system boundaries. Tuition may not exceed the local per pupil allocation for current expense as provided by the board of commissioners. The tuition rate will be determined annually by the board no later than August 1.

Waiver of Tuition

Tuition may be waived if the student meets one of the following criteria:

1. The student is admitted to the school system pursuant to an agreement between this board and another board of education and the agreement specifies that the payment of tuition by the student will not be required.
2. The student resides on a military base within North Carolina.
3. The students' parent(s) are employed by the school system.

In addition, no tuition will be charged to:

1. students residing on military bases within North Carolina where federal funds designed to compensate for the impact on public schools of military dependent students are provided to the school system in an amount not less than 50 percent of the total per capita cost for education, exclusive of capital outlay and debt service,
2. students who are domiciliaries of the State and who reside within the school administrative unit. However, the board may enter an agreement with the board of education of the student's domicile for payment of tuition by that board.

Reduction in Tuition

Families or guardians may request a reduction in tuition based on a financial hardship as demonstrated by the following: (1) detailed description of current household expenses that are impacted by the tuition costs; (2) information regarding any government assistance (i.e., EBT, SNAP); (3) extensive medical bills that severely impact the family's ability to make tuition payments; and/or (4) loss or reduction in force at the place of employment. The superintendent or his/her designee will gather and review the information provided by the family. The superintendent or his/her designee shall make a recommendation for approval to the board for either a reduction in fee or a complete waiver of tuition for the family based on the artifacts provided.

All persons who pay tuition for their children to attend Rockingham County Schools and who own property within Rockingham County may be eligible for a reduction in tuition equal to the percentage of property taxes allocated by the County Commissioners to the school system's current expense budget.

Payment Schedule

Tuition payment may be made by semester, or annually prior to student enrollment. For students transferring during the school year, tuition charges and refunds will be made on a pro-rata basis. Failure to make appropriate payments on time may cause students to forfeit their privilege of attendance.

Legal References: [G.S. 115C-366 to -366](#)

Cross References: Out-of-County Student Transfer (policy 4130)

Adopted: October 6, 1997

Revised: November 14, 2001; April 17, 2006; March 12, 2007; October 14, 2013; August 8, 2016; May 8, 2017; February 27, 2023

Rockingham County Schools
