

**ENROLLMENT OF RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT,  
HOMELESS, AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS**

A. General Policy

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and approval of the Board of Education, and when space and other facilities are available, a non-resident pupil may attend the district's schools by paying the current state-established tuition rate and providing his/her own transportation. Permission for enrollment on a tuition basis will be granted only after parental conference with the Superintendent or designee and establishment of need. This privilege may be revoked if the student fails to follow the established rules and regulations.

B. Determination of Status

It shall be the responsibility of each school principal to refer all students with non-resident parents, or where there is any question of residency, to the Superintendent of Schools for a decision as to his/her status as soon as it is known. The Board of Education reserves the right to review requests for admission of tuition students on a case-by-case basis. Any nonresident student who is under suspension or expulsion from another school system must appear for a hearing in accordance with O.R.C. §3313.66 before a decision will be made regarding his/her admission for the duration of the suspension or expulsion.

C. Eligibility for Enrollment

Students shall be eligible for enrollment in accordance with O.R.C. §3313.64 and O.R.C. §3301.60 if the student is a child in a military family as defined in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

D. Homeless Students

The Ohio Department of Education is committed to facilitating the timely resolution of disputes regarding the educational placement of homeless children and youth. The process may address issues concerning: enrollment, transfer of records, transportation, comparable services, guardianship, medical records, residency, school of origin/school of choice issues along with any related homeless education concerns.

**Enrollment**

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act includes definitive language concerning the enrollment of homeless children and youth including:

**The local educational agency shall according to the youth's best interest:**

- Continue the child's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness-

- ▶ In any case in which a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year or
- ▶ For the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year or
- Enroll the child or youth in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

**In determining the best interest of the child or youth, the local educational agency (LEA) shall:**

- To the extent feasible, keep the homeless child or youth in the school of origin, except when doing so is contrary to the wishes of the child's or youth's parent or guardian.
- Provide a written explanation to the parent or guardian, including a statement regarding the right to appeal if the local educational agency sends the child or youth to a school other than the school of origin or a school requested by the parent or guardian.
- Refer unaccompanied youth to the homeless liaison designated by the LEA to provide assistance in placement and/or enrollment decisions. The views of the unaccompanied youth will be considered and the youth will be notified of the right to appeal.

**General Guidelines –**

- Disputes should be resolved at the district level rather than the school level.
- The dispute resolution process should be as informal and accessible as possible allowing for impartial and complete review.
- Parents, guardians and unaccompanied youth should be able to initiate the resolution process directly at the school they choose, as well as at the district LEA homeless liaison's office.
- Parents, guardians, and unaccompanied youth should be informed that they can provide written or oral documentation to support their views.
- Students are to be provided with all services for which they are eligible while the disputes are being resolved.

- Written documentation should be complete, as brief as possible, simply stated and provided in a language the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth can understand.

**Resolution Process –**

- Should a dispute arise over school selection or enrollment in a school the following procedure is to be followed:
- The LEA shall provide the parent or guardian with a written explanation of the school's decision regarding school selection or enrollment.
- The LEA shall inform the parent or guardian in writing of their right to appeal the decision.
- Should the dispute continue the LEA shall refer the parent or guardian to the local LEA liaison who shall review the complaint and issue an opinion in writing to the parent or guardian.
- Should the dispute continue the LEA liaison shall assist the parties involved in presenting the situation to the Ohio Department of Education homeless education coordinator.
- The state homeless education coordinator shall recommend a decision for distribution to the parent, local superintendent and local educational agency liaison.
- Should the dispute continue the final appeal is made to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for review and disposition.

E. Foreign Exchange Students

A non-immigrant student may be admitted into the United States in non-immigrant status under Section 101(a)(15)(F) of the Act, if:

1. The student presents a SEVIS Form I-20 issued in his or her own name by a school approved by the Service for attendance by F-1 foreign students;
2. The student has documentary evidence of financial support in the amount indicated on the SEVIS Form I-20;
3. For students seeking initial admission only, the student intends to attend the school specified in the student's visa (or, where the student is exempt from the requirement for a visa, the school indicated on the SEVIS Form I-20 (or the Form I-20A-B/I-20ID); and

4. In the case of a student who intends to study at a public secondary school, the student has demonstrated that he or she has reimbursed the local educational agency that administers the school for the full, unsubsidized per capita cost of providing education at the school for the period of the student's attendance.

LEGAL REFS: O.R.C. §§3301.60; 3313.64  
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11421 *et seq.*

Adopted: September 20, 2011