

NONRESIDENT STUDENTS

The Bainbridge Island School District welcomes the application for attendance from students who reside outside the school district boundaries. Applications will be considered on an individual basis, balancing the desire to accommodate the instructional needs of the nonresident student with the educational program needs of students who reside on Bainbridge Island.

A resident student is a student whose parent or guardian resides permanently, on a full-time basis, within the school district and has complete or partial custody of the student.

A nonresident student is a student:

- A. Who does not live permanently within the school district;
- B. Whose parent or guardian may own property, but does not currently reside within the school district;
- C. Whose parent or guardian commutes to the community for the purpose of work, but does not currently reside within the school district; or
- D. Who otherwise does not meet the above definition of a “resident student”.

All applications for nonresident attendance will be considered on an equal basis in accordance with this policy. The district shall provide information on interdistrict enrollment policies to nonresidents on request, and have copies of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's annual information booklet on enrollment options in the state available for public inspection at each school building, the central office, and local public libraries.

The appropriate district application form for admission shall be completed by a parent/guardian on behalf of his/her student, or by a student who is at least eighteen (18) years old. This form contains information including but not limited to the current legal residence of the child and the school district in which he or she is currently enrolled or receiving home-based instruction, the basis for requesting release from the resident district, and the specific building and grade level in which the student desires to be enrolled if accepted by the district.

The superintendent or his/her designee will accept an application for nonresident admission based upon the following standards:

1. Whether space is available in the grade level or classes at the building in which the student desires to be enrolled;
2. Whether appropriate educational programs or services are available to improve the student's condition as stated in requesting release from his or her district of residence;

3. Whether the student's disciplinary records indicate a history of violent, destructive or disruptive behavior, or gang membership;
4. Whether the student is currently suspended or expelled from another school district in the state of Washington. This provision may be waived by the building administrator, or superintendent or his/her designee; and
5. Whether acceptance of the nonresident student would result in the district experiencing a financial hardship.

The interdistrict transfer agreements are in effect only for the school year of issuance. A new request form must be completed and approved each school year. Approval for continued attendance by nonresident students will be determined prior to consideration of any new non-resident student applications. In addition, the superintendent or designee has the right to rescind the transfer, once approved, based on any of the following:

1. Behavior which results in any truancy, suspension, expulsion, or other disciplinary grounds including poor attendance;
2. The circumstances under which the acceptance was granted have changed significantly;
3. The student has not fulfilled all agreements of any contract made for admittance and continued enrollment;
4. The student has not maintained satisfactory academic progress during any quarter, trimester, or semester grading period.

The superintendent or designee shall, in a timely manner, provide all applicants with written notification of the approval or denial of the application. If the student is to be admitted, the superintendent or designee shall notify the resident district and make necessary arrangements for the transfer of student records.

In all cases that the district accepts a nonresident student, the student or the parent/guardian shall be solely responsible for transportation, except that a student may ride on an established bus route if the superintendent or designee determines that the district would incur no additional cost.

If the application is denied, the superintendent or designee will notify the parent/guardian or eighteen- (18) year-old student of his/her right to petition the board to review the decision and ask for a hearing before the board at its next regular meeting. A written request for board hearing must be made within five (5) school business days following receipt of the denial notice, addressed to the superintendent. Following the board hearing, a final decision shall be promptly communicated to the parent/guardian or eighteen- (18) year-old student in writing.

The final decision of the district to deny the admission of a nonresident student may be appealed to the Superintendent of Public Instruction or his/her designee.

Cross References: Board Policy 3120 Enrollment

Legal References: RCW 28A.225.220 Adults, children from other districts, agreements for attending school--Tuition
28A.225.240 Appeal from certain decisions to deny student's request to attend nonresident district--
Apportionment of credit
28A.225.290 Enrollment options information booklet
28A.225.300 Enrollment options information to parents

WAC 392-137 Finance--Nonresident attendance
392-137-040 District policies--Procedures and criteria for release of resident students and admission of nonresident students
392-137-055 Appeal notice