

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians of students who reside within the geographic boundaries of one district may, for a variety of reasons, desire to enroll their children in a school in another district.

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

Interdistrict Attendance Agreements and Permits

The Board may enter into an agreement with any other school district, for a term not to exceed five school years, for the interdistrict attendance of students who are residents of the districts. (Education Code 46600)

The agreement shall specify the terms and conditions under which interdistrict attendance shall be permitted or denied. It also may contain standards agreed upon by both districts for reapplication and/or revocation of the student's permit. (Education Code 46600)

Upon receiving a permit for transfer into the district that has been approved by the student's district of residence, or upon receiving a written request from the parent/guardian of a district student who wishes to enroll in another district, the Superintendent or designee shall review the request and may approve or deny the permit subject to the terms and conditions of the interdistrict attendance agreement.

Transportation

Upon parent/guardian request, the district shall provide transportation assistance to a student receiving an interdistrict transfer who is eligible for free and reduced-price meals and is the child of an active duty military parent/guardian or a victim of bullying, as defined in Education Code 46600. (Education Code 46600) This assistance may be in the form of a bus stop at the fairgrounds to accommodate such students.

(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

In addition, upon request of a student's parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee may authorize transportation for any interdistrict transfer student to and from designated bus stops within the attendance area of the school that the student attends if space is available.

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

8151 *Apprentices, exemption from interdistrict attendance agreement*

41020 *Annual district audits*

46600-46610 *Interdistrict attendance agreements*

48204 *Residency requirements for school attendance*

48300-48317 *Student attendance alternatives, school district of choice program*

48900 *Grounds for suspension or expulsion; definition of bullying*

48915 *Expulsion; particular circumstances*

48915.1 *Expelled individuals; enrollment in another district*

48918 *Rules governing expulsion procedures*

48980 *Notice at beginning of term*

48985 *Notices to parents in language other than English*

52317 *Regional occupational center/program, enrollment of students, interdistrict attendance*

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article I, Section 31 *Nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin*

COURT DECISIONS

Walnut Valley Unified School District v. the Superior Court of Los Angeles County (2011) 192

Cal.App.4th 234

Crawford v. Huntington Beach Union High School District (2002) 98 Cal.App.4th 1275

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

87 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 132 (2004)

84 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 198 (2001)

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

INTERDISTRICT ATTENDANCE

Interdistrict Attendance Agreements and Permits

In accordance with an agreement between the Governing Board and the board of another district, a permit authorizing a student of either district to enroll in the other district may be issued upon approval of both districts.

The district shall post on its web site the procedures and timelines for requesting an interdistrict transfer permit, including a link to BP 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance. The posted information shall include, but is not limited to: (Education Code 46600.1, 46600.2)

1. The date upon which the district will begin accepting and processing interdistrict transfer requests for the following school year
2. The reasons for which the district may approve or deny a request, and any information or documents that must be submitted as supporting evidence
3. If applicable, the process and timelines by which a denial of a request may be appealed within the district before the district renders a final decision
4. A statement that failure of a parent/guardian to meet any timelines established by the district shall be deemed an abandonment of the request

Reasons to cancel an approved interdistrict transfer:

- a. Parent neglects to respond to approved transfer within two weeks of approval
 - b. Parent neglects to submit a written explanation or document where requested
 - c. Parent does not complete the interdistrict transfer agreement honestly
5. Applicable timelines for processing a request, including the following statements:
- a. For an interdistrict transfer request received by the district 15 or fewer calendar days before the commencement of instruction in the school year for which the transfer is sought, the district will notify the parent/guardian of its final decision within 30 calendar days from the date the request was received.
 - b. For an interdistrict transfer request received by the district more than 15 days before the commencement of instruction in the school year for which the interdistrict transfer is sought, the district will notify the parent/guardian of its final decision as soon as possible, but no later than 14 calendar days after the commencement of instruction in the school year for which transfer is sought.

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6. The conditions under which an existing interdistrict transfer permit may be revoked or rescinded. **Interdistrict Attendance Permits May Be Revoked for the Following Reasons:**
 - a. Student violates Attendance Agreement: Excessive absence (truancy, tardies, or other absence that could be improved if the child attended a school closer to home)
 - b. Student violates Behavior Agreement: Continual disruption of the educational program and/or not meeting accepted standards of behavior per the Student Conduct Manual
 - c. Student violates Academic Agreement: Failure to attempt school work as directed by teachers
 - d. Student becomes eligible for a program that is at capacity or impacted

Priority for interdistrict attendance shall be given to a student who has been determined, through an investigation by either the district of residence or district of proposed enrollment, to be a victim of an act of bullying, as defined in Education Code 48900(r), committed by a student of the district of residence. (Education Code 46600)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

Until the district is at maximum capacity, the district shall accept any student whose interdistrict transfer application is based on being the victim of an act of bullying or a child of an active duty military parent/guardian. The district shall ensure that such students are admitted through an unbiased process that prohibits an inquiry into or evaluation or consideration of whether or not a student should be enrolled based on academic or athletic performance, physical condition, proficiency in English, family income, or any of the individual characteristics set forth in Education Code 220, including, but not limited to, race or ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, and immigration status. (Education Code 46600)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee may approve an interdistrict attendance permit for a student for any of the following reasons when stipulated in the agreement:

1. To meet the child care needs of the student, only as long as the student's child care provider remains within district boundaries

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)

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2. To meet the student's special mental or physical health needs as certified by a physician, school psychologist, or other appropriate school personnel

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

3. When the student has a sibling attending school in the receiving district, to avoid splitting the family's attendance
4. To allow the student to complete a school year when the student's parents/guardians have moved out of the district during that year
5. To allow the student to remain with a class graduating that year from an elementary school
6. When the parent/guardian provides written evidence that the family will be moving into the district in the immediate future and would like the student to start the school year in the district
7. When the student will be living out of the district for one year or less
8. When recommended by the school attendance review board or by county child welfare, probation, or social service agency staff in documented cases of serious home or community problems which make it inadvisable for the student to attend the school of residence

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

(cf. 5113.12 - District School Attendance Review Board)

9. When there is valid interest in a particular educational program not offered in the district of residence
10. To provide a change in school environment for reasons of personal and social adjustment

As applicable, the Superintendent or designee may deny a transfer application under any of the following circumstances:

1. Upon a determination that approval of the transfer application would negatively impact the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building, including:
 - a. The class or grade level exceeding the district's limits pursuant to the state Class Size Reduction Program

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b. The site, classroom, or program exceeding the maximum student-teacher ratio specified in the district's collective bargaining agreement

c. The site or classroom exceeding the physical capacity of the facility pursuant to the district's facilities master plan or other facility planning document

(cf. 6151 – Class Size)

(cf. 7110 – Facilities Master Plan)

2. Upon a determination that approval of the transfer application would have an adverse financial impact on the district, including:

a. The hiring of additional certificated or classified staff

b. If applicable, the process and timelines by which a denial of a request may be appealed within the district before the district renders a final decision

The Superintendent or designee may deny initial requests for interdistrict attendance permits due to limited district resources, overcrowding of school facilities at the relevant grade level, or other considerations that are not arbitrary. However, once a student is admitted, the district shall not deny continued attendance because of overcrowded facilities at the relevant grade level.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

If the transfer request is for a school year that begins within 15 calendar days of the receipt of the request, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of the final decision within 30 calendar days of receiving the request. If the transfer request is for a school year that begins more than 15 calendar days after the receipt of the request, the parent/guardian shall be notified of the final decision as soon as possible, but no later than 14 calendar days after the commencement of instruction during that school year. (Education Code 46600.2)

If a student's interdistrict transfer request is denied, the Superintendent or designee shall, in writing, notify the parents/guardians of their right to appeal to the County Board of Education within 30 calendar days from the date of the final denial. (Education Code 46600.2)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

All notices to parents/guardians regarding the district's decision on any request for interdistrict transfer shall conform to the translation requirements of Education Code 48985, and may be provided by regular mail, electronic format if the parent/guardian provides an email address, or by any other method normally used to communicate with parents/guardians in writing. (Education Code 46600.2)

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Pending a decision by the two districts or by the County Board on appeal, the Superintendent or designee may provisionally admit a student who resides in another district for a period not to exceed two school months, provided the district is the district of proposed enrollment. If the decision has not been rendered by the conclusion of two school months and the districts or County Board is still operating within the prescribed timelines, the student shall not be allowed to continue attending the district school to which the student was provisionally admitted. (Education Code 46603)

Students who are under consideration for expulsion or who have been expelled may not appeal interdistrict attendance denials or rescissions while expulsion proceedings are pending or during the term of the expulsion. (Education Code 46601)

(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Once a student is admitted to a school on the basis of an interdistrict attendance permit, the student shall not be required to reapply for an interdistrict transfer and shall be allowed to continue to attend the school of enrollment, unless reapplication standards are otherwise specified in the interdistrict attendance agreement. (Education Code 46600)

Reasons for Denial of Interdistrict Attendance Permits

With respect to incoming transfers, the district shall not accept student transfers if they have been suspended or expelled for the following offenses during the preceding school year:

1. Causing serious physical injury to another person
2. Possession, use, or sale of a firearm, knife, explosive or other dangerous object
3. Possessed, used, sold, furnished or been under the influence of a controlled substance
4. Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance
5. Committed or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property
6. Stolen or attempted to steal school property or private property
7. Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity
8. Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia
9. Knowingly received stolen school property or private property

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10. Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault
11. Engaged in an act of bullying, including but not limited to bullying committed by means of an electronic act
12. Assault or battery upon any school employee

Transfers Out of the District

A student whose parent/guardian is in active military duty shall not be prohibited from transferring out of the district, provided the school district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. (Education Code 46600, 48307)

If the district is unable to provide an intradistrict transfer to a student who is a victim of an act of bullying, as defined in Education Code 46600, the district shall not prohibit the student from transferring out of the district if the district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. (Education Code 46600)

The district may limit transfers out of the district to a school district of choice under any of the following circumstances: (Education Code 48307)

1. The number of student transfers out of the district to a school district of choice has reached the limit specified in Education Code 48307 based on the district's average daily attendance.
2. The County Superintendent of Schools has given the district a negative budget certification or has determined that the district will not meet the state's standards and criteria for fiscal stability in the subsequent fiscal year exclusively as a result of student transfers from this district to a school district of choice.

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

3. The Board determines that the transfer would negatively impact any of the following: (Education Code 48307)
 - a. A court-ordered desegregation plan
 - b. A voluntary desegregation plan of the district, consistent with the California Constitution, Article 1, Section 31
 - c. The racial and ethnic balance of the district, consistent with the California Constitution, Article 1, Section 31