

Policy © 5-105 Open Enrollment

Definitions

“Open enrollment” means a policy that is adopted and implemented by the Governing Board to allow resident transfer students to enroll in any school within the District, to allow resident students to enroll in any school located within other school districts in this state, and to allow nonresident students to enroll in any school within the District pursuant to [A.R.S. § 15-816.01](#)

“Nonresident student” means a student who meets all of the following criteria: (1) is not a resident student; (2) resides in this state, and (3) is enrolled in or is seeking enrollment in a school district other than the school district in which the student resides.

“Resident student” means a student who meets any of the following: (1) whose residence is within the attendance area of a District school; (2) who resides in an unorganized territory as defined in [A.R.S. § 15-825](#) and whose residence adjoins a boundary of the District; (3) who resides in an unorganized territory as defined in [A.R.S. § 15-825](#) and whose residence is located on tribal land; or (4) who is placed as described in [A.R.S. § 15-823](#)(C).

“Resident school” means (1) for a student who resides in the District, a school that is within the designated attendance area in which the student resides; (2) for a student who resides in an unorganized territory, the school that is geographically closest to the student’s residence and that serves the student’s grade level; or (3) for a student who is placed as described in [A.R.S. § 15-823](#) (C), the school within the designated attendance area in which the residential placement is located.

“Resident transfer student” means a resident student who is enrolled in or seeking enrollment in a school that is within the school District but outside the attendance area of the student’s residence.

Enrollment

The District shall enroll any resident student who applies for enrollment at any time. The District shall give enrollment preference to, and reserve capacity for all the following:

1. resident students,
2. students returning to the school from the prior year,
3. siblings of students already enrolled, and
4. students classified as homeless who choose to remain at the school in which the student was enrolled before classification.

The District gives enrollment preference to children who:

- attend a school that is closing, or
- are children of a member of the United States Armed Forces who is either on active duty or was killed in the line of duty.

The District gives enrollment preference to, and reserves capacity for all the following:

- students who are children of persons who are employed by a school in the District;
- resident transfer students and their siblings; or
- additional classifications to be decided by the District.

Schools Without Attendance Boundaries

The District may establish schools that do not have attendance boundaries. Student attendance for such schools shall be based upon open enrollment applications. Transfer is subject to the capacity limit established for the school, program, and/or grade level. Student transportation will be the responsibility of the parent/legal guardian.

Nondiscrimination and Equitable Enrollment

The District will not deny enrollment based on ethnicity, race, national origin, sex, income level, disability, English language proficiency, athletic ability, or academic performance.

The implementation of this policy must not disproportionately impact any group or class of students.

Adopted:

Legal Authority:

[A.R.S. § 15-816](#)

[A.R.S. § 15-816.01](#)

[A.R.S. § 15-816.07](#)

[A.R.S. § 15-823](#)

[A.R.S. § 15-825](#)

[A.R.S. § 15-841](#)

[42 U.S.C. § 11434a](#)

