

I. ATTENDANCE POLICIES

A. Eligibility for Enrollment

Non-resident students may attend Fort Smith Public Schools only by means of an approved application under the Public School Choice Act of 2015 (ACA 6-18-1901 et seq.), a tuition agreement between districts, or by means of a Student Legal Transfer.

School Choice applications must be submitted to the Department of Student Services prior to May 1 each year. Students approved for attendance in the District will be assigned, based on guidelines developed by the school administration, to a school for attendance purposes.

Student Legal Transfers require completion of a “Petition for Transfer of Students” form published by the Arkansas Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Submission of the completed petition must be made to the Executive Director of Student Services. The District shall review and accept or reject requests for transfers, both into and out of the District, on a case-by-case basis. Approved requests shall take effect following Board action taken on the requests.

Denied petitions may be appealed to the School Board if written notification requesting the appeal is received by the Executive Director of Student Services at least five (5) days prior to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

School Choice and Legal Transfers may be limited to schools with sufficient capacity. Schools available for these transfers will be determined by the district administration.

~~The Board reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another district to enroll as a student until the time of the person’s expulsion has expired. Any person who has been expelled from any other school district shall not be permitted to enroll in the District until the student’s expulsion has expired; provided, however, that any student may seek an exception to this Policy by requesting a hearing before the Board.~~

Reference: ASBA Model Policies.