

STUDENTS

Open Enrollment Procedures

A. Submitting the Form

1. Varsity Sport Participation - A student who plans to participate in a varsity sport governed by the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) should review IHSSA rules prior to submitting an Open Enrollment Application. Certain school transfers will lead to a student being ineligible to play at the varsity level for one year.
2. Open Enrollment Application forms are available at any Notus School District school. Based on mutually agreed upon waivers, Open Enrollment Applications will be accepted at any time throughout the school year, although the general period for accepting applications will be January 1 to February 1 for the following school year. Students who reside in the District and move out of their school attendance zone during the school year must initiate an Open Enrollment request to stay in their school.
3. For students who reside in the Notus School District, the parent/guardian completes the Open Enrollment Application form and submits it to the principal of their attendance zone school (home school).
4. For students who reside outside the Notus School District boundary, the parent/guardian completes the Open Enrollment Application form and submits it to the principal of the school they wish to attend (receiving school) and the parent/guardian must give notice to the home school.

B. Review Approval Process

1. Limited Opening - Applications will normally be considered on a “first-come first-serve” basis. However, in situations where openings are limited, the Superintendent may give priority if a student:
 - was previously enrolled at the requested school in a prior year;
 - has a brother or sister enrolled at the requested school;
 - resides in the attendance area of another District school;
 - has a parent employed by the District; or
 - has unique situation or extraordinary circumstances.
2. Factors which may cause an Open Enrollment Application to be denied include:
 - a. a school, grade, or program(s) has lack of available classroom space and/or staff;
 - b. the current enrollment is at or above the following:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Class/Teacher Load Size</u>
K-1	18
2-3	18
4-6	22
7-12	175 students per teacher per day
Special Education Self-Contained	An average of 6 students per classroom
English Language Learners (ELL)	20 per full-time ELL teacher
Alternative Schools	12 students per classroom
Resource Room	10
Extended Resource Room	5
Special Day Class Programs	5

- c. the student has been suspended or expelled, has committed a disciplinary violation for which he/she could be suspended or expelled,
- d. the student has a history of documented disciplinary infractions; or
- e. it is determined that information on the Open Enrollment Application has been misrepresented or was incomplete.

3. Out-of-district approval process:

- a. A receiving school principal makes a recommendation to approve or not approve the transfer by completing the appropriate section of the Open Enrollment Application form.
- b. The receiving school principal sends the form to his/her Superintendent.
- c. The Superintendent approves or denies the Open Enrollment Application by completing the appropriate section of the Open Enrollment Application form.

C. Parent Notification

- 1. When the application is submitted during the enrollment time period (January 1-February 1, the Superintendent will notify the parent/guardian of his/her decision by April 30.
- 2. When the application is submitted outside of the open enrollment time period, notification must be made within 60 days after an application is accepted.
- 3. If the request for open enrollment is denied, the denial will include a written explanation. If the application is denied because classroom capacity has been reached at the school of choice, the denial may include information about other schools in the district that are below capacity.
- 4. The letter approving the request will inform the parents of the following:

- a. Parents must provide transportation or get student to nearest District bus stop, if space is available;
- b. State law requires reapplication on an annual basis; and
- c. Inappropriate behavior in violation of district policies may be grounds for removing the student during the school year.

- d. Special education, English Language Learners (ELL) or alternative school students must meet the requirements and the procedures established for those programs.
 Maximum Teacher to Student Ratios

Resource Room	10 to 1
Extended Resource Room	5 to 1
Special Day Class Programs	5 to 1

D. Re-enrollment

As long as a transfer student applies for re-enrollment, the Superintendent shall treat that student as if he/she resides in that school’s attendance area, except in the circumstances described below. To the extent possible, the Superintendent shall expedite the enrollment process.

In situations where class size is limited, the Superintendent may give priority to certain students. Priorities may include, but are not limited to situations where a student:

- was previously enrolled at the requested school during the prior year;
- has a brother or sister enrolled at the requested school;
- resides in the attendance area of another District school;
- has parents employed by the District; or
- has unique situation or extraordinary circumstances.

The Superintendent may deny an open enrollment request when such enrollment would negatively impact the efficient use of the District resources. The Superintendent may set numerical limits defining hardship for schools, grade levels, or programs to provide for appropriate and efficient use of facilities and staff. The student to teacher ratios shall not exceed the overloaded class/teacher limits outlined in the Class Size policy #2240.

E. Revocation of a Transfer

1. As long as a transfer student applies for re-enrollment, the Superintendent shall treat that student as if he/she resides in that school’s attendance area. However, the District reserves the right to remove a transfer student at any time because of unacceptable behavior in violation of school district policies or because of false or misleading information on the open enrollment application.

2. If a student’s transfer is revoked, the parent/guardian may request an administrative review by the Superintendent of the transfer school. The parent/guardian must request the review within five (5) school days of receiving

notice that their child's transfer has been revoked.

3. The Superintendent of the transfer school must render a decision to the parent/guardian request for review within five (5) school days. The decision of the Superintendent may be appealed to the School Board of Trustees.

F. Student Rights and Responsibilities

Due process for all students remains the same regardless of what school they attend within the District and regardless of where the student resides once accepted under the open enrollment policy. If a student who is a resident of another, applies to this district and is accepted under the terms of this policy, and fails to attend shall be ineligible to apply again for open enrollment in this district.

G. Preventing or Recruiting Potential Open Enrollment Students

The District or its' employees will not take any action to prohibit or prevent application by a students to attend school in another school district. In no event is the District, or an employee of the District to recruit students outside of their attendance area. Violation of this policy may involve disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Policy History

Adopted on: November 9, 2009

Revised on: September 12, 2011

Review on: March 12, 2012