

**EAST
STROUDSBURG
AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ATTENDANCE ELIGIBILITY

ADOPTED: August 19, 2002

REVISED: April 11, 2005

July 17, 2006

August 18, 2008

October 15, 2012

June 20, 2016

202. ATTENDANCE ELIGIBILITY

1. Purpose
24 P.S. 501, 502,
503

The Board shall operate the schools of the school district for the benefit of the children residing in the school district. Children residing in the school district are eligible to attend the schools of the school district.

The Pennsylvania School Code states that a child shall be considered a resident of the school district in which his/her parents or the guardian of his/her person resides. When the parents reside in different school districts due to separation, divorce or other reason, the child may attend school in the school district of residence of the parent with whom the child lives for a majority of the time, unless a court order or court approved custody agreement specifies otherwise. If the parents have joint custody and time is evenly divided, the parents may choose which of the two school districts the child will enroll for the school year. If the child is an emancipated minor, the resident school district is the one in which the child is then living. For purposes of this section, an emancipated minor is a person under 21 years of age who has chosen to establish a domicile apart from the continued control and support of parents or guardians. A minor living with a spouse is deemed emancipated.

To ascertain if a student is, in fact, emancipated and has a right to attend school in the school district the student shall:

1. sever most "filial ties" and must be substantially free from parental "domination and control"; and
2. live apart from the parent; and
3. be financially independent of the parent; and
4. be responsible for his/her own welfare and behavior.

The parent or guardian shall place on file a sworn statement attesting to the fact that the four previous conditions exist. Every reasonable effort should be made to secure this documentation directly from the parent or guardian in order to confirm that the child is not a runaway or under the control of juvenile authorities or some other agency. Where the parent or guardian cannot be contacted or does not provide the statement, verification can be made by having the student provide evidence that the four tests have been satisfactorily

Title 22
Sec. 11.18
SC 1305

As substantiation of the sworn statement that the child is being supported gratis, the resident shall, in addition to the sworn statement, furnish at least one of the following documents at the time of the application for enrollment:

- Copy of Federal or State tax form which lists child as a dependent of resident, or
- Copy of insurance policy/card/statement listing child as eligible for services as a dependent of resident or public assistance, or
- Copy of marriage certificate listing the child's parent as a spouse of the resident, or
- Documentation that the child's parent(s) has been deployed for active military duty.

In lieu of providing one of the aforementioned four (4) acceptable substantiating documents, resident(s) who seek enrollment of student(s) pursuant to this policy must, as a further condition of enrollment, sign an agreement that if they fail to provide one of the aforementioned acceptable substantiating documents within sixty (60) days of their application for the student's enrollment, they shall be responsible for the payment of tuition on a prorated daily basis for the number of days the student(s) attended school in the District.

The failure to provide such proof of residency within sixty (60) days of the application for the student's enrollment pursuant to this policy provision shall result in the disenrollment of the student from the District. The District administration shall establish procedures for the notification of parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student's disenrollment. A student who is disenrolled for failure to establish residency in the District under this policy provision shall have the right to request a Board hearing to determine the student's residency status. If a Board hearing is requested, the student shall remain enrolled in the District's schools pending the outcome of the hearing.

Nonresident Children Placed By a Court or Appropriate Government Agency In The School District

Any child placed in the home of a resident of the school district by a court or an agency of the government shall receive the same benefits and be subject to the same duties as resident children. The resident shall provide to the District administration appropriate documentation to substantiate the residential placement of the child by the court or government agency. A child custody order does not constitute court-ordered residential placement for the purposes of this policy provision.

Title 22
Sec. 11.18
SC 1306

Residents of Institutions

A child who resides in an institution for the care or training of children located within the school district is not a legal resident of the school district by such placement, but shall be admitted to the schools of the school district and a charge shall be made for tuition in accordance with the school district's established tuition rates and the School Code.

Immigration Status

A child's right to be admitted to school may not be conditioned on the child's immigration status. A school may not inquire regarding the immigration status of a student as part of the admission process. This provision does not relieve a student who has obtained an F-1 visa from the student's obligation to pay tuition under Federal law.

Future Residents

Students whose parent(s)/guardian(s) have purchased a domicile or are building a primary residence in the school district, but face delayed occupancy, may start school in a given school year provided that the delay in occupying that residence is reasonably anticipated to be no more than ninety (90) days.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) who seek enrollment of students pursuant to this policy provision must, as a further condition of enrollment, sign an agreement that if they fail to establish residency in the District within ninety (90) days of their application for the student's enrollment, they are responsible for the payment of tuition on a pro-rated daily basis for the number of days the student attended school in the District.

The failure to establish residency within ninety (90) days of the application for the student's enrollment pursuant to this policy provision shall result in the disenrollment of the student from the District. The District administration shall establish procedures for the notification of parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student's disenrollment. A student who is disenrolled for failure to establish residency in the District under this policy provision shall have the right to request a Board hearing to determine the student's residency status. If a Board hearing is timely requested, the student shall remain enrolled in the District's schools pending the outcome of the hearing.

The school district reserves the right to require proof of the anticipated residency, to verify the representations as to the purchase/construction of a residence, and to deny admission to or to remove from school any non-resident student whose request for enrollment is not considered by the school district as having been substantiated. The Board is not responsible for the transportation of non-resident students.

SC 1316

Former Residents

Regularly enrolled children whose parent(s)/guardian(s) have moved out of the school district may be permitted to finish the school year without payment of tuition provided that:

1. The student is in twelfth grade when the parent(s)/guardian(s) have moved from the school district.
2. The student is not in the 12th grade but there is less than one full marking period remaining in the school year.
3. Parent(s)/guardian(s) must agree to provide all necessary transportation.
4. The student has displayed acceptable behavior and academic progress prior to the move.
5. The administration has made a recommendation for the student to remain in the school district.

In all cases, application must be made to the Superintendent through the school principal.

In all cases, a resident student whose family is displaced from the school district for a total time period not to exceed six (6) weeks may continue enrollment in the school district. However, the parent(s)/guardian(s) is required to provide or arrange for the necessary transportation. If the students' family is still residing outside the school district at the end of the six (6) week interval, the student's enrollment in the school district will be ended and s/he will be removed from the school district rolls.

Registration Process

Parents/guardians of all students registering in the school district must present acceptable proof of residency before a student is permitted to register and attend school. The following are proofs of residency which may be accepted by the school district:

Application for registration must be accompanied by one proof of residency from List `A` and one proof of residency from List `B`.

List A

1. Current lease agreement, indicating the term of lease, address of leased property, names and signatures of property owner(s) and lessee(s).
2. Mortgage settlement document(s) indicating address of residence, and name(s) of property owner(s).
3. Recorded deed indicating address of residence, and name(s) of property owner(s).
4. School property tax bill in the resident's name for the current or immediately preceding tax year.

In addition to providing one of the aforementioned documents, a Landlord/Tenant Affidavit shall be made available to residents residing in a property not owned/leased by resident.

List B

1. Valid Pennsylvania driver's license indicating physical address of residence.
2. Valid Pennsylvania identification card indicating physical address of residence.
3. Valid Pennsylvania automobile registration indicating physical address of residence.
4. Signed income tax return filed for the current or immediately preceding tax year indicating physical address of residence.
5. Check stub from wages, public assistance, or social security issued within the past thirty (30) days indicating physical address of residence.
6. Current Pennsylvania Local Earned Income Tax Residency Certification Form
7. Federal or state documentation demonstrating exemption from above six (6) requirements.
8. In lieu of providing any of the aforementioned seven (7) acceptable proofs of residency from List `B`, parent(s)/guardian(s) who seek enrollment of student(s) pursuant to this policy must, as a further condition of enrollment, sign an agreement that if they fail to provide one of the aforementioned acceptable proofs of residency within sixty (60) days of their application for the student's enrollment, they shall be responsible for the payment of tuition on a prorated daily basis for the number of days the student(s) attended school in the District.

The failure to provide such proof of residency within sixty (60) days of the application for the student's enrollment pursuant to this policy provision shall result in the disenrollment of the student from the District. The District

Exclusions

This policy does not pertain to the education of homeless children placed in residential institutions within school district boundaries. The admission and education of those students are covered through appropriate Pennsylvania legislation.

The District administration shall develop procedures for the enrollment of nonresident children which:

1. Admit such students only on proper application and submission of required documentation by the parent or guardian.
2. Verify claims of residency.
3. Do not exclude any eligible student on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, or handicap/disability.
4. Deny admission where the educational facilities or program maintained for school district students is inadequate to meet the needs of the applicant.
5. Make continued enrollment of any nonresident student contingent upon maintaining established standards of attendance, discipline and academics.

~~The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board for its approval the admission of qualified applicants.~~