



Open Enrollment Transfer FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

What is Open Enrollment?

Open Enrollment is a way that resident and non-resident students may request a transfer to a BISD campus other than the one in their attendance zone. Transfers are considered on a case-by-case basis and require approval by the principal and the superintendent's designee.

Is the Open Enrollment process the same every year?

No, the process can change each year based on enrollment numbers and what is in the best interest of BISD.

Why are some grade levels limited for the 2018-19 school year?

Due to student growth or loss of students due to attrition, every campus and grade level are reviewed annually to determine space availability at each campus and grade level.

Why did the application not allow me to continue completing the form?

The application process may be discontinued if the qualifications/criteria are not met.

Why is the grade level or school not listed where I would like my child to attend?

If the campus and/or grade level are not listed, this indicates that space is not available at that campus/grade level.

Why is BISD allowing non-resident students in the District?

Under the current school finance system, the state has frozen the amount of money the District receives based on the property values of Austin ISD in 2005. Local taxes do not fully support BISD. Nearly half of the District's budget is funded by the state.

How does this program benefit me as a taxpayer?

It adds additional state revenue to the District. The District will receive additional funds from the state for the attendance of the out-of-district students. Since the state pays Birdville ISD for occupied seats, this process adds approximately 4 to 5 million dollars into the District's operating fund annually.

Will allowing non-resident students from outside BISD cause my taxes to increase?

No. By filling available seats, BISD will receive additional state revenue as a result of the students' attendance.

Are there any downsides to this program?

No, all students must meet our stated standards for attendance, academics and behavior; otherwise, they will be removed from the District.

Will this cause additional transportation costs?

No. Any student requesting/accepting a transfer to a school other than the one in his or her home attendance area will be required to provide their own transportation to and from school.

Why is the Open Enrollment application only available during the months of March and April?

Due to the high volume of Open Enrollment applications received each year, Birdville only offers the spring application opportunity in order to balance classrooms and adhere to the 22:1 state student to teacher requirement.

Can I apply for more than one campus while the Open Enrollment application is available?

Yes. You may request up to three schools on the same application.

May I apply for Open Enrollment to a different campus after school has begun?

No. Open Enrollment will only be conducted during the application timeline.

Will speaking to the principal before I apply for Open Enrollment help increase my child's chances of being accepted?

No. Each application is processed individually and must meet the criteria listed in the Open Enrollment Transfer Information.