

Blackfoot School District No. 55 is an open enrollment district and tuition will be waived for Out-of-district students who attend this district's schools pursuant to the terms of this policy.

## **APPLICATION**

This district will take no action to prohibit or prevent application by its students to attend school at another district or to attend another school within this district.

## **OUT OF DISTRICT TRANSFERS**

A student's parent/guardian must apply annually for admission to a school in this district on a form provided by the Idaho State Department of Education (SDE). The application, accompanied by the student's accumulative record, must be submitted to this district by February 1 for enrollment during the following school year. The notice of application must also be given to the home district.

The Superintendent or designee will review and accept or deny the applications. Hardship ratios will be used in the determination for admittance. This district will notify the applicant within sixty (60) days. If the request for enrollment in this district is denied, the denial will include a written explanation. The denial of an application for open enrollment is not appealable to the board.

Upon agreement between the home school district and this district, or between the affected schools within this district, the deadline for applications may be waived.

## **IN DISTRICT TRANSFERS**

Board policy explains that the district is divided into attendance zones to regulate student population in elementary schools to facilitate the balance of district education programs.

Students are required to attend the elementary school within the attendance zone in which the parent resides. The official residence of the student is that of the parent or legal guardian.

The district attempts to facilitate parental requests to attend elementary schools outside of their attendance zone, if such a transfer would not distract from the educational efficiency of the requested school.

A student's parent/guardian must apply annually for a transfer to a school in this district outside of their current zone. Application must be completed on a form provided by the Blackfoot School District. See Transfer Timelines below.

The district is concerned about its class size and the effect enlargement of the student- teacher ratios will have upon the educational program. Therefore, this district has determined that admission of students in excess of the following transfer ratios would work a hardship on the district, its teachers, staff, students, and educational program:

For transfer purposes, the district has established the following grade level ratios.

Grade	Ratio
K-3	20:1
4-6	26:1
7-12	160 students per teacher per day
Exceptional Students	12:1

The transfer ratios are used to establish class load limits for transfer purposes only, and do not limit in zone class sizes.

### **TRANSFER TIMELINES**

All out-of-attendance zone students must fill out a district transfer request form each year, and return it to the requested elementary school principal by May 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the year of the transfer request. New forms must be submitted each year.

The superintendent or designee and the Administration Review Committee will review and accept or deny the applications prior to the start of the upcoming school year.

Parents will be notified after fall registration for the new school year if their request has been approved.

In the event that new students move in to the elementary school attendance zone during the school year which would cause the class size to exceed the transfer ratio limits, the in-district transfer students may need to return to the elementary school in which the parent resides.

### **TRANSFER STUDENTS' TRANSPORTATION**

Students who have received approval to attend an elementary school out of their attendance zone will provide their own transportation to and from school. The district is not required to provide transportation for out of zone approved in district transfers.

### **HARDSHIP**

The district will receive and admit students transferring from outside of the district whose tuition is paid by the district in which the student resides, or waived by this district or other legal obligation, except when such transfer would constitute a hardship on this district or the receiving school within this district.

The district may deny out-of-district students enrollment for circumstances that constitute a hardship including, but not limited to, enlarged student-teacher ratios; overcapacity of any program, class, grade level, or building; or to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its existing students and/or its educational program.

The district is concerned about its class size and the effect enlargement of the student-teacher ratios will have upon the educational program. Therefore, this district has determined that admission of students in excess of the following ratios would work a hardship on the district, its teachers, staff, students, and educational program:

Grade	Ratio
K-3	20:1
4-6	26:1
7-12	160 students per teacher per day
Exceptional Students	12:1

Students wishing to transfer to another school within the district will have their applications denied if it is determined by administration that a hardship exist, as defined by the ratios set forth above or other extenuating circumstances.

The district will not consider previous academic achievement, athletic or other extracurricular ability, disabling conditions or proficiency in the English language in the acceptance or rejection of applications for out-of-district students.

### **COURT ORDERED STUDENT PLACEMENT**

Non-resident students who are placed by court order under provisions of the Idaho juvenile corrections or child protective acts and reside in licensed homes, agencies, and institutions will be received and admitted by the school district in which the facility is located without payment of tuition.

### **HOMELESS STUDENTS**

Homeless children and youth as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act may attend any school district or school within a district without payment of tuition when it is determined to be in the best interest of that child.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

For those students attending this district's schools from out-of-district, the parent/guardian will be responsible for transporting the student to and from the school or to an appropriate bus stop within the district. For those students attending another school, rather than their assigned school within this district, the parent/guardian is responsible for transporting the student to an appropriate bus stop.

### **PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

No student will gain eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities in violation of policies governing eligibility as a result of enrollment option transfer to this district.

**INELEIGIBLE STUDENTS**

If a student applies and is accepted in this district from out of district, but fails to attend, that student will be ineligible to apply again for an enrollment option in this district.

A student who has been suspended, expelled, or may otherwise be lawfully denied enrollment may be ineligible for enrollment in this district pursuant to the provision of this policy.



**LEGAL REFERENCE:**

Idaho Code Sections

33-205 – Denial of School Attendance

33-1002B – Pupil Tuition-Equivalency Allowances

33-1401, *et seq.* – Transfer of Pupils

IDAPA 08.02.02.110 – Personnel Standards

**ADOPTED:** June 26, 1997

**AMENDED:** August 27, 1998

September 26, 2002

September 23, 2004

May 19, 2009

October 20, 2016