

File: J6

RESIDENCY AND ENROLLMENT

In order to attend the Chicopee Public Schools, a student must actually reside in the City of Chicopee. “Residence” is defined as the primary place where the student lives permanently, not temporarily, and is the place that is the center of the student’s domestic, social, and civic life. Residing temporarily in the City of Chicopee, solely for the purpose of attending a Chicopee public school, is not considered legal residency.

The Chicopee Public Schools reserves its right to request a variety of documentation to establish proof of residency and custody. Investigations may be made by school officials to assure that a student maintains a *bona fide* permanent residence in Chicopee. Parents/legal guardians are under a continuing obligation to inform the Chicopee Public Schools of any and all changes to a student’s residential status.

Any student who is found not to reside in Chicopee while enrolled in the Chicopee Public Schools will be dismissed for non-residency. This dismissal may be appealed to the Superintendent and the student may be allowed to remain pending the outcome of the appeal.

Non-resident students may be allowed to enroll in the Chicopee Public Schools under the following circumstances:

1. If the student’s parents/legal guardians plan to establish residency in Chicopee within 60 days, they must provide proof, such as a Purchase and Sales Agreement, a signed lease, or a rental agreement, to permit a student to enroll in Chicopee. The non-resident student’s family is responsible for providing all transportation to and from school during the 60 day interim.
2. A family moving out of Chicopee may petition the Superintendent to permit a student to complete the school year only if the family’s move will occur after January 1st of the school year. If the petition is approved, the family, not the school district, must provide all transportation to and from school subsequent to the move. In acting on the family’s request, the Superintendent may consider such factors as the student’s welfare, the student’s educational needs, class sizes, and the resources available to educate the student.
3. If a student’s family moves out of Chicopee during his/her senior year, particular consideration may be given by the Superintendent to the family’s petition that the student be allowed to complete the school year. If the petition is approved, the family must provide all transportation to and from school subsequent to the move.
4. In the event that a special education program exists in Chicopee, but not in a student’s home district, the student may be admitted, within the discretion of the school district, depending on class size and resources available to educate the student. In such a case, the sending district will pay tuition to the Chicopee Public Schools, as allowed by law, at a rate established by the Director of Budget and Human Resources.

5. If a student is selected for the School Choice program, consistent with School Committee approval, parents/guardians are responsible for transporting the School Choice student to and from school.

Non-Traditional Students

All non-traditional students between the ages 18 and 22 seeking to enroll at one of Chicopee's high schools will be asked to meet with the Assistant Superintendent for Students or his designee. All non-traditional students will be asked to provide a complete record of their schooling. The Assistant Superintendent for Students or his designee will discuss with the student and/or his parents or guardians the status of the non-traditional student's high school credits, MCAS requirements, options for completing and/or expediting completion of high school credits, and programming options available at one of the district's high schools, if appropriate. The non-traditional student will also be provided with information regarding completing a high school equivalency program.

Legal Refs: MGL 76:5; 76:6; 76:12; 71:37H

1st reading: Reg SC Mtg 06/15/16

2nd reading: Reg SC Mtg 06/15/16