



JFBA - CHOICE / OPEN ENROLLMENT

Poudre School District is committed to assuming a leadership role in supporting a culture of choice/open enrollment District-wide. The District's commitment to choice/open enrollment is grounded in the belief that parents know the learning style of their children and should have options from which to choose to meet their children's needs.

This policy applies only to District choice/open enrollment in kindergarten through 12th grade and does not apply to early childhood programming. Students residing within the District will be assigned to attend their neighborhood school in grades K-12 unless an application for choice/open enrollment is granted, or as otherwise provided in this policy and District Policy GE - Choice Enrollment of Children of District Employees. Students residing within and outside of the District who apply for choice/open enrollment in grades K-12 will be allowed to attend any District school or participate in any District program of their choice on a space-available basis, subject to the provisions of this policy, Policy GE, and governing law.

Definitions

As used in this policy, these terms have the following meanings:

“Choice/open enrollment” means parent/guardian-initiated enrollment of a student in a K-12 District school or program other than the school or program in which the student is currently enrolled or to which the student is currently assigned (“choice school or program”).

“Option school or program” means a K-12 District school or program that does not have a neighborhood attendance area.

“Program” means a District International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, Core Knowledge Program, Expeditionary Learning Program or Bilingual Program.

GENERAL RULES

Schools are responsible for checking student enrollment records to establish that every student is a resident of the school's neighborhood attendance area or has an approved authorization for choice/open enrollment.

Except as otherwise provided under this policy, students who reside within or outside the District and who accept a seat as determined by the student's order of priority under the Determining Availability of Space section below at a choice school

or program will be granted admission for all grades served at the choice school or program without the need to reapply annually to remain at that choice school or program.

In the event of overcrowding of facilities at a choice school or program, students who reside outside of the District will be selected for reassignment at each grade level in reverse chronological order of their admission. If the facilities remain overcrowded after all students who reside outside of the District have been reassigned, students who reside within the District will be selected for reassignment at each grade level in reverse chronological order of their admission. A student may only be reassigned as provided in this paragraph if the student's parent/guardian is notified in writing of the reassignment prior to the deadline for the first round of School Choice Applications applicable to the following school year when the reassignment takes effect. Under no circumstances will students be reassigned as provided in this paragraph if they reside within the attendance area of the neighborhood school where they are enrolled.

If enrolled at a choice school or program, students must plan on remaining at the school for the remainder of the school year. Students who wish to return to their neighborhood school or attend a different school during the current school year will need to apply through the school choice process and acceptance will be determined by space availability. Students who leave a choice school or program during a current school year and wish to return the following school year must submit a new School Choice Application for the student to be considered to return. Students who move out of their original neighborhood attendance area during a school year can remain at that school without having to apply for school choice until they change levels (i.e., elementary school to middle school, middle school to high school).

In implementing its choice/open enrollment policy and applying it in particular circumstances, the District is not required to:

1. Make alterations in the structure of a requested school or make alterations to the arrangement or function of rooms within a requested school.
2. Establish and offer any particular program in a school if such program is not currently offered in the school.
3. Alter or waive any established eligibility criteria for participation in a particular program, including age requirements, course prerequisites, and/or required levels of performance.
4. Create additional space in the requested school or program by changing resources or staffing allocations.
5. Enroll any nonresident student in any school or program after the pupil enrollment count day of the then-current school year.

application process that is determined to be inaccurate; (2) there is overcrowding of facilities in the choice school or program; (3) the choice school discontinues a particular program; (4) the choice school or program cannot meet the special needs of the student as determined by the individualized education program (IEP)

The District will also grant priority preference for the younger siblings of the child

