

### **Open Enrollment Timelines**

Parents/guardians considering the use of the open enrollment option to enroll their child/ren in a public school district in the State of Iowa other than their district of residence should be aware of the following dates: **March 1**—Last date for regular open enrollment requests. **September 1**, Last date for open enrollment request for entering kindergarten students.

Open Enrollment applications must be submitted to the resident and to the receiving districts.

In order to qualify for open enrollment *after* the March 1st deadline, the student must meet the “good cause” definition. Good cause relates to: (1) There is a change in district of residence due to: family move, change in marital status, foster care, adoption, or treatment program; (2) Participation in foreign exchange program; (3) Failure of negotiations for reorganization or whole grade sharing; (4) Loss of accreditation or revocation of a private charter school; (5) Pervasive harassment; (6) severe health need (determined by the district). If these circumstances occur after March 1, a parent or guardian may file a “late” open enrollment application.

Transportation assistance is available for those who qualify according to income guidelines between contiguous districts. This may be in the form of actual transportation or in the form of a reimbursement.

Parents should be aware that open enrollment may result in the loss of athletic eligibility for students in grades 9-12 for varsity competitions for the first 90 school days of transfer.

Children will remain on open enrollment status unless the parent/guardian decides to cancel it or the agreement is terminated as a result of the parent/guardian moving, by not sending the child to the requested district or any other circumstance that results in the pupil no longer attending the receiving district.

For more information on open enrollment, please view the Iowa Department of Education website at: <https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/options-educational-choice/open-enrollment>.