

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, 2014**—Last date for regular open enrollment requests for the 2014-15 school year. **September 1, 2014**- Last date for open enrollment request for entering kindergarten students and those students falling under the “good cause” definition for the 2014-15 school year. Good cause relates to only two general areas: (1) There is a change in the status of the pupil’s resident district (failure of negotiations for a whole grade sharing agreement, reorganization proposal, dissolution agreement or the rejection of a current whole grade sharing agreement or reorganization plan); or (2) there is a change in the residence of the pupil (change in the pupil’s parents’ marital status, a guardianship proceeding, placement in foster care, adoption or participation in a substance abuse or mental health treatment program) or similar sets of circumstances. If these circumstances occur after March 1, a parent or guardian may file a “late” open enrollment application. Parents/guardians of open enrolled students whose income falls below 160% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for transportation assistance. This may be in the form of actual transportation or in the form of a cash stipend. Parents should be aware that open enrollment may result in the loss of athletic eligibility.

Parents/guardians are no longer required to renew open enrollment request. 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.