

**SAYREVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGISTRATION AND DOMICILE/RESIDENCY FORMS**

**PRELIMINARY INFORMATION:
PLEASE READ BEFORE PROCEEDING**

A. ELIGIBILITY TO ATTEND THE SAYREVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The questions asked in the following pages will enable us to determine your child's eligibility to attend school in the Sayreville School District ("District") in accordance with New Jersey law. Please be aware that N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:22-1 et seq. specify that a free public education will be provided to any student between the ages of 5 and 20 who is:

- Domiciled in the District, i.e., living with a parent or guardian whose permanent home is located within the District. A home is permanent when the parent or guardian intends to return to it when absent and has no present intent of moving from it, notwithstanding the existence of homes or residences elsewhere.
- Living with a person, other than the parent or guardian, who is domiciled in the District and is supporting the student without compensation, as if the student were his or her own child, because the parent cannot support the child due to family or economic hardship. (See "Affidavit of Domicile" Students below.)
- Living with a person domiciled in the District, other than the parent or guardian, where the parent/guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the reserve component of the U.S. armed forces and has been ordered into active military service in the U.S. Armed Forces in time of war or national emergency.
- Living with a parent or guardian who is temporarily residing in the District.
- The child of a parent or guardian who moves to another district as the result of being homeless.
- Placed in the home of a District resident by court order pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-2.
- The child of a parent or guardian who previously resided in the District but is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the United States reserves and has been ordered into active service in time of war or national emergency pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3(b).
- Residing on federal property within the State pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-7.7 et seq.

Note that the following do not affect a student's eligibility to enroll in school:

- Physical condition of housing or compliance with local housing ordinances or terms of lease.
- Immigration/visa status, except for students holding or seeking a visa (F-1) issued specifically for the purpose of limited study on a tuition basis in a United States public secondary school.
- Absence of a certified copy of birth certificate or other proof of a student's identity, although these must be provided within 30 days of initial enrollment, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-25.1.
- Absence of student medical information, although actual attendance at school may be deferred as necessary in compliance with rules regarding immunization of students, N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 et seq.
- Absence of a student's prior educational record, although the initial educational placement of the student may be subject to revision upon receipt of records or further assessment by the District.

B. ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTATION OF PROOF OF RESIDENCY

The following forms of documentation may demonstrate a student's eligibility for enrollment in the District. Particular documentation necessary to demonstrate eligibility under specific provisions in law will be indicated in the appropriate section of the registration form.

- Property tax bills, deeds, contracts of sale, leases, mortgages, signed letters from landlords and other evidence of property ownership, tenancy or residency.
- Voter registrations, licenses, permits, financial account information, utility bills, delivery receipts, and other evidence of personal attachment to a particular location.
- Court orders, state agency agreements and other evidence of court or agency placements or directives.
- Receipts, bills, cancelled checks, insurance claims or payments, and other evidence of expenditures demonstrating personal attachment to a particular location or, where applicable, to support of the student.
- Medical reports, counselor or social worker assessments, employment documents, unemployment claims, benefit statements, and other evidence of circumstances demonstrating, where applicable, family or economic hardship or temporary residency.
- Affidavits, certifications and sworn attestations pertaining to statutory criteria for school attendance from the parent, legal guardian, person keeping an "affidavit of domicile" student, adult student, person(s) with whom a family is living, or others, as appropriate.
- Documents pertaining to military status and assignment.

- Any business record or document issued by a governmental entity.
- Any other form of documentation relevant to demonstrating entitlement to attend school.

The totality of information and documentation you offer will be considered in evaluating an application, and, unless expressly required by law, the student will not be denied enrollment based on your inability to provide certain form(s) of documentation where other acceptable evidence is presented.

You will not be asked for any information or document protected from disclosure by law or pertaining to criteria which are not legitimate bases for determining eligibility to attend school. You may voluntarily disclose any document or information you believe will help establish that the student meets the requirements of law for entitlement to attend school in the District, but we may not, directly or indirectly, require or request:

- Income tax returns;
- Documentation or information relating to citizenship or immigration/visa status, unless the student holds or is applying for an F-1 visa;
- Documentation or information relating to compliance with local housing ordinances or conditions of tenancy;
- Social security numbers.

Please be aware that any initial determination of the student’s eligibility to attend school in this District is subject to more thorough review and subsequent re-evaluation, and that tuition may be assessed in the event that an initially admitted student is later found ineligible. If your child is found ineligible, now or later, you will be provided the reasons for our decision and instructions on how to appeal.

C. “AFFIDAVIT OF DOMICILE” STUDENTS

As stated above, a student living with a person, other than the parent or guardian, who is domiciled in the District and is supporting the student without compensation, is entitled to attend school in the District. Students are not eligible to attend school as “Affidavit of Domicile” students unless the student’s parent or guardian is not capable of supporting or providing care for the student due to family or economic hardship, and unless it is clear that the student is not living in the District solely for purposes of receiving a public education.

A student will not be considered ineligible because required sworn statements(s) cannot be obtained so long as evidence is presented that the underlying requirements of the law are being met.

A student will not be considered ineligible when evidence is presented that the student has no home or possibility of school attendance other than with a non-parent District resident who is acting as the sole caretaker and supporter of the student.

A student will not be considered ineligible solely because a parent or guardian provides gifts or limited contributions, financial or otherwise, toward the welfare of the student provided that the resident keeping the student receives no payment or other remuneration from the parent or guardian for the student's actual housing and support. Receipt by the resident of Social Security or other similar benefits on behalf of the student does not render a student ineligible.

It is not necessary that legal guardianship or custody be obtained before a student will be considered for enrollment on an "Affidavit of Domicile" basis.

D. TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS RESIDING WITH DIVORCED PARENTS

The District is not required, as a result of being the school district of domicile for school attendance purposes where a student lives with more than one parent, to provide transportation to a student residing outside the District for part of the school year, other than transportation based upon the home of the parent domiciled within the District to the extent required by law.

E. EMANCIPATED STUDENTS

If you are claiming to be an emancipated student, you must also provide proof that you are not in the care and custody of a parent or legal guardian.

F. HOMES LOCATED IN MULTIPLE SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Under New Jersey law, where a dwelling is located within two or more local school districts or bears a mailing address that does not reflect the dwelling's physical location within a municipality, the district of domicile for school attendance purposes is that of the municipality to which the resident pays the majority of his or her property tax or to which the majority of property tax for the dwelling in question is paid by the owner of a multi-unit dwelling.

G. DISPUTES CONCERNING DOMICILE

If you experience difficulties with the enrollment process, please see the building Principal. If you cannot resolve your difficulties with the building Principal, you may contact the Office of the Superintendent at 732-525-5200 x5203. Additionally, you may appeal a decision regarding entitlement to attend the District's school by filing an appeal before the Commissioner of Education. Directions for such an appeal are included in this enrollment packet.