

Tuition Charges and Payments

The District will charge tuition to the parents/guardians of students who are not legally constituted residents of Fargo Public School District #1 when the student's resident school district has not entered into a tuition payment agreement with the District. Residence of students is generally determined to be the legal residence of the parent(s).

The State of North Dakota is required by the Steward B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (20 USC 1232d(PL100-77)) to ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has access to a free, appropriate public education. A homeless child or youth is defined as a child or youth between the ages of six and eighteen who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and includes a child or youth who is living on the street, in a car, tent, abandoned building, some other form of shelter not designed as a permanent home, or who is living in a community shelter facility. No child or youth shall be discriminated against by the District in the provision of educational services because of homelessness.

A student whose parents are divorced or separated may attend school in the resident district of either parent, but the student must be residing with the parent in the district of choice. The establishment of a power of attorney does not automatically change the residence of a minor child who has a parent living.

The school district in which a child resides at the time of any court order or act of a juvenile commissioner or any other lawful authority which shall have been issued requiring such child to stay for any prescribed period at a foster home or a home maintained by any nonprofit corporation, shall be construed to be the resident district of such child for purposes of tuition payments whenever such child shall attend any public school. If the parent moves from the district during the period of the court order, the new district of residence becomes the obligated district. If the move is out of the state or if the new location of the parent is unknown, the student's tuition may be paid by the Department of Public Instruction.

The District, without tuition, will accept foreign exchange students sponsored by an agency included within the Advisory List produced by the Council on Standards for International Education Travel. Foreign students who are placed within the district boundaries by a refugee program or who reside with a parent within the district's boundaries will be accepted without tuition. Any other foreign student will be accepted by the school district only upon payment of tuition in an amount equal to that required of any other out-of-state student. Foreign students may be required to participate in the English Learners Program.

Students whose residency status changes from resident to non-resident during the school year may complete the semester begun prior to the move before tuition is charged if the parents/guardians so desire. If the change to nonresident status occurs during the student's second semester of the junior year or during the summer preceding the senior year or during the senior year, the student may continue without tuition in order to complete their high school education at the Fargo school attended at the time of the move.

Tuition charged to parents/guardians of students who are not residents of the District but are residents of the state, and tuition charged to North Dakota school districts shall be equal to the District's average per pupil cost based on the previous year plus state average per pupil capital outlay less the per pupil payment received from the state foundation aid program. Tuition for out-of-state residents will be equal to the District's average per pupil cost based on the previous year plus state average per pupil capital outlay. Tuition charged to North Dakota school districts for handicapped students will be based on the formula established by the Department of Public Instruction.

One-half of the annual tuition must be paid prior to enrollment. The remaining half must be paid at the beginning of the second semester. Failure to pay tuition will result in removal of the student from attendance rolls. Parents/guardians of students whose nonresident status is discovered during the year will be charged tuition retroactive to the day of enrollment.

The entrance or departure of nonresident students or the change in status from resident to nonresident shall be reported on the appropriate forms by the respective principals to the Business Office.

Adopted 8/14/81
Reviewed 1/2003
Revised 12/2017
Revised 9/2022