

Descriptor Term: SCHOOL ADMISSION

Descriptor Code: JBC

Rescinds: JBC

Board Approved: 3/14/2016

Previously Approved: 11/27/2006

The State of Mississippi provides for a uniform system of free public school consisting of grades kindergarten through twelve. The Gulfport School District will comply with Federal and State regulations pertaining to the enrollment of all students.

Whenever any minor child seeks or applies to enroll in the Gulfport School District, he/she will be accompanied by his/her parents or guardian.

The Board of Trustees encourages the admission of all eligible students into the District. Verification of eligibility will be the duty of the administration to protect our students from possible overcrowding with all of its attendant disadvantages and to protect our taxpayers from unwarranted financial burden.

Students will be allowed to enter the District without a waiting period as long as the parents or guardians are legal residents of the District.

Any student who is a legal resident of the District and has been accepted, or who has a clear release from another school will be allowed to enroll in the District. This regulation or policy does not mean that a student must be enrolled if he/she has been suspended or expelled from another school either local or otherwise. Students who have been suspended or expelled from another school district and are seeking to enroll in the District may not be enrolled without a review of the request and approval by the Superintendent and the Board.

Children of legal school age whose parents or legal guardians are residents of the District are eligible to attend school. In the case of separated or divorced parents, court orders and decrees involving custody of children will be controlling.

Any legal guardianship formed for the purpose of establishing residency for school district attendance purposes will not be recognized by the Board.

Kindergarten Admission

All kindergarten students five years old on or prior to September 1 of the current year will provide

the respective school with the following:

1. Birth certificate
2. Certificate of compliance
3. Legal home address of parent or guardian

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Elementary Admission

All first graders six years of age on or prior to September 1 of the current year and new students will provide the respective school with the following:

1. Birth certificate
2. Certificate of compliance
3. Report card
4. Name and address of former school attended
5. Legal home address of parent or guardian

Secondary Admission

To be admitted to a secondary school, students will provide the school with the following information:

1. Birth certificate (new students to the system)
2. Certificate of compliance
3. Report card
4. Name and address of former school attended
5. Legal home address of parent or guardian

Admission - Pupil Non Residents

No minor child may enroll in or attend any school except in the school district of his/her residence, unless such child be lawfully transferred from the school district of his/her residence to a school in another school district in accord with the statutes of this state now in effect or which may be hereafter enacted; however, those children whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are employees of the District may at the Superintendent's discretion enroll and attend the District school or schools of the Superintendent's choice, regardless of the residence of the child except that the exercise of such privileges will not be allowed to abrogate, annul, or in any other way change enrollment ratios, including desegregation enrollment ratios.

Legal Reference: Mississippi Code 1972, §37-13-1, §37-15-11, §37-15-29, §37-15-31 (1) (c)