

CHANGE OF SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT



WHAT'S NEW?

For many years, Fulton County Schools has provided options for students to attend a school different than the one zoned for their home. Governed under School Board Policy JBCD, parents and guardians applied through an annual hardship transfer process or through the options made available by state law (e.g., Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program and Public School Choice/Open Enrollment).

During the 2023-2024 school year, the Fulton County Board of Education examined Policy JBCD and adopted several changes that streamline the application process while providing additional flexibility for parents and district employees. The revised timeline also incorporates the application process for schools offering the International Baccalaureate program and magnet programs. Policy changes went into effect August 2024.



TRANSFERS CAN BE REQUESTED FOR ANY REASON

Specific hardship transfer types (e.g., curriculum difference, childcare, and medical) were eliminated as sole reasons for requesting a transfer. Instead, parents/guardians can request a transfer to any school with available space as stated in Fulton County School Board Policy.



LIST OF ACCEPTING SCHOOLS PUBLISHED ANNUALLY

Only schools with available space, defined as 95% enrollment or below stated capacity over a 3-year projection, will be on the published list of schools accepting student transfers.



STUDENT EXPECTATIONS TO MAINTAIN ENROLLMENT

If a transfer is approved, students must meet the following requirements to maintain their enrollment:

- Transportation provided by parent/guardian or student
- Satisfactory attendance
- Good academic standing
- Behavior compliance with the district's Student Code of Conduct



NEW, CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION TIMELINE

The application window for all Fulton County Schools' transfer programs is now one process, held at one time, with a beginning date in December and a closing date in January.

Programs falling under the new process and timeline include:

- Parent/guardian preference (replaces 'Hardship Transfers' and 'Public School Choice/Open Enrollment' programs)
- Georgia Special Needs Scholarship
- International Baccalaureate
- Magnet Programs



FLEXIBILITY FOR CHILDREN OF FCS STAFF

Flexibility has been added for the children of eligible employees to enroll in any school, subject to space.



GRANDFATHERED-IN STUDENTS

Students with transfers approved under the previous policy are grandfathered-in until their terminal year (5th grade, 8th grade or 12th grade) at that school. Grandfathered-in students also will continue to receive bus transportation, if currently receiving services. Students must meet attendance, academic and behavioral requirements to maintain enrollment and/or transportation.



SCHOOLS WITH IB DIPLOMA OR MAGNET PROGRAMS

Students wishing to attend a high school offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma or a magnet program must follow the Change of School Assignment process first to ensure they may attend the selected school. Transfer approvals do not guarantee admission into the program; there is a separate application process occurring after acceptance.

APPLICATION WINDOW

**December 9, 2024 to
January 15, 2025**

**for Requests Taking Effect
with the 2025-2026 School Year**

FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS OFFICE OF STUDENT ASSIGNMENT

6201 Powers Ferry Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30339
470-254-5550 | StudentAssignment@fultonschools.org

More information available online,
including FAQs

www.fultonschools.org/COSA



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CHANGE OF SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT



APPLICATION PROCESS & TIMELINE

for Requests Taking Effect with the 2025-2026 School Year

AUG 1 2024

POLICY JBCD ("CHANGE OF SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT")
REVISIONS ARE IN EFFECT FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

DEC 9 2024

OPENING OF APPLICATION WINDOW;
LIST OF SCHOOLS ACCEPTING TRANSFERS ANNOUNCED

JAN 15 2025

APPLICATION WINDOW CLOSES; DISTRICT BEGINS ALIGNING
ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS WITH AVAILABLE SCHOOLS

SPRING 2025

SCHOOL DISTRICT SENDS NOTIFICATION BY EMAIL
OF ACCEPTANCE OR DENIAL TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

MAY 22 2025

LAST DAY OF 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

AUG 4 2025

FIRST DAY OF 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR; STUDENTS WITH
APPROVED TRANSFERS START THEIR NEW SCHOOL

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