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POLICY	

I. INTRODUCTION

The Lincoln School Committee believes that a child shall be enrolled in the school system of the town in which he/she resides. Therefore, only students who lawfully reside within the Town shall attend Lincoln Public Schools as provided by state law. Exceptions may be made to protect the best interests of the students or the District. These exceptions, however, are to be kept to a minimum in order to protect the best interests of resident students and taxpayers.

The following policy shall govern admission of non-resident students.

II. RESIDENCY

A. Establishment of Residency¹

For residency purposes, a child shall be deemed to be a resident of the town where his or her parents reside.

If the child's parents reside in different towns the child shall be deemed to be a resident of the town in which the parent having actual custody of the child resides.

In cases where a child has no living parents, has been abandoned by his or her parents, or when parents are unable to care for their child on account of parental illness or family break-up, the child shall be deemed to be a resident of the town where the child lives with his or her legal guardian, natural guardian, or other person acting in loco parentis to the child.

An emancipated minor shall be deemed to be a resident of the town wherein he or she lives.

Where a child is a resident in a dwelling which lies in more than one municipality, the parent(s) or guardian shall choose which school district the child shall attend without payment of costs as tuition.

B. Maintaining Continuity of Education²

Once a student has been determined to be eligible to attend Lincoln schools and is duly enrolled, that child may continue to attend Lincoln schools until the child is enrolled in another school system or home schooled or the commissioner of elementary and secondary education orders otherwise.

C. Homeless Children³

Children who are no longer residents and lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as required by McKinney-Vento Act and R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 16-24-2 and 16-64-2 may continue to attend Lincoln Public Schools as determined by the Superintendent or the Commissioner of Education.

¹ [RI Gen. Laws § 16-64-1 \(Residency of Children for School Purposes\)](#)

² **RI Gen. Laws § 16-64-2 (Retention of Residence),**

³ 200 RICR 20-30-5

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III. Non-Resident Student Admissions⁴

Students who are residents of a town other than Lincoln and whose parents, legal guardian, natural guardian or other person acting *in loco parentis* intends to establish legal residency in the Town of Lincoln may be admitted to Lincoln Public Schools during the course of a school year provided that documentation of future residency is provided as stated below and tuition is paid to the School Department in the amount set from time to time by the School Committee.

IV. Reciprocal Agreements

The Superintendent is authorized to make reciprocal arrangements with other school departments whereby students residing in one district may be enrolled in the other district. Any such placement in the District made without payment of tuition charge shall be duly approved by the School Committee.

V. Transportation

No transportation shall be provided by the Town of Lincoln to any non-resident student attending school unless otherwise required by applicable law.

IV. International Exchange Agreement

A student visiting from a foreign country and who is living with a Lincoln resident may be permitted to attend a Lincoln Public School on a tuition free basis with prior approval of the Superintendent, provided that the student and the resident have complied with all appropriate immigration laws and regulations, and have provided appropriate immunization records. The Superintendent shall require documentation of compliance with such laws and regulations and may require submission of such immunization records.

Amended Policy Adopted:	November 18, 1991
Revised Policy First Reading:	October 16, 2017
Revised Policy Second Reading:	November 13, 2017
Revised Policy Adopted:	November 13, 2017
Revised Policy First Reading:	May 20, 2019
Revised Policy Second Reading:	June 10, 2019
Revised Policy Adopted:	June 10, 2019
Revised Policy First Reading:	May 20, 2024
Revised Policy Second Reading:	June 10, 2024
Revised Policy Adopted:	June 10, 2024

⁴ All children who are not legally defined residents of the Town of Lincoln pursuant to RI Gen. Laws § 16-64-1 (Residency of Children for School Purposes) shall be non-resident students.