Non-Resident Students

(Original Adopted Date: 06/04/2018; Revised Date: 05/05/2025)

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) provides an opportunity for students who are not residents of Clayton County to attend schools within the District, subject to the below guidelines.

All non-resident students who do not fall under the exceptions listed in JBCA–R(1), shall be considered "FTE-based, non-resident" students and are required to pay an FTE fee to attend schools within the CCPS. FTE Fee payments shall be waived for children of employees accepted as non-resident students.

To attain FTE-based, non-resident status, each student must submit an application to attend Clayton County Public Schools and receive written approval from the Superintendent or his/her designee. Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria: a) history of good behavior, b) average or above-average academic achievement through past grades and/or standardized achievement test scores, c) evidence of satisfactory attendance, and (d) current instructional program services which will meet the educational, physical and emotional needs of the student.

The Superintendent and his/her designee shall have the right to refuse admission to any applicant if, in his/her opinion, accepting the student would not be in the best interest of the school system. Acceptance of FTE-based, non-resident students may also be limited by school capacity and program availability. A decision regarding the FTE-based, non-resident request will be considered final.

If false information is provided during the application process, or the circumstances under which the approval was granted change, the tuition-based, non-resident student's enrollment may be revoked.

An FTE-based, non-resident student under these regulations will be treated as a resident student for the purposes of the lottery process and magnet programs. However, FTE-based, non-resident students in this category do not receive preferential treatment in the lottery process for assignment or in programs where students must apply to be accepted (i.e. magnet schools/programs), nor will they bump students currently on the wait list for these programs. FTE-based students will be placed after resident students during the lottery year. If students are not placed prior to the first day of school, students must re-apply for the following school year.

FTE rates shall be calculated annually and set based upon guidelines set forth in accordance with state law and shall be due on a fee schedule determined by District procedures. Payments shall be made on a per semester basis, at least ten (10) business days in advance of the start of the semester. Payments will only be accepted via credit or debit card, or in a postal money order or cashier's check form. No personal checks or cash will be accepted. Note: if a student voluntarily withdraws or is involuntarily withdrawn as a result of a disciplinary sanction within a semester, any pre-paid fee will not be reimbursed.

For all FTE-based, non-resident student approvals, the following provisions apply:

1. Students who receive an FTE-based, non-resident approval and enroll in the year in which permission is granted may attend the school through the highest grade of the particular school prior to re-applying;
2. Transportation must be provided by the parent/guardian. However, the parent/guardian may take advantage of the District shuttle opportunities, if available;
3. If the student receives special education services, the school selected must have the special education services required by the current Individual Education Plan (IEP) and space available for programming; and
4. If the student transfers at the high school level, he/she must meet Georgia High School Association requirements to participate in competitive interscholastic activities.

Subject to other qualifications for non-resident students, students who are residents of nations other than the United States who reside with a family who is a resident of Clayton County may be admitted without payment of the fee under recognized foreign student exchange programs.

Non-Resident Students Continued

All non-resident students must maintain acceptable behavior, attendance, passing grades and a cooperative/productive relationship between home and school. Enrollment may be denied or terminated if these conditions are not met.

The school system reserves the right to terminate the enrollment of a non-resident student at any time, for any legal reason, including failure to pay the FTE fee on time, poor academic performance, poor attendance, excessive tardiness, or poor behavior as determined by the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Important Dates for the 2026-2027 School Year

NON-RESIDENT APPLICATION PERIOD
February 1, 2026 - March 1, 2026

Tips for Non-Resident Applicants

- **Apply Early**
  Submit your application on time. Late applications will not be considered
- **Understand Your Priority Level**
  Resident students are placed before non-resident applicants. Seats are only offered to non-residents after all residents placements are finalized
- **Be Ready with Documentation**
  Prepare to upload all required documents including proof of residency, academic records and any additional paperwork requested by the School Choice Office
- **Consider Transportation**
  Transportation is not provided for non-resident students. Be sure you can arrange reliable transportation before applying
- **Prepare for Limited Availability**
  Non-resident approvals are limited and not guaranteed - even if your child was previously enrolled in a CCPS school
- **Stay Connected**
  Check your email regularly after the application closes for approval or denial letters. Final notifications will be sent before June 1, 2026
- **Sign Contract by the Deadline**
  Enrollment contracts must be signed prior to the given deadline