Fairless Local
Inter-district Open Enrollment
Guidelines

The Fairless Local Board of Education believes that students should, under certain prescribed circumstances, benefit from an inter-district open enrollment policy. Guidelines for the transfer of students, based upon criteria established by the school's administration and in conjunction with recommendations from officials of the Ohio Department of Education are listed below. These guidelines are intended to be consistent with O.R.C. 3319.98.

1. New applications for an inter-district transfer must be **hand delivered** to the Superintendent's office of the Fairless Local School District beginning **April 1**, and not later than **April 30** of any given school year. Applications will be acted upon at the June Board meeting. Parents must indicate acceptance of transfer on or before July 1. One application must be submitted for each student who requests an inter-district transfer. **ALL APPLICATIONS MUST HAVE CURRENT PROOF OF RESIDENCY ATTACHED.**

2. Students who are accepted for open enrollment will be required to reapply each year. Students currently enrolled under open enrollment will receive admission preference over new applicants. Applications for **Renewals** are only open **March 1 through March 31**. **Anyone missing renewal deadlines must apply as a NEW applicant. Renewals must provide a current proof of residency.**

3. No inter-district transfer will be permitted if the enrollment of the grade level being requested at the receiving building exceeds the following ratios/student enrollment:

   The ratios below apply to NEW applications starting with the 2024-2025 school year:

Grade	Enrollment
Kindergarten	18-1
Grade One	18-1
Grade Two	18-1
Grade Three	18-1
Grade Four	20-1
Grade Five	20-1
Grade Six	100
Grade Seven	100
Grade Eight	100
Grade Nine	110
Grade Ten	110
Grade Eleven	110
Grade Twelve	110

Special Education	
K-5	12
6-8	15
9-12	16

4. Students, once accepted, may be displaced should enrollment exceed the limits stated above prior to the beginning of the school year. The administration will determine building assignment, and there is no guarantee that the building assignment will prevail in subsequent years.

5. With the exception of students whose parents or legal guardians are employees of the Fairless Local Schools, no student will be accepted after capacity limits have been reached at the student's grade level.

6. Enrollment in a special program, i.e., gifted, LD, CD, etc. will dictate which building a student must attend as units are placed in buildings according to space availability.

7. Districts are not required to institute any special education programs to serve transfer students. If a student is evaluated for placement in a special education program, representatives of the district of residence must be invited to participate in the placement meeting.

8. All approved transfers are in effect for the current school year only and may be discontinued at the discretion of the administration in subsequent years.

9. Applicants shall be considered on a first-come, first-served basis with an assurance that native students will not be displaced. Participants in previous projects will be given preference.

10. Applicants may be rejected if the racial balance of either the sending or the receiving school district would be negatively impacted.

11. Transportation shall be governed by state inter-district open enrollment guidelines. Transportation of students transferred out of their school attendance area at parental request shall be the sole responsibility of their parents/guardians unless the student can be picked up and dropped off at a stop on the receiving schools regular transportation schedule.

12. Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) rules will govern all athletic eligibility decisions.

13. The Fairless Local School District will deny enrollment to students who have been expelled or suspended for ten consecutive days in the current term or the immediately preceding term.

14. Superintendents may, by mutual agreement, waive the stated enrollment deadline, up to the first full week of October, should extenuating circumstances exist. Board to be informed of those students at their next regular meeting.

15. Native students whose parents or legal guardians move from the Fairless Local School District into another district will be allowed to continue in the Fairless Local Schools for the remainder of the school year if they choose to apply for open enrollment admission.