

Open Enrollment Information

Open Enrollment into Birdville ISD

Open Enrollment is a process through which in-district and out-of-district students may apply to a Birdville ISD campus other than the one they are zoned to attend based on their residential address. Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis and require approval by the campus principal and an administrator in the Student Services Department.

Birdville ISD is accepting Open Enrollment applications for in-district and out-of-district students for the upcoming school year. The following information is intended for, and will be implemented at, all Birdville ISD campuses.

For the coming school year:

- A currently enrolled prekindergarten student will be required to return to their home campus for their kindergarten school year. The student may remain at the current campus only under the Open Enrollment process.
- In-district students currently in kindergarten through fifth grade may apply for Open Enrollment at any campus within Birdville ISD.
- A student who is currently in the sixth grade and applying for Open Enrollment must declare a high school campus to attend for the ninth through 12th-grade school years on the Open Enrollment application. The student may choose to either:
 - Remain in their current (Open Enrollment) feeder pattern; or
 - Return to their zoned high school campus.
- Per Birdville ISD Board policy, exceptions are made if:
 - The student currently attends the campus; or
 - The parent is a Birdville ISD employee; or
 - The student has an older sibling who will attend the same campus during the initial Open Enrollment year; and
 - The student meets all eligibility criteria.
- All grade levels are open to BISD students at their zoned feeder-pattern campus.

[Open Enrollment and New Students - Register Here!](#)

Eligibility Criteria and Removal

Student Eligibility Criteria

A student applying for an Open Enrollment is required to meet **all** the following criteria:

- The student must have 95% attendance for the previous semester and the last six weeks.
- The student must have completed and passed all classes for the last semester and be passing all current classes.
- The student must have passed all portions of their latest state-mandated test and/or assessment exam.
- Space must be available at the requested campus, grade level, or program.
- If an Open Enrollment application is approved, the student accepts the seat and is enrolled at the campus, the campus principal may review the application at any time to verify that all eligibility criteria have been met.

Home School, Private School, or Non-Accredited School student eligibility criteria

- Satisfactory scores on standardized achievement tests at the 60th percentile or above.
- Successful achievement of District-administered academic test(s).

Campus Criteria

Factors that determine if a campus can accept Open Enrollment students may include:

- Building capacity
- Current program or campus enrollment
- Growth projections
- Grade-level enrollments
- Teacher allocations
- Paraprofessional staff allocations

Exceptions

If a student meets the eligibility criteria listed above and the campus criteria are met, one or more of the following exceptions may be applicable:

- The student is currently enrolled at the campus where they are applying.
- The student is the child of a full-time Birdville ISD employee. An in-district transfer may be requested, with approval being based upon the eligibility and campus criteria listed above being met.
- The student is requesting a transfer to a campus outside of their attendance zone where an older sibling attends. The older sibling must be on campus during the initial enrollment year and meet all eligibility criteria listed above.
- A student who moves outside of the District during the course of a grading period may be permitted to continue at their current campus for the remainder of the nine-week grading period. Before the end of the grading period, parents/guardians may apply for Open Enrollment if the student meets both the eligibility and campus criteria. If the Open Enrollment application is approved, the student may remain at the campus as long as they meet the eligibility criteria.

Potential Reasons For DENIAL

- Record of poor attendance
- Late arrivals or pick-ups
- Failing grades
- Disciplinary infractions
- Failing state-mandated test(s)
- If the application is for the purpose of participating in athletics at the receiving campus
- Falsification of information
- Failure to meet eligibility criteria for transfer
- Decreased campus staffing
- Elementary projection exceeds 20 per class for kindergarten through fourth grades
- Elementary projection exceeds 22 per class for fifth grade
- Student projections reach 95% of campus/program capacity
- If any criteria are not met after being granted Open Enrollment and seated at the campus

Removal of Open Enrollment Students During the School Year

Transfer of Student – (TEC §25.036) (LOCAL POLICY FDB)

Local Innovation Plan/Guidelines: Relief from the code governing this policy would eliminate the provision of a one-year commitment in the event of exceptional circumstances, which would include, but are not limited to, student misbehavior warranting in or out of school suspension, placement in DAEP or expulsion; or attendance which falls below the TEA truancy standard including absences from school, and or multiple instances of late arrival, early dismissal or late pickup. This exception would not apply to McKinney-Vento students due to federal law. Transfer revocation will be handled by the Executive Director of Student Services and will not be subject to appeal.

Application Process Information

Open Enrollment Application Process

- A student may apply to up to three campuses of their choice in a single Open Enrollment application.
- Open Enrollment applications will be reviewed in the order they are received for students who meet the eligibility criteria.
- Next, to determine whether to accept or deny Open Enrollment applications, the campus principal and a Student Services Department administrator will review all applications.
- Lastly, in a reasonable amount of time, parents/guardians will be notified through the Focus Portal.

Yearly Procedures

- For the 2026–27 school year and beyond, Birdville has implemented a pre-approval process for Open Enrollment students. Campus principals may pre-approve students who are currently enrolled through Open Enrollment and continue to meet the eligibility criteria. If your student receives a pre-approval, the parent will

only need to accept it for their student to return to the Open Enrollment school. If they do not receive a pre-approval from the campus, the parent must submit an Open Enrollment application for their student to return to the Open Enrollment school.

- Each application represents one student. This is required because the student is applying for a certain vacant seat in a specific grade at a particular campus. A student currently attending a campus in Birdville ISD through Open Enrollment will not automatically progress from one grade level to the next, whether remaining at the same campus or continuing to a new campus in the feeder pattern.
- Each student living outside of the campus attendance zone must submit an Open Enrollment application every school year.
- The student must meet all eligibility criteria each school year.
- There is no tuition fee for out-of-district applicants for the current school year. However, consideration for an Open Enrollment tuition fee for out-of-district applicants will be reviewed in subsequent years.

Potential Reasons for Revoking an Open Enrollment APPROVAL

- The campus principal may revoke a student's Open Enrollment approval at the end of a school year based on the listed eligibility criteria, the listed reasons for denial, other items listed on Birdville ISD's website and/or Birdville ISD handbooks, and code of conduct rules and regulations.
- The campus principal may revoke a student's Open Enrollment approval during the school year after meeting with the parent and providing the student with a probationary period.
- The campus principal may revoke a student's Open Enrollment approval during the school year under Birdville ISD's District of Innovation (DoI IV.N) provisions regarding transfer students (TEC §25.036; Local Policy FDB) due to exceptional circumstances, including, but not limited to, student misconduct resulting in in-school or out-of-school suspension; placement in DAEP or expulsion; or attendance that falls below TEA truancy standards, including excessive absences, repeated late arrivals, early dismissals, or late pickups.

Movement Into Secondary Schools

- A student currently attending a campus in Birdville ISD through Open Enrollment will not automatically progress from one grade level to the next, whether at the same campus or continuing to a new campus, within the feeder pattern.

- Each student living outside of the campus's attendance zone must submit an Open Enrollment application every school year.
- The student must meet all eligibility criteria each school year.

Transportation

- Each student approved into the Open Enrollment program must provide their own transportation to and from school.
- Transportation requirements apply to both in-district and out-of-district applicants.

UIL Rules for Open Enrollment

- Students who participate in University Interscholastic League (UIL) athletics are excluded from Open Enrollment transfers until they have verified eligibility through the Executive Director of Athletics. Please contact the Birdville ISD Athletics Department at 817-547-5820.
- Students who move from one Birdville ISD high school campus to another Birdville ISD high school campus (under the exemptions), are ineligible for varsity competition for one complete school year per UIL rules.
- Students who transfer for athletic purposes may be denied and/or lose their Open Enrollment approval.

Additional Information

For further information and questions, please call the Birdville ISD Student Services Department at 817-547-5790.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Open Enrollment?

Open Enrollment is a process through which in-district and out-of-district students may apply to a Birdville ISD campus other than the one they are zoned to attend based on their residential address. Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis and require approval by the campus principal and an administrator in the Student Services Department.

Is the Open Enrollment process the same every year?

No. The process can change each year based on student enrollment and what is in the best interest of Birdville ISD.

Why are some grade levels limited for the school year?

Due to student growth or student attrition, every campus and grade level is reviewed annually to determine space availability.

Why did the application not allow me to continue completing the form?

The application process may be discontinued if the applicant does not meet the qualifications or criteria.

Why is Birdville ISD allowing out-of-district students in the District?

Under the Texas Foundation School Program, school funding is primarily based on student attendance (Average Daily Attendance). When an out-of-district student attends school in Birdville ISD, the district receives state funding for that student's attendance. Accepting transfer students into campuses and grade levels with available capacity allows the district to maximize instructional space and bring additional state operational revenue into Birdville ISD to support our educational programs, teachers, and facilities.

How does this program benefit me as a taxpayer?

It adds additional state revenue to Birdville ISD's annual budget. BISD will receive supplementary funds from the state for the attendance of the out-of-district students. Since the state pays Birdville ISD for occupied seats, this process adds approximately \$4 to \$5 million to Birdville ISD's operating fund annually.

Will allowing out-of-district students increase my taxes?

No. By filling available seats, Birdville ISD will receive additional state funds based on student attendance.

Are there any downsides to this program?

No. All students must meet our eligibility criteria, or they will be removed from BISD.

Will this cause additional transportation costs?

No. Any student who is accepted on an Open Enrollment application, for a campus other than the one their residential address zones them to attend, will be required to provide their own transportation to and from school every day.

Can I apply for more than one campus while the Open Enrollment application is available?

Yes. You may apply to up to three campuses in a single application.

Do I have to apply every year?

Yes. A returning student opting for open enrollment must submit the application annually.

Will speaking to the campus principal increase a student's chance of being accepted?

No. Each application is processed individually, and each applicant must meet the eligibility criteria listed in the Open Enrollment information.

Why do middle school Open Enrollment students have to select a feeder high school while still in middle school?

BISD requires students to declare their high schools to help plan for available classroom space and ensure there are no issues with programs that have UIL eligibility requirements.

Not Sure Which School You're Zoned For?

Use our Boundary Locator!

Just enter your home address to find your neighborhood school(s) and register today [**New Student Registration** or **Returning Student Registration**].

Live outside the district? No problem — **apply for Open Enrollment** today!



If your address is zoned **WITHIN** the Birdville ISD boundary areas, then you can register online for New or Returning Student Registration.
 If you **live outside** the BISD boundary areas or want to **apply to a different BISD campus**, you must complete an online Open Enrollment Application.

[Open Enrollment and New Students - Register Here!](#)

OR

[Returning Students - Register Here!](#)

