

V.A.6. RESIDENCY POLICY

V.A.6a ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS for Registration of School Aged Children

Residency

Except as provided by law or agreement, any school aged child shall be enrolled in the East Providence School Department, as long as their parent and/or legal guardian is a resident of East Providence (A guardian means a person to whom a court has awarded legal custody). In the case one of the child's parent/guardian resides in a different city or town, the child shall be deemed to be a resident of the city or town in which the parent/guardian having actual custody of the child resides. When custody is shared, the District may require documentation (court order) to determine residency for enrollment.

The Superintendent or designee may conduct residency reviews as needed to verify a student's eligibility for enrollment.

Admission Requirements

1. Each student to be enrolled must present the following, mandatory documents:
 - **Birth Certificate.** The complete legal name of the student, date of birth, sex, and name(s) of parent(s)/legal guardian(s) will be recorded in the student record as documented by the birth certificate unless amended per the guidelines of the EPSD Transgender Protocol.
 - Any child being a resident of EPSD may register for Kindergarten if their birthday falls on or before September 1st. It is RI law for all students to be registered by their 6th birthday.
 - Any child receiving special education services, who has not graduated, has not reached their 22nd birthday, and a resident of EPSD is eligible for registration.
2. A court order, updated birth certificate, or passport attesting to any changes in the student identification as referenced above in #1 is required before any changes can be made to the student record. Changes in a non-United States birth certificate must be supported by a document issued by the United States government or by an official identification document of the country of origin.
3. The parent/legal guardian must provide a current government issued photo identification to register a student. (Example: passport or driver's license).
4. Each student shall furnish a certificate documenting that the student has been immunized against communicable diseases as required by Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) or has begun receiving the first in the series of all such vaccinations. Deficiencies must be eliminated during the 90 days immediately following provisional admittance or in accordance with the written plan from the physician or RIDOH. See health requirements for school entry, all grades. ***Note: 3 will need to be documented.**
5. A certificate of physical examination is required before any student is admitted for the first time to any public school. See State of Rhode Island School Physical Form.

6. Any other forms or documents required at registration (such as, but not limited to, Registration, and, medical forms, Home Language Survey, Parental Consent to Access Medicaid and Release of Records).

7. Proof of residence (e.g., deed, mortgage statement or current lease) showing an East Providence address is required. If the family is living in a residence of a friend or relative, the homeowner or leaseholder must provide a notarized statement regarding this fact, see Affidavit of Residency, (available on the epschoolsri.org website) in addition to the lease or deed of the homeowner or leaseholder.

In addition to the mortgage or lease agreement, EPSD requires two additional current proofs of residency. These may consist of, but are not limited to, utility bill, credit card statement, City water bill, W-2, pay stub, bank statement, Board of Canvassers voter's registration card and Government assistance verification.

8. School records and/or original transcripts, (including IEPs, 504s, Individual Health Plans if appropriate) are required of all students.

B. EXCEPTION

The Superintendent or designee may waive documentation requirements as necessary to comply with applicable state/federal law or to protect student safety.

C. APPEALS

The District will provide written notice of any residency determination. Disputes concerning residency are resolved by the Commissioner of the Rhode Island Department of Education. Anyone who disagrees with the EPSD residency determination may appeal the decision directly to the Commissioner. Written appeals, signed by a parent or guardian of the student, may be submitted to:

Commissioner of Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
255 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903
Fax 401-222-6178

D. MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT / HOMELESSNESS

Homelessness exists in our community. Children and youth who have lost their housing (children and youth in transition) live in a variety of places, including motels, shelters, shared residences, transitional housing programs, cars, campgrounds and others. Families experiencing homelessness may enroll immediately even if typical documentation is unavailable. Their lack of permanent housing can lead to potentially serious physical, emotional and mental consequences. This school district will ensure that all children and youth receive a free appropriate public education and are given meaningful opportunities to succeed in our schools. This district will also follow the requirements of the McKinney-Vento Act.

Children and youth in transition means children and youth who are otherwise legally entitled to or eligible for a free public education, including preschool, and who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, including:

- Children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, campgrounds or trailer parks due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals.
- Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a private or public place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- Children and youth who are living in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station or similar setting.
- Migratory children and youth who are living in a situation described above.

Children and Youth in transition will have access to free breakfast and lunch and Title I services. Additionally, any child who qualifies for services through the McKinney-Vento Act shall be provided the following:

- Transportation
- Title I Services
- Educational services for which the student meets eligibility criteria, including special education and related services and programs for English language learners
- Vocational and technical education programs
- Gifted and talented programs
- School nutrition programs
- Before and after-school programs

East Providence School Committee
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