

NON-RESIDENT STUDENT - TUITION POLICY 5152

Schroon Lake Central School Policy Governing the Admission of Non-Resident Students

General Statement of Policy:

The Schroon Lake Central School recognizes its primary obligation to provide a free public education to all school age children who reside within the District. When the Superintendent of Schools determines that classroom space is available within the District and the District is able to offer such placement without incurring any additional cost to the taxpayers of Schroon Lake, it shall be the policy of the Board of Education to admit non-resident students to its schools upon the payment of tuition, if any, as set by the Board of Education in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State of New York.

This policy shall have no application to determinations by the committee on special education or a designated screening committee's review and consideration of a student referred to the District from another public school district's committee on special education for consideration of placement into one of the District's special education programs under Education Law §4401(2) (b); Part 200 of Commissioner's Regulations; or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Nothing in this policy shall authorize the admission or maintenance of a non-resident student whose admission/maintenance as a student in the District requires any additional expenditure to the Board of Education, the hiring of additional staff, or a waiver of an existing classroom teacher student ratio, as established by law, board policy, contract, or regulation.

Non-resident students shall be admitted to the extent space is available in existing classrooms and upon a determination that the needs of the students can be met within the District's existing programs. The District's existing programs are defined as those programs which the District sponsors, are conducted "in house," and for which no outside contracts exist. Available programs shall not include BOCES or any other outside programs (i.e., CV-TEC), even if Schroon Lake resident students are eligible for such programs.

Non-resident students shall be admitted to the extent space is available in existing classrooms and upon a determination that the needs of the students can be met within the District's existing programs and by the District's existing staff.

Applications for admission by non-resident students must be written, and submitted to the Superintendent of Schools, annually, on or before July 15th of each year. Late requests will be considered in the order in which they are received. The Superintendent will determine the residency of the student based on a questionnaire provided to, and an interview with, the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s). The Superintendent will, after consultation with the Board of

Education, accept or reject the application. **The admission, or continued attendance subsequent to the admission, of a non-resident student will be at the discretion of the Superintendent and pursuant to the terms and conditions outlined below.**

Tuition, if any is charged, shall be payable to the District Treasurer. If the Board of Education adopts a tuition charge for non-resident students, such tuition must (1) be paid in full on or before August 15th of each year preceding the beginning of the subsequent school year; or (2) be paid in two equal installments on or before August 15th and the following January 1st.

Terms and Conditions Governing the Admission of Non-Resident Students

The Superintendent of Schools shall be authorized to admit a non-resident student upon his/her determination that:

- The student's educational needs can be met by existing staff.
- Such admission shall not require the expenditure of additional local funds or the hiring of additional staff.
- The student's admission shall not cause a classroom to exceed student capacity as defined by law, regulation, contract, or board policy.
- The student is determined to be a student in good standing in his/her district of residence (*i.e.* is not on academic probation or otherwise the subject of any out of school suspensions in the past school year).
- The student meets the District's criteria for admission.
- The admission of such student is, and continues during the enrollment period to be, in the best interests of the District.

As a condition of acceptance of a non-resident student, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of such student and the student, as applicable, agree to the following:

- The parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be responsible for arranging the transportation of the student to and from the District and shall provide the District with the name of another adult who shall be responsible for the transportation of the student, if the parent(s)/guardian(s) is/are not available, in the event of early dismissal. The District shall not be responsible for the transportation of non-resident students accepted on either a tuition-based or tuition-free basis. The District may, at its sole discretion, provide transportation to a non-resident student from a stop that is along a regular transportation route within the District; however, in no event shall such transportation be made available if it would result in either overcrowding the vehicle or additional expense to the District/District residents.

- Failure to make appropriate arrangements for the transportation of a non-resident student, including on days requiring early dismissal due to emergency or otherwise, shall result in the student's dismissal.
- The student shall be subject to the same rules governing student attendance and student discipline as resident students and shall be required to comply with the same rules. Any violations of school rules, which would result in the suspension of a resident student from school, shall constitute a basis for the non-resident student's immediate dismissal. In addition, excessive tardiness, truancy, or absenteeism may also result in the student's dismissal.
- Prior to such dismissal, the District shall provide the parent(s)/guardian(s) with written notice of the basis for its determination and shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the right to request an informal conference with the Superintendent of Schools, who shall provide an opportunity for the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student to present their concerns.
- The decision of the Superintendent shall be final, except the parent(s)/guardian(s) may appeal such decision to the Board of Education within 30 days of such determination upon written notice with a statement of the reasons for such appeal.
- A non-resident student dismissed for disciplinary reasons or non-attendance pursuant to this Policy shall not be readmitted under this Policy.
- Extra-Curricular Activities. To the extent otherwise eligible, all non-resident students admitted pursuant to this policy shall be allowed to participate in all activities/sporting opportunities to the same extent as resident students of the District, except that the parent(s)/guardian(s) of such students shall be responsible for their transportation from any after school activities to their home.

Exception to Tuition Charges

Notwithstanding its general policy, outlined above, tuition shall not be charged for the following categories of non-resident students:

Future Residents. Children of families who have signed a contract to buy or build a residence in the school district may be enrolled during the semester in which they expect to become residents. A copy of the signed contract shall be provided to the Superintendent for review and approval before such student(s) may be enrolled in the District's schools. Parents/Guardians shall be required to transport their children to and from school until such time as they move into their residence in the District.

Former residents. Students who begin the school year as bona fide District residents, and who subsequently move out of the District, may continue to attend District schools, tuition-free, through the end of the current school year in which they move out of the District.

Children of Employees. The children of a currently employed staff member may attend District schools, tuition-free, provided all other criteria for non-resident student admission, outlined above, are met.

Annual Application

Non-resident students, including the categories of non-resident students outlined within the “Exception to Tuition Charges,” above, must apply annually for admission or for the continuation of enrollment within the District. Such application must be received by May 15th of each year, and will be determined by the Superintendent in accordance with the terms of this policy. **Previous admission does not guarantee continued enrollment.**

Siblings

Nothing in this policy provides for the automatic admission of a non-resident student on the basis that a sibling is admitted.

Policy Review

This policy shall sunset one year from the date of ratification without the Board’s action.

This policy may be revoked, rescinded or amended by the Board of Education at any time.

Nothing in this policy shall require the District to assume responsibilities for the education of a non-resident student beyond those specifically outlined above. All services not specifically referred to herein shall remain the obligation of the student’s district of residence, including, but not limited to, kindergarten screening, any referrals, evaluations and program reviews by the committee on special education, the provision of any special services to which the student may otherwise be entitled which are not available within the District in a manner consistent with the terms and conditions of the policy set forth herein.