

# POLICY

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## FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

File Code: 5111

### ADMISSION

#### Eligibility

The board of education shall admit to its schools free of charge the following persons over five and under 20 years of age:

- A. Any student domiciled within the district;
- B. Any student kept in the home of a person other than the student's parent/guardian, upon the presentation of a complete, valid, and notarized affidavit, where the person is domiciled in the school district and is supporting the student without remuneration as if the student were his/her own child;
- C. Any student kept in the home of a person domiciled in the district, other than the parent/guardian, where the parent/guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the reserve component of the United States armed forces and has been ordered into active military service in the United States armed forces in time of war or national emergency;
- D. Any student whose parent/guardian temporarily resides within the district, notwithstanding the existence of a domicile elsewhere;
- E. Any student whose parent/guardian moves to another district as the result of being homeless, subject to the provisions of administrative code;
- F. Any student placed in the home of a district resident by court order pursuant to statute;
- G. Any student previously residing in the district if the parent/guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the United States reserves and has been ordered to active service in time of war or national emergency pursuant to statute; and
- H. Any student residing on federal property within the state pursuant to statute.

#### Proof of Eligibility

The board shall accept any of the forms of documentation that are listed in the administrative code when they are presented by persons attempting to demonstrate a student's eligibility for enrollment in the district. The board shall consider the totality of information and documentation offered by an applicant and may accept other forms of documentation or information presented by a person seeking to enroll a student.

The board shall not require or request any information or document protected from disclosure by law or pertaining to criteria that are not legitimate bases for determining eligibility to attend school.

#### Preschool

Any child residing in the district shall be admitted to the preschool program provided:

- A. The child will have attained the age of three or four years on or before October 1 of that school year; original birth certificate or other proof of date of birth satisfactory to the Chief School Administrator shall be required;
- B. Proof shall be furnished of immunization against the communicable diseases at the time of enrollment or such immunization shall be completed within 30 days from date of entry into the school;
- C. The child shall have been examined by either the school or a private physician, and the results shall be furnished to the school on the form provided.

#### Kindergarten

Any child residing in the district shall be admitted to the kindergarten provided:

- A. The child will have attained the age of five years on or before October 1 of that school year; original birth certificate or other proof of date of birth satisfactory to the Chief School Administrator shall be required; children who turn 5 after October 1 but before November 1 may be considered for entrance into kindergarten upon parent request, successful readiness evaluation and administrative approval;
- B. Proof shall be furnished of immunization against the communicable diseases at the time of enrollment or such immunization shall be completed within 30 days from date of entry into the school;
- C. The child shall have been examined by either the school or a private physician, and the results shall be furnished to the school on the form provided.

#### Grade One

Any child residing in the district shall be admitted to grade one provided proof has been furnished of immunization against communicable diseases (5141.3) and:

- A. The child will have attained the age of six years on or before October 1 of that school year; Children who turn 6 after October 1 but before November 1 may be considered for entrance into first grade upon parent request, successful readiness evaluation and administrative approval.
- B. He/she has been in the first grade in another public school; or
- C. He/she has completed kindergarten in a public school or comparable program and been recommended for placement in first grade;

#### Admissions/Transfers

Pupils transferring into the district are expected to have copies of records forwarded from the previously attended school (or district) to aid in placement. Also required are proof of immunization and proof of identity such as birth certificate.

Within the time prescribed by law, the chief school administrator shall request in writing from the school or district of previous attendance, the pupil's records.

Initial placement shall be made on the basis of the records, but adjustment may be made at the discretion of the administration when the state-mandated assessment indicates that such adjustments would be beneficial to the child. Parents/guardians shall be informed of this policy on registration.

#### Joint Custody

When divorced parents/guardians have joint custody of (a) minor child(ren), admission shall be based on the present address of the parent/guardian with whom the child(ren) resided as of the date required by administrative code.

#### Affidavit Pupils

When there is any doubt as to whether a child is entitled to free public education in the district schools, all procedures of the law shall be followed.

#### Nonresidents

The district is obliged to educate children of appropriate age residing in the district. The mere owning of any property whatsoever does not

qualify a parent/guardian to send children to school in this school district. See policy 5118 Nonresidents.

#### Students Returning from County Detention

The district shall accept all days of attendance and courses studied by a student at a county juvenile detention center and apply them toward district requirements for elementary, middle or high school graduation.

#### Verification

The board reserves the right to verify the residency of any pupil and the validity of any affidavit of guardianship.

#### Homeless Pupils

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth shall have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as provided to other children and youths of this district. Homeless children and youths shall also have access to the education and other services that they need to ensure they have an opportunity to meet achievement standards of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards to which all students are held.

The homeless liaison will provide any assistance necessary and requested for the prompt enrollment of the student. The district will determine the educational placement of homeless students in each child's best interest and respond to appeals concerning them made by parents/guardians or other parties in accordance with New Jersey statutes and administrative code, as well as, pertinent federal law.

The chief school administrator or his or her designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian or adult student is given written notice, at the time the child or youth seeks enrollment in the school, and at least twice annually while the child or youth is enrolled, that describes the general rights provided under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and specifically states the choice of schools the children and youths are eligible to attend. This notice must be signed by the parent/guardian.

The board shall make this policy available to parents and the public.

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