

Open Enrollment FAQs

[What is 'open enrollment'?](#)

In 2011, the Oregon legislature passed a law amending opportunities for students living outside a school district's boundaries to attend a non-resident district based solely on space available in the receiving district. Under the law, districts have the option to participate in a one-month period of open enrollment. For those districts that adopt an 'open enrollment' policy, each district must announce the number of openings by grade level as of March 1 for the following school year. Families interested in transferring must apply for transfer by midnight, April 1st and will be accepted based on available space. Once accepted, students are recognized as residents of the district for their K-12 schooling unless they enroll in another district. Districts are prohibited by law from considering criteria other than available program space during this open enrollment process.

This law is an addition to the existing method of inter-district transfers available to families. Under the traditional method, families must have approval from their resident district and the receiving district. The traditional method of inter-district transfers remains available in all districts year-round.

[Why does Central Point have an 'open enrollment' policy?](#)

The Central Point School Board approved an open enrollment policy because of its commitment to preserve and enhance programs & education for our students by offsetting the fiscal impact of declining enrollment. The Board anticipates that an open enrollment policy will contribute to maintaining or reducing class size by allowing additional staffing and will stabilize grade cohorts so that each grade level has a consistent number of students over time.

[Who Can Apply?](#)

Only students who reside outside Central Point school boundaries on April 1st of the current year may apply. Students who currently live in the Central Point attendance area but are planning to move outside the district after April 1st of the current year are ineligible to apply in the open enrollment process.

Can my child play sports?

This rule is established by the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA). <http://www.osaa.org/> Under their current rules, if your child transfers to Crater in 9th grade, they are eligible to play OSAA sports in their freshman year. If your child transfers AFTER their 9th grade year, they are eligible to practice with the team for one year without competing, but may compete in their following years. For example, a student transfers in 10th grade, they may practice with a team in 10th grade and compete with the team starting in 11th grade.

Can I enroll my child at a specific school?

No. Openings are identified on a grade-level basis district-wide. We will place successful applicants who have committed to a transfer to the district at requested schools when possible. Requests for a specific school must be honored for local residents first.

What is the lottery process?

If we receive more applicants at a grade-level than we have available openings, then students will be selected by lottery starting with kindergarten and moving up. If there is more than one student in the family and one student is selected, then siblings will also be accepted based on available space at their grade level.

What if there is room for one of my children but not the other?

It is possible that we can accept a student in an early grade and not have space available for an older sibling though siblings have priority in the lottery. In that event, the sibling will have a placement priority in following years until a space is available.

Do I need to re-apply every year?

Once accepted as a transfer student, you are considered to be a resident of the district for enrollment purposes and do not need to reapply for a transfer in the future unless you enroll in another district.

If your child was not accepted in the open enrollment process for a given year, you would need to re-apply the following year.

What fees do I need to know about?

Non-resident students will be charged activity fees at the same level charged to resident students.

What if I already have a transfer? Can I be grandfathered (priority placed)?

Students attending Central Point on inter-district transfers approved in 14-15 or previous years have already been grandfathered to attend in the district. Students attending Central Point on an inter-district transfer approved in 15-16 or later may wish to consider open enrollment.

Can my child ride a school bus?

Families are responsible for transportation to the district boundary and may use existing bus routes and transportation services.

What if I miss the deadline for open enrollment?

If you miss the April 1 application deadline, you will not be able to apply for open enrollment. The deadline is set by state law. However, you may still be able to apply for a transfer through your resident school district. Traditional transfers require that your resident district sign approval, that the resources and space are available in Central Point and that you meet positive attendance, behavior and grade criteria.

I live in the Central Point attendance area. Will open enrollment raise class size?

Open enrollment will allow Central Point to maintain or reduce current class sizes by offsetting the impact of declining enrollment. In Oregon, school districts are funded based on the number of students served. Increased students will allow us to maintain or grow our human resources – teachers and classroom aides. The net effect will mean sustainable class sizes that are better for our community.

I live in the Central Point attendance area. Will open enrollment limit my children's opportunities?

No. Resident children who apply for in-district transfers by April 1 will have

the opportunity to select a different school before non-resident placements are considered during their first year in the district.

Will open enrollment be harder on teachers?

No. Open enrollment will not be harder on teachers and may help ease demands by funding increased staffing and allowing us to maintain or reduce class size.

What if I move from the Central Point attendance area during the school year and want to stay?

If you move from the Central Point attendance area during the school year, you must apply for a continuation transfer for the remainder current school year. You may apply for open enrollment by April 1st for the following year. After that date, you will need to apply for the traditional inter-district transfer for the following year.

What if I move from the Central Point attendance area during the summer?

If you move from the Central Point attendance area during the summer, you must apply for a continuation transfer from your new resident district and you will be allowed to remain in Central Point for the coming school year. You may apply for open enrollment for the following year.

Can I indicate a school preference?

Yes. In the application, you may indicate your school preference, whenever possible, we try to send students to their school of choice.