

NONRESIDENT STUDENTS/OPTION ENROLLMENT

Students who are eligible to attend a Nebraska public school but who are not legal residents of the school district may be admitted into the school district in accordance with the option enrollment program authorized by state statutes. Option enrollment students shall be accepted without charge. If the student has previously had an option enrollment accepted in any district, the application shall be rejected unless a statutory exception to this rule applies for that student.

Application for option enrollment should be made between September 1 and March 15 for enrollment during the following and subsequent school years. Upon agreement of the school boards of the resident district and the option (receiving) district, deadlines for application and approval of the option may be waived. Following the March 15 deadline, applications requesting admittance must contain a release approval from the resident district prior to the option district's consideration for acceptance.

The application for option enrollment does not require a release from the resident district and the receiving district has forty-five days to issue acceptance or rejection if:

1. after February 1 the student relocated to a different resident district, or
2. the student's option district merged with another district effective after February 1, and
3. the student's attendance would occur during the next immediate and subsequent school years.

For applications submitted by the March 15 deadline, written notification of approval or rejection of the application will be made before April 1 to the student's parent/guardian and the resident district. If the district rejects an application for a student to option in or out, the district will provide notification by certified mail to the parent/guardian of the reasons for rejection and the process for appealing the decision to the State Board of Education.

The board shall adopt standards and conditions for acceptance or rejection of a request for release of a resident student submitting an option application after March 15. Such standards shall not include the failure to meet the March 15 deadline. For those applications, the option district shall notify the parent/guardian and the resident district whether the application is accepted or rejected within sixty days after submission. False or substantively misleading information submitted by a parent/guardian on an application to an option district may be cause for the option district to reject a previously accepted application prior to the student's attendance.

The board shall adopt a resolution setting forth its specific standards for acceptance and rejection of applications as an option school. Standards will conform to those set forth by state statute. These may include the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building or the availability of appropriate special education programs operated by the district. The standards shall not include previous academic achievement, athletic or

