

**TALAWANDA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES  
STUDENT 5113**

**ADMISSION OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING UNDER  
INTER-DISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT**

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

1. On or before April 1, the Superintendent shall inform the general public of the Inter-District Open Enrollment policy and application procedures via the local media for Grades K-12.
2. On or before the last day of school, each principal will notify the Superintendent of grade levels and/or programs, which have space available for students from another Ohio district.
3. The Superintendent shall determine student openings for the upcoming school year after applying the building and grade capacity limits.
4. Application forms will be available and accepted at the Talawanda School District Board of Education office.
5. Applications for admission from other Ohio districts may be submitted to the Superintendent from Monday, April 4, 2011 to Friday, June 10, 2011. **Applications must be returned to the Talawanda Board of Education office by a parent or guardian. No applications received by other methods will be accepted.**
6. A separate application must be submitted for each student who requests an inter-district transfer.
7. Applications shall be considered on a first-come, first-served basis (date/time of receipt) with an assurance that the following order for placement will be followed:
  - a. Talawanda resident students will not be displaced
  - b. Children of employees
  - c. Students currently attending Talawanda School District pursuant to Inter-district Open Enrollment Policy
  - d. Students who are members of the same family unit (brothers and sisters) of students who currently attend Talawanda School District pursuant to Inter-District Open Enrollment policy.
  - e. Students who reside with grandparents in the district or whose grandparents (who are district residents) are caregivers
  - f. First time open enrollment students

8. Applications will be acted upon no later than August 14. Notification of applicant's parents and resident district superintendent will be made within five (5) working days of action being taken on the application. Parents will have ten (10) days in which to accept and must notify the Talawanda School District of their intent to enroll the student in Talawanda Schools under Interdistrict Open Enrollment. Failure to notify Talawanda Schools within the ten (10) day period of time will result in this offer being withdrawn, thus allowing for other students to be considered for an available opening.
9. The Superintendent may waive the stated enrollment deadlines up to the first full week of October should extenuating circumstances exist. These applications will also be prioritized on a first-come basis.
10. If at any time prior to the start of the school year, the enrollment of a new Talawanda district student brings a specific class or program enrollment to optimum size, the applications of students from other Ohio districts shall be revoked in reverse order of acceptance (last in-first out). However, students from other Ohio districts who have begun the program shall be allowed to complete the school year.
11. Applications must be resubmitted annually for a previous interdistrict transfer student for the succeeding school year. All approvals are on an annual basis and must be reapproved in accordance with the Interdistrict Open Enrollment Guidelines in effect for the succeeding school year.
12. Students who begin, but choose not to complete the entire school year at the Talawanda School District and who return to their resident school district during that same school year will not be permitted to apply for interdistrict open enrollment status for the following school year.
13. Students whose applications are initially denied due to space limitations may request in writing to have their application placed on a waiting list. Such applications shall have priority over any Interdistrict Open enrollment applications, which might be filed following the standard application deadline. Applications from this waiting list will also be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

### **A. Approval**

1. The number of openings in a particular program for students from other Ohio districts will be determined by optimum size for a particular program, classroom/school building, or grade level which is the number of students that can be accommodated without increasing District expenditures for staff and equipment.
2. When a student from another Ohio district requests an application, she/he is to be informed of the prerequisites for each program or course of study in which enrollment is sought. No student from another Ohio district will be enrolled in a program or course of study who has not met the prerequisites established for District students.
3. No interdistrict transfers will be permitted if the enrollment being requested exceeds the limits established by state regulations. Notwithstanding the grade level enrollment limits, individual course enrollments in grades 9-12 shall not exceed the available number of teaching stations or enrollment limits established by state regulations. At the time applications are submitted, applicants in grades 9-12 must submit a list of courses being requested so that a determination can be made whether space is available for interdistrict open enrollment students. Additionally, the Talawanda School District must have available space and teachers for the applicant. An applicant will not be accepted if his/her acceptance shall exceed the building capacities and negotiated class size caps.
4. Talawanda resident students shall have priority to all programs, buildings, and grade levels over interdistrict open enrollment applicants.
5. There shall be no requirement of applicants regarding academic ability, athletic, artistic, or other extra-curricular skill, or any requirement that applicants be proficient in the English language.

**B. Application Rejection**

1. Applications from students from other Ohio districts may be rejected if the racial balance of the other Ohio district or this District's program, classroom, or school would be negatively impacted.
2. Applications from students from other Ohio districts may also be rejected if the student has been suspended or expelled for ten (10) consecutive days or more during the semester the application is made or the proceeding semester. In addition, no student shall be accepted under the interdistrict enrollment program who has been convicted or ruled a delinquent child for committing any of the crimes listed below:
  - a. Conveying deadly weapons or dangerous ordnance
  - b. Possessing deadly weapons or dangerous ordnance
  - c. Carrying a concealed weapon on school property or at a school function
  - d. Trafficking in drugs
  - e. Murder or aggravated murder
  - f. Voluntary or involuntary manslaughter
  - g. Assault or aggravated assault
  - h. Rape, gross sexual penetration
  - i. Complicity in any of the above offenses
3. The acceptance of interdistrict open enrollment of students is only for enrollment in a public school district. The Talawanda School District Board of Education will deny the request for enrollment of a student who wishes to enroll in the District for the expressed purpose of attending a private school to which the District provides transportation.

**Additional Guidelines**

1. The District shall not discriminate against any disabled students (IDEA or 504). The District shall not be required to provide any services or adapt any facilities not already provided disabled, resident native students. If a student from another Ohio district becomes disabled under Section 504 or the staff finds out that a student from another Ohio district is in need of services in accordance with an I.E.P., it will provide appropriated services. The students, however, must agree to attend the District school at which the needed services are currently available. If any services must be obtained elsewhere, the Superintendent shall notify the other Ohio districts to determine if it wants to arrange for the services or have the District arrange for them at the other Ohio district's expense. A representative of the other Ohio district will be invited to participate in the placement meeting. Enrollment limits per special education shall not be exceeded.
2. The District reserves the right to assign the student.
3. Students must comply with the school rules of the District. Failure to comply with school rules during the first month of enrollment may constitute a student's return to his/her home district.

**(Additional Guidelines Continued)**

4. Enrollment in a program or school shall be subject to an agreement that transportation of the student from another Ohio district to the school or to a scheduled in-District bus stop is provided for by the students, his/her parents, or the other Ohio district.
5. Students who have applied for or have been accepted in the Interdistrict Open Enrollment program will have records that include the application, evidence of parental knowledge of the program's policies and guidelines, and evidence of notification of parents included in the student's file. Upon approval of a student's application, all school records for that student are to be forwarded to the school of attendance.
6. In compliance with R.C. 3313.98, the Talawanda School District Board of Education will accept all credits toward graduation from enrolled students who are residents of any school district in the State of Ohio.
7. Any student who expects to graduate from Talawanda High School must meet all graduation requirements established in policy by the Talawanda School District Board of Education.
8. Grade point averages of students who are accepted, as interdistrict open enrollment students must be calculated on the Talawanda School District grading scale. If the student's resident district school is utilizing a different grading scale, the student's grade point average will be adjusted to the Talawanda scale.
9. Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) athletic eligibility guidelines and district athletic policies will be in effect for students in grades 7-12. It is the responsibility of each student/parent who is accepted into the Interdistrict Open enrollment program and who desires to participate in interscholastic athletic competition to take all necessary steps and present evidence of such to the superintendent of schools that they have met all standard/eligibility criteria of the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Any enrolled interdistrict students who are eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics and have been released by their home district are to be informed they could lose their eligibility for an entire year if or when they return to the home district. Students and parents are encouraged to become aware of and consider the OHSAA athletic eligibility guidelines before making application for interdistrict open enrollment.
10. Any student/parent who ceases to reside in an eligible Ohio district during the school year (enrolled pursuant to this Interdistrict Open Enrollment policy) shall forfeit his/her right to attend Talawanda School District unless the parents move into another Ohio qualifying school district. If the parents fail to do so, the child shall be permitted to complete the school year upon payment of tuition prorated for the time remaining in the school year. Otherwise, the child shall be immediately withdrawn from school.