

Washington West Supervisory Union Model Policy

Policy F14-L-HU

F14-L-HU: ADMISSION OF NON-RESIDENT TUITION STUDENTS

Policy

It is the policy of the Harwood Union High School District to accept non-resident students on a tuition basis from towns that do not operate a school or with a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement between Superintendents. This policy does not include students attending Harwood Union High School through the Public School Choice legislation 16 VSA Section 822 §(a)(1).

Non-resident students are admitted to the schools of this District, when space is available, in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations governing tuition payment and non-discrimination. This policy shall not apply to students who are enrolled through the public high school choice program created by Act 129 of 2011(Adj. Sess.).¹

The Harwood Union High School District will allow enrollment by non-resident students whose tuition and excess special education costs, including but not limited to, evaluations, equipment and services, are paid by another school district or individual.

Implementation

1. Tuition: By February 1st of each year, the Board shall establish non-resident tuition rates for the next school year. Separate tuition rates may be established for elementary and secondary students, and for students who are eligible to participate in special education programs. Tuition rates will be established in accord with Chapter 21 of Title 16 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, and regulations of the State Board of Education.
2. Criteria for Admission: No non-resident will be denied admission as a tuition student if the reason for denial is that the student is disabled as defined in section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended or that the student is in need of special education services. Nor will any child be denied admission on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), ancestry, national origin, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status or any other classification protected by federal or state law.
3. Subject to the non-discrimination requirements above, a non-resident who applies for admission as a tuition student shall be admitted if space is available and, if the student has previously attended school, the student is in good standing at the school or schools most recently attended. Good standing shall be demonstrated when the applicant shows:
 - that he/she has not been legally dismissed or suspended for more than ten days during the preceding twelve months for disciplinary reasons, and
 - that he/she is making satisfactory progress toward the completion of an approved school or home study program, and
 - that his/her school attendance record presents a reasonable likelihood that any existing attendance requirements of this School District will be met.

¹ See 16 V.S.A. §822a

4. A non-resident who is unable to provide evidence of good standing may be admitted as a non-resident tuition student if it is the determination of the Superintendent, based on information presented by the non-resident, that there is a reasonable likelihood that the applicant will benefit from and succeed in the programs offered by the schools in this District.
5. The admission of a non-resident as a tuition student one year does not guarantee admission in any subsequent years. All tuition and admission arrangements are for one year only. The Harwood Union High School District does not provide transportation for non-resident students. Parents, guardians or the school district of residence must provide transportation to and from school for the student.

Appeal

A non-resident applicant for admission as a tuition student may appeal the Superintendent's denial of his or her application by submitting a written request to appeal to the Board within ten days of the denial. The Board will provide an opportunity for the applicant and/or his or her parent or guardian to discuss the request not to uphold the decision of the Superintendent. The Board will render a decision within 30 days of the request to appeal.

Payment of Tuition

Tuition for non-resident students shall be payable at any time prior to enrollment. When a student enrolls after the beginning of a semester, tuition for the student will be pro-rated accordingly and will be payable immediately.

A signed tuition agreement between the school district of residence or the responsible financial party and a member school district school will be required.

Date Warned: 05.29.14
Date Adopted: 06.18.14
Legal Reference(s): 16 V.S.A. §1093 (Non-resident students)
9 V.S.A. §4500 et seq. (Public Accommodations—Non-Discrimination)