

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE

A parent or legal guardian of any student may enroll his child in the public school of his choice, without regard to residence, school system geographic boundaries, or attendance zones, provided both of the following apply:

- A. The public school in which the student was most recently enrolled, or would otherwise attend, received a performance letter grade of "D" or "F" for the most recent school year, pursuant to the state of Louisiana school and district accountability system and
- B. The school in which the student seeks to enroll received a school performance grade of "A," "B" or "C" for the most recent school year, pursuant to the state of Louisiana's school and district accountability system and the school has sufficient capacity at the grade level to accept the student.

The Supervisor of Child Welfare & Attendance, with the approval of the Superintendent, shall be responsible for developing and managing a school choice plan which shall determine the schools to which students may transfer, which students may have priority in transferring, and all other regulations for supervising school choice within the School District.

The School District shall define "capacity" for each school, and determine a transfer request period which shall begin no later than March 1st and end no earlier than March 28th, annually. Prior to the transfer request period, the School District shall notify parents and legal guardians of students enrolled in schools that received a D or F school performance letter grade of the following:

1. The provisions of the Louisiana Public School Choice policy;
2. Schools under the jurisdiction of the School District that received an A, B, or C school performance letter grade, if any;
3. The process for submitting student transfer requests; and,
4. The page on the Louisiana Department of Education's website that contains school performance data.

Any application for school choice shall be presented to the office of the Supervisor of Child Welfare & Attendance. The Superintendent, or his designee, shall be authorized to develop any additional administrative regulations and procedures necessary for governing students seeking enrollment pursuant to school choice.

No student may be enrolled in a public school of choice if that enrollment violates the order of any court of competent jurisdiction.

The School District shall not be required to provide transportation to any student enrolled in a public school that is outside the geographic boundaries of Morehouse Parish.

The School District shall offer choice to all students in an eligible school until the school is no longer identified as AUS except:

if an eligible student exercises the option to transfer to another public school, an

LEA must permit the student to remain in that school until he or she has completed the highest grade in the school and shall provide transportation to the student.

Any required notification of parents of school choice options shall be sent as early as possible through the office of the Supervisor of Child Welfare & Attendance. If there are no choice options available within the District, *this* information shall be included in the notification sent to parents.

This policy shall be posted on the School District's website.

**INTRADISTRICT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM
OF CHOICE**

A. For the purposes of this policy "program of choice" shall mean a public high school program that allows a student to concurrently pursue a high school diploma and one of the following:

- (1) A postsecondary degree, credential, or certificate;
- (2) A state-registered apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship.

B. A student may enroll in program of choice offered within his school system, without regard to attendance zones, provided that both of the following apply:

- (1) The program of choice and the high school offering the program have available capacity at the appropriate grade level.
- (2) The program of choice is not offered at the public high school in which the student was most recently enrolled or would otherwise attend.

C. The governing authority of each public high school shall adopt policies to govern student transfers to each program of choice that include:

- (1) A definition of "capacity" for each high school and each program of choice.
- (2) The transfer request period, which shall begin no later than March first and end no earlier than March twenty-eighth, annually.
- (3) The transfer request shall be presented to the office of the Supervisor of Child Welfare & Attendance. The Superintendent, or his designee, shall be authorized to develop any additional administrative regulations and procedures necessary for governing students seeking enrollment pursuant to this policy.

- (4) If a student is denied the requested transfer the student may request a review of the denial of the transfer by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

D. The governing authority of each public high school shall:

- (1) Partner with local businesses and public postsecondary education institutions to grow programs of choice that are relevant to the school's local area and to the state and that lead to careers in high-demand, high-paying fields.
- (2) Work to ensure that programs of choice are evenly distributed, to the greatest extent possible, among the high schools in the school system.

E. The authority to enroll a student in a program of choice shall not be permitted and shall not be exercised if doing so violates an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

F. The provisions of this policy shall not be construed as requiring a high school or a program of choice with selective admission requirements to enroll a student who does not meet the admission requirements, regardless of whether the school or program of choice has available capacity.