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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Pupils

R 5111 ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT PUPILS

A. Definitions

1. "Affidavit pupil" means a pupil attending, or seeking to attend, school in a district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(b) and N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1(a)2.
2. "Appeal to the Commissioner" or "appeal" means contested case proceedings before the Commissioner of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3.
3. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Education or his/her designee.
4. "Guardian" means a person to whom a court of competent jurisdiction has awarded guardianship or custody of a child, provided that a residential custody order shall entitle a child to attend school in the residential custodian's school district subject to a rebuttable presumption that the child is actually living with the custodian. "Guardian" also means the Department of Children and Families for purposes of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(e).
5. "Parent" means the natural or adoptive parent, foster parent, and surrogate parent.

B. Eligibility to Attend School – Pupils Domiciled in the District

1. A pupil over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older pupil as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in this school district if the pupil is domiciled within the district:

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- a. A pupil is domiciled in the district when he or she is living with a parent or guardian whose permanent home is located within the district. A home is permanent when the parent or guardian intends to return to it when absent and has no present intent of moving from it, notwithstanding the existence of homes or residences elsewhere.
 - (1) Where a pupil's parents or guardians are domiciled within different districts, and where there is no court order or written agreement between the parents designating the district for school attendance, the pupil's domicile is the district of the parent or guardian with whom the pupil lives for the majority of the school year, regardless of which parent has legal custody.
 - (2) Where a pupil's physical custody is shared on an equal-time, alternating week/month or other similar basis such that the pupil is not living with one parent or guardian for a majority of the school year, and where there is no court order or written agreement between the parents designating the district for school attendance, the pupil's domicile is the present domicile of the parent or guardian with whom the pupil resided on the last school day prior to October 16 preceding the date of the application.
 - (a) If a pupil resided with both parents or guardians, or with neither parent or guardian, on the last school day prior to the preceding October 16, the pupil's domicile is the domicile of the parent or guardian with whom the parents or guardians indicate the pupil will be residing on the last school day prior to the ensuing October 16. Where the parents or guardians do not designate, or cannot agree upon, the pupil's likely residence as of that date, or if on that

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date the pupil is not residing with the parent or guardian previously indicated, the pupil will attend school in the district where the parent or guardian with whom the pupil is actually living as of the last school day prior to October 16 is domiciled.

- (b) Where the domicile of the pupil with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14 cannot be determined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1, nothing shall preclude an equitable determination of shared responsibility for the cost of such pupil's out-of-district placement.
 - (3) Where a pupil is living with a person other than a parent or guardian, nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1 is intended to limit the pupil's entitlement to attend school in the parent or guardian's district of domicile pursuant to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22.
 - (4) The district shall not be required to provide transportation for a pupil residing outside the district for all or part of the school year, other than that based upon the home of the parent or guardian domiciled within the district to the extent required by law, as a result of being the district of domicile for school attendance purposes pursuant to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22.
- b. A pupil is domiciled in the district when he or she has reached the age of eighteen or is emancipated from the care and custody of a parent or guardian and has established a permanent home within the district. A home is permanent when the pupil intends to return to it when absent and has no present intent of moving from it, notwithstanding the existence of homes or residences elsewhere.

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- c. A pupil is domiciled in the district when the pupil has come from outside the State and is living with a person domiciled in the district who will be applying for guardianship of the pupil upon expiration of the six-month "waiting period" of State residency required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:34-30(e) and N.J.S.A. 2A:34-31. However, any such pupil may later be subject to removal proceedings if application for legal guardianship is not made within a reasonable period of time following expiration of the mandatory waiting period or if guardianship is applied for and denied.
 - d. A pupil is domiciled in the district when his or her parent or guardian resides within the district on an all-year-round basis for one year or more, notwithstanding the existence of a domicile elsewhere.
 - e. A pupil is domiciled in the district if the Department of Children and Families is acting as the pupil's guardian and has placed the pupil in the district.
2. When a pupil's dwelling is located within two or more school districts, or bears a mailing address that does not reflect the dwelling's physical location within a municipality, the district of domicile for school attendance purposes shall be that of the municipality to which the majority of the dwelling's property tax is paid, or to which the majority of the unit's property tax is paid by the owner of a multi-unit dwelling.
 - a. Where property tax is paid in equal amounts to two or more municipalities, and where there is no established assignment for pupils residing in the affected dwellings, the district of domicile for school attendance purposes will be determined through assessment of individual proofs as provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4. This provision shall not preclude the attendance of currently enrolled pupils who were permitted to attend school in the district prior to the provision's initial promulgation on December 17, 2001.

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3. Where a pupil's parent or guardian elects to exercise such entitlement, nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1 is intended to foreclose a pupil's entitlement to attend school in the district of domicile notwithstanding that the pupil is qualified to attend school in a different district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(b) or the temporary residency (less than one year) provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(d).
- C. Eligibility to Attend School – Other Pupils Eligible to Attend School
1. A pupil over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older pupil as is otherwise is entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(b) if that pupil is kept in the home of a person other than the pupil's parent or guardian, where the person is domiciled in the school district and is supporting the pupil without remuneration as if the pupil were his or her own child.
 - a. A pupil is not eligible to attend school in this district pursuant to this provision unless:
 - (1) The pupil's parent or guardian has filed, together with documentation to support its validity, a sworn statement that he or she is not capable of supporting or providing care for the pupil due to family or economic hardship and that the pupil is not residing with the other person solely for the purpose of receiving a free public education; and
 - (2) The person keeping the pupil has filed, if so required by the district:
 - (a) A sworn statement that he or she is domiciled within the district, is supporting the child without remuneration and intends to do so for a longer time than the school term, and will assume all personal obligations for the pupil relative to school requirements; and

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- (b) A copy of his or her lease if a tenant, or a sworn landlord's statement if residing as a tenant without a written lease.
 - b. A pupil shall not be deemed ineligible under this provision because required sworn statement(s) cannot be obtained, where evidence is presented that the underlying requirements of the law are being met notwithstanding the inability of the resident or pupil to obtain the sworn statement(s).
 - c. A pupil shall not be deemed ineligible under this provision where evidence is presented that the pupil has no home or possibility of school attendance other than with a district resident who is not the pupil's parent or guardian but is acting as the sole caretaker and supporter of the pupil.
 - d. A pupil shall not be deemed ineligible under this section solely because a parent or guardian gives gifts or makes limited contributions, financial or otherwise, toward the welfare of the pupil, provided the resident keeping the pupil receives no payment or other remuneration from the parent or guardian for regular maintenance of the pupil.
 - e. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(c), any person who fraudulently allows a child of another person to use his or her residence, is not the primary financial supporter of that child, and who fraudulently claims to have given up custody of his or her child to a person in another district commits a disorderly persons offense.
2. A pupil over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older pupil as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(b) if the pupil is kept in the home of a person domiciled in the district,

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other than the parent or guardian, where the parent or guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the reserve component of the United States armed forces and has been ordered into active military service in the United States armed forces in time of war or national emergency. Eligibility under this provision shall cease at the end of the current school year upon the parent or guardian's return from active military duty.

3. A pupil over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older pupil as is otherwise is entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(d) if the pupil's parent or guardian temporarily resides within the district and elects to have the pupil attend school in the district of temporary residence, notwithstanding the existence of a domicile elsewhere:
 - a. The parent or guardian, when required by the district, shall demonstrate that such temporary residence is not solely for purposes of a pupil's attending school within the district of temporary residence;
 - b. Where one of a pupil's parents or guardians temporarily resides in the district while the other is domiciled or temporarily resides elsewhere, eligibility to attend school shall be determined in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.1(a)1i. However, no pupil shall be eligible to attend school based upon a parent's or guardian's temporary residence in a district unless the parent or guardian demonstrates, when required by the district, that such temporary residence is not solely for purposes of a pupil's attending school within the district.
4. A pupil over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older pupil as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(f) if the pupil's parent or guardian moves to another district as the result of being homeless, subject to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2, Education of Homeless Children.

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5. A pupil over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older pupil as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-2 if the pupil is placed in the home of a district resident by court order or by a society, agency, or institution as referenced in that statute. "Court order" as used in this paragraph does not encompass orders of residential custody, under which claims of entitlement to attend school in a district are governed by provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 and the applicable standards set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:22.
 6. A pupil over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older pupil as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3(b) if the pupil had previously resided in the district and if the parent or guardian is a member of the New Jersey National Guard or the United States reserves and has been ordered to active service in time of war or national emergency, resulting in the relocation of the pupil out of the district. A district admitting a pupil pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3(b) shall not be obligated for transportation costs.
 7. A pupil over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older pupil as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, is eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-7.7 et seq. if the pupil resides on Federal property within the State.
- D. Housing and Immigration Status
1. The physical condition of an applicant's housing, or an applicant's compliance with local housing ordinances or terms of lease shall not affect eligibility to attend school.
 - . Immigration/visa status shall not affect eligibility to attend school. Any pupil over five and under twenty years of age pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1, or such younger or older pupil as is otherwise entitled by law to a free public education, who is domiciled in the district or otherwise eligible to attend school in the district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:22-3.2 shall be enrolled without regard to, or inquiry concerning, immigration status. However, the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:22 shall not apply to pupils who have obtained, or are seeking to obtain, a Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status (INS Form I-20) from the district in order to apply to the INS for issuance of a visa for the purpose of limited study on a tuition basis in a United States public secondary school ("F-1 Visa").

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3. F-1 Visa Pupils
 - The district will not accept F-1 Visa pupils into the district.
- E. Nothing in Policy and Regulation 5111 or N.J.A.C. 6A:22 shall be construed to limit the discretion of the Board to admit nonresident pupils, or the ability of a nonresident pupil to attend school with or without payment of tuition, with the consent of the district Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-3(a).
- F. Proof of Eligibility
 1. The district shall accept a combination of any of the following or similar forms of documentation from persons attempting to demonstrate a pupil's eligibility for enrollment in the district:
 - a. Property tax bills, deeds, contracts of sale, leases, mortgages, signed letters from landlords and other evidence of property ownership, tenancy or residency;
 - b. Voter registrations, licenses, permits, financial account information, utility bills, delivery receipts, and other evidence of personal attachment to a particular location;
 - c. Court orders, State agency agreements and other evidence of court or agency placements or directives;
 - d. Receipts, bills, cancelled checks, insurance claims or payments, and other evidence of expenditures demonstrating personal attachment to a particular location, or, where applicable, to support of the pupil;
 - e. Medical reports, counselor or social worker assessments, employment documents, unemployment claims, benefit statements, and other evidence of circumstances demonstrating, where applicable, family or economic hardship, or temporary residency;
 - f. Affidavits, certifications and sworn attestations pertaining to statutory criteria for school attendance, from the parent, guardian, person keeping an "affidavit pupil," adult pupil, person(s) with whom a family is living, or others as appropriate;
 - g. Documents pertaining to military status and assignment; and
 - h. Any other business record or document issued by a governmental entity.

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2. The district may accept forms of documentation not listed above, and shall not exclude from consideration any documentation or information presented by a person seeking to enroll a pupil.
 3. The district shall consider the totality of information and documentation offered by an applicant, and shall not deny enrollment based on failure to provide a particular form of documentation, or a particular subset of documents, without regard to other evidence presented.
 4. The district shall not require or request, as a condition of enrollment in school, any information or document protected from disclosure by law, or pertaining to criteria which are not legitimate bases for determining eligibility to attend school. These include but are not limited to:
 - a. Income tax returns;
 - b. Documentation or information relating to citizenship or immigration/visa status, except as set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.3(b);
 - c. Documentation or information relating to compliance with local housing ordinances or conditions of tenancy; and
 - d. Social security numbers.
 5. Documents or information of the type referenced in 4. above, or pertinent parts thereof, may be considered by the district if voluntarily disclosed by the applicant seeking enrollment. However, the district may not, directly or indirectly, require or request such disclosure as an actual or implied condition of enrollment.
- G. Initial Assessment and Enrollment
1. The district shall use registration forms provided by the Commissioner, or locally developed forms that:

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- a. Are consistent with the forms provided by the Commissioner;
 - b. Do not seek information prohibited by N.J.A.C. 6A:22 or any other provision of statute or rule;
 - c. Summarize the criteria for attendance set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 for applicant reference, and specify the nature and form of any sworn statements to be filed;
 - d. Clearly state the purpose, in relation to such criteria, for which requested information is being sought; and
 - e. Provide notice to applicants that any initial determination of eligibility is subject to a more thorough review and re-evaluation, and that there is a potential for assessment of tuition in the event that an initially admitted applicant is later found ineligible.
2. The district shall ensure that sufficient numbers of registration forms, and sufficient numbers of trained registration staff, are available to ensure prompt determinations of eligibility and enrollment. Applications for enrollment may be taken by appointment, but such appointments must be promptly scheduled and may not unduly defer a pupil's attendance at school.
- a. If the district uses separate forms for "affidavit pupil" applications, rather than a single form for all types of application for enrollment, such forms shall comply in all respects with the provisions of G.1. above. Where such forms are used, the district shall provide them to any person attempting to register a pupil of whom he or she is not the parent or guardian, whether or not they are specifically requested. The district shall not demand or suggest that guardianship or custody must be obtained before enrollment will be considered for a pupil living with a person other than the parent or guardian, since such pupil may qualify as an "affidavit pupil" nor shall the district demand or suggest that "affidavit pupil" proofs be produced by an applicant seeking to enroll a pupil of whom the applicant has guardianship or custody.

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- b. A district level school administrator designated by the Superintendent shall be available, and clearly identified to applicants, to assist persons who are experiencing difficulties with the enrollment process.
3. Initial determinations of eligibility shall be made upon presentation of an application for enrollment, and enrollment shall take place immediately in all cases except those of clear, uncontested denials.
 - a. Where an applicant has provided incomplete, unclear or questionable information, enrollment shall take place immediately, but the applicant shall be placed on notice that removal will result if defects in the application are not corrected, or an appeal is not filed, in accordance with subsequent notice to be provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2.
 - b. Where an applicant appears ineligible based on information provided in the initial application, a preliminary written notice of ineligibility shall be provided, including an explanation of the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. Enrollment shall take place immediately if the applicant clearly indicates disagreement with the district's determination and an intent to appeal to the Commissioner.
 - (1) An applicant whose pupil is enrolled pursuant to this provision shall be notified that the pupil will be removed, without a hearing before the Board, if no appeal is filed within the twenty-one day period established by N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1.
4. Where enrollment is denied and no intent to appeal is indicated, applicants shall be advised that they shall comply with compulsory education laws and shall, where the pupil is between the ages of six and sixteen, be asked to complete a written statement indicating the pupil will be attending school in another district, attending a nonpublic school, or receiving instruction elsewhere than at a school pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25. In the absence of this written statement from the parent or guardian, the district level school administrator designated by the Superintendent shall

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notify the school district of actual domicile or residence, or the Department of Children and Families to report a potential instance of “neglect” pursuant to N.J.S.A. 9:6-1 (“willfully failing to provide regular school education as required by law”). The administrator designated by the Superintendent shall provide the district or the Department of Children and Families, as the case may be, with the pupil’s name, the name(s) of the parent/guardian/resident, and the pupil’s address to the extent known, and shall indicate that admission to the district has been denied based on residency or domicile, and that there is no evidence of intent to arrange for the child to attend school or receive instruction elsewhere.

5. Where enrollment is denied and an intent to appeal is indicated, or where enrollment is provisional subject to further review or information, enrollment or attendance at school shall not be conditioned on advance payment of tuition in whole or part.
6. The Superintendent or designee, shall ensure that information suggesting an applicant may be homeless is identified during the registration process, so that, where appropriate, procedures may ensue in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2 - Education of Homeless Children.
7. Enrollment or attendance in the district shall not be denied based upon absence of the certified copy of birth certificate or other proof of a pupil’s identity required within thirty days of initial enrollment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A: 36-25.1.
8. Enrollment in the district shall not be denied based upon absence of pupil medical information, although actual attendance at school may be deferred as necessitated by compliance with rules regarding immunization of pupils, N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 et seq.
9. Enrollment in the district, attendance at school, or educational services where attendance in the regular education program appears inappropriate, shall not be denied based upon absence of a pupil’s prior educational record. However, the applicant shall be advised that the initial educational placement of the pupil may be subject to revision upon receipt of records or further assessment of the pupil by the district.

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H. Notice of Ineligibility

1. If the district finds the applicant ineligible to attend the schools of the district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22 or the application initially submitted is found to be deficient upon subsequent review or investigation, notice shall immediately be provided to the applicant consistent with sample form(s) provided by the Commissioner. Notices shall be in writing, in English and in the native language of the applicant, issued by the Superintendent and directed to the address at which the applicant claims to reside.
2. Notices of ineligibility shall include:
 - a. In cases of denial, a clear description of the specific basis on which the determination of ineligibility was made, sufficient to allow the applicant to understand the basis for the decision and determine whether to appeal. Such description shall identify the specific section of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 under which the application was decided;
 - b. In cases of provisional eligibility, a clear description of the missing documents or information that shall be provided in order to attain final eligibility status under the applicable provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1;
 - c. A clear statement of the applicant's right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education within twenty-one days of the date of the notice, along with an informational document provided by the Commissioner describing how to file an appeal;
 - d. A clear statement that the pupil is entitled to attend school for the twenty-one day period during which an appeal can be made to the Commissioner, but that, if missing information is not provided or an appeal is not filed, the pupil will not be permitted to attend school beyond the 21st day following the date of the notice;

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- e. A clear statement that the pupil is entitled to continue attending school during the pendency of an appeal to the Commissioner;
- f. A clear statement that, if an appeal is filed with the Commissioner and the applicant does not sustain the burden of demonstrating the pupil's entitlement to attend the schools of the district, or the applicant abandons the appeal through withdrawal, failure to prosecute or any means other than settlement, the applicant may be assessed, by order of the Commissioner enforceable in Superior Court, tuition for any period of ineligible attendance, including the initial twenty-one day period and the period during which the appeal was pending before the Commissioner;
- g. A clear statement of the approximate rate of tuition, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.3, that an applicant may be assessed for the year at issue if the applicant does not prevail on appeal, or elects not to appeal:
 - (1) If removal is based on the pupil having moved from the district, the notice of ineligibility shall also provide information as to whether district policy permits continued attendance, with or without tuition, for pupils who move from the district during the course of the school year.
- h. The name of a contact person in the district who can provide assistance in explaining the contents of the notice; and
- i. Notice that, where no appeal is filed, the parent or guardian shall still comply with compulsory education laws, and that, in the absence of a written statement from the parent or guardian that the pupil will be attending school in another district, attending a nonpublic school, or receiving instruction elsewhere than at a school, the district level administrator designated by the Superintendent shall notify the school district of actual

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domicile/residence, or the Department of Children and Families of a potential instance of “neglect” pursuant to N.J.S.A. 9:6-1 (“willfully failing to provide regular school education as required by law”).⁷ Such staff shall provide the pupil’s name, the name(s) of the parent/guardian/resident, address to the extent known, denial of admission to the district based on residency or domicile, and absence of evidence of intent to attend school or receive instruction elsewhere, for purposes of facilitating enforcement of the State compulsory education requirement (N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25).

I. Removal of Currently Enrolled Pupils

1. Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22 and this Regulation shall preclude the Board from seeking to identify, through further investigation or periodic requests for current validation of previously determined eligibility status, pupils enrolled in the district who may be ineligible for continued attendance due to error in initial assessment, changed circumstances or newly discovered information.
2. When a pupil, enrolled and attending school in the district based on an initial determination of eligibility, is later determined to be ineligible for continued attendance, the Superintendent may apply to the Board for removal of the pupil.
 - a. The Superintendent shall issue a preliminary notice of ineligibility meeting the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2. However, such notice shall also provide for a hearing before the Board prior to a final decision on removal.
3. No pupil shall be removed from school unless the parent, guardian, adult pupil or resident keeping an "affidavit pupil," as the case may be, has been informed of his or her entitlement to a hearing before the Board of Education.
4. Once the hearing is held, or if the parent, guardian, adult pupil or resident keeping an "affidavit pupil," as the case may be, does not respond to the Superintendent’s notice within the designated time frame or appear for hearing, the Board shall make a prompt determination of the pupil’s eligibility or ineligibility and shall immediately provide notice thereof in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.2.

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5. Hearings required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.3 may be conducted by a committee, at the discretion of the full Board, which shall make a recommendation to the full Board for action. No pupil may be removed except by vote of the Board of Education taken at a meeting duly convened and conducted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the Open Public Meetings Act.
- J. Appeal to the Commissioner
1. A district determination that a pupil is ineligible to attend the schools of the district may be appealed to the Commissioner by the parent, guardian, adult pupil or resident keeping an "affidavit pupil," as the case may be. Such appeals shall proceed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:3-8.1 et seq. and shall proceed as a contested case pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1(b)1, appeals of "affidavit pupil" eligibility determinations shall be filed by the resident keeping the pupil.
- K. Assessment and Calculation of Tuition
1. If no appeal to the Commissioner is filed by the parent, guardian, adult pupil, or district resident keeping an "affidavit pupil" following notice of a determination of ineligibility, the Board may assess tuition for any period of a pupil's ineligible attendance, including the twenty-one day period provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 for appeal to the Commissioner.

If the responsible party does not pay the tuition assessment, the Board may petition the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3 for an order assessing tuition, enforceable in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10 through recording, upon request of the Board pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3-12, on the judgment docket of the Superior Court, Law Division.

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Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Pupils

2. If an appeal to the Commissioner is filed by the parent, guardian, adult pupil, or district resident keeping an “affidavit pupil”, where the petitioner does not sustain the burden of demonstrating entitlement to attend the schools of the district, or abandons the appeal through withdrawal, failure to prosecute or any means other than settlement agreeing to waive or reduce tuition, the Commissioner may order assessment of tuition for any period of a pupil’s ineligible attendance in a district, including the twenty-one day period for filing of an appeal and the period during which the hearing and decision on appeal were pending.
 - a. Upon the Commissioner’s finding that an appeal has been abandoned, the Board may remove the pupil from school and seek tuition for the period of ineligible attendance pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6.1(a). However, if the record of the appeal includes a calculation reflecting the rate(s) of tuition for the year(s) at issue, the per diem rate of tuition for the current year, and the date on which the pupil’s ineligibility began, the Commissioner may order payment of tuition as part of his or her decision. If the record does not include such a calculation, but the Board has filed a counterclaim for tuition, the counterclaim shall proceed to a hearing notwithstanding that the petition has been abandoned.
 - b. An order of the Commissioner assessing tuition is enforceable through recording on the judgment docket of the Superior Court, Law Division, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10.
3. Tuition assessed pursuant to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-6 shall be calculated on a per pupil basis for the period of a pupil’s ineligible enrollment, by applicable grade/program category and consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-3.1. The individual pupil’s record of daily attendance shall not impact on such calculation.
4. Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:22 precludes an equitable determination, by the Board or the Commissioner, that, when the particular circumstances of a matter so warrant, tuition shall not be assessed for all or part of any period of a pupil’s ineligible attendance in the district.

Adopted: 03 May 2004

Revised: 20 December 2010