

# Rhode Island Charter Public Schools: **Lottery & Enrollment Guidance**

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Office of Charter Schools

**Rhode Island Department of Education**

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## Introduction

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State and federal statutes and regulations govern how students enroll into charter public schools. In general, charter schools must accept any age-eligible applicant residing in an enrolling community, regardless of background, need, individual characteristic, or prior performance. In cases where more applicants apply than there are open seats in the school, charter schools must conduct enrollment lotteries to determine which students shall be admitted.<sup>1</sup>

In 2010 the Rhode Island General Assembly made substantial amendments to the “Charter Public School Act of Rhode Island” (the “Act”). These amendments require that outreach and recruitment programs encourage the enrollment of a diverse student population. Additionally, in April of 2011, the Board of Regents promulgated “Regulations Governing Rhode Island Public Charter Schools.” Chapter 5 of the Regulations, entitled “Charter School Outreach and Enrollment,” includes specific requirements related to outreach, lotteries, notification, and waiting lists.

In February of 2014, RIDE issues this “Lottery & Enrollment Guidance” to clarify issues related to lotteries and enrollment that have arisen among directors and operators of Rhode Island’s charter schools, including:

- Outreach requirements
- Application forms
- Lotteries
- Enrollment procedures
- Invalid applications

This guidance provides RIDE’s interpretation of various statutory and regulatory provisions, and explains how Rhode Island’s charter schools may operate in conformity with the Charter Schools Act and applicable Board of Regents Regulations. It does not intend to impose any requirements beyond those included in applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

Please note that this guidance does not attempt to set forth all of the actions needed to comply with the Act and the Board of Regents Regulations or other requirements of state and federal law, nor does this guidance create or confer any rights for or on any person.

This guidance supersedes and replaces any and all guidance provided in the past by the Rhode Island Department of Education relating to charter school lotteries and enrollment in Rhode Island.

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<sup>1</sup> RIGL § 16-77.2-1(d), 16-77.3-1(b), 16-77.4-1(b)

## I. Outreach & Recruitment

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All charter schools must proactively inform sending communities about the school for the purpose of generating interest in attending the school. By law, charter schools are required to establish policies that outline outreach and recruitment programs; these programs must encourage the enrollment of a diverse student population<sup>2</sup>. Outreach policies should include multiple approaches to recruitment that notify the entire enrolling community, including families that may be hard to reach. Methods may include public notices, open houses, coordination with other schools, community meetings, visits to community centers, web-based notifications and portals, mailings, and door knocking.

## II. Enrollment Applications

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To apply for enrollment into a charter school, prospective students must complete an application. The Office of Charter Schools has developed a standard student enrollment application that must be used by all charter schools<sup>3</sup>. The application is available through a common application on [www.enrollri.org](http://www.enrollri.org) and for any charter not opting into the online common application, the standard enrollment application is provided to schools in three languages: English, Spanish and Portuguese. A charter school may request additional translations from RIDE if required to reach all students in an enrolling community.

While most of the application must remain standardized, schools may reformat the application in designated areas to include the school's logo, school address, submission deadline, and submission instructions.

### Electronic Format

Charter schools may convert the standard enrollment application into an electronic/online form for the convenience of applicants. In the process of converting the application, all questions should be inserted verbatim onto online forms. Online forms should not request more, less, or different information from that requested on the standard, paper-based form used by the school. Applicant signatures may be collected via an industry-standard electronic equivalent.

### Requesting Additional Information from Applicants

According to Rhode Island law, charter schools are intended to “increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with special emphasis on expanding learning experiences for students who are identified as educationally disadvantaged or at-risk.”<sup>4</sup> To ensure this goal is met, a charter school may be permitted to add one or more questions to the standard enrollment application *but only in cases where*:

- The response generated is allowable as enrollment criteria under state or federal law and regulation; *and*
- The question is designed to yield information about an applicant's status as a disadvantaged or at-risk student in order to increase her opportunity to enroll via an approved lottery weight or preference; *and*
- The specific question(s) to be included has been approved by RIDE; *and*

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<sup>2</sup> RIGL § 16-77.2-2(10), 16-77.3-2(10), 16-77.4-2(10); Charter School Regulations 200-RICR-20-05-2 Section 2.6.1.

<sup>3</sup> Charter School Regulations 200-RICR-20-05-2 Section 2.6.2

<sup>4</sup> RIGL § 16-77-3.1(2)

- Answering the question is optional. In other words, applicants may not be disqualified or otherwise removed from the lottery because they elect not to answer the additional question.

Requests for review and approval of additional application questions shall be made in the form of a letter to the Office of Charter Schools, and shall include:

- the proposed question(s) to include on the application
- a rationale for including the proposed question

For example, a rationale might state that a charter school desires to ensure enrollment of low-income students by providing two chances in the lottery for students eligible for free and reduced lunch and one chance for students not eligible. The request to add a question regarding free/reduced lunch status would be justified. The question and rationale must align around a specific and verifiable attribute of students.

For the purpose of this guidance, educationally disadvantaged students are students in the categories described in section 1115(b)(2) of the ESEA, which include students who are economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities, migrant students, limited English proficient students, neglected or delinquent students, and homeless students. Questions regarding an applicant’s race or gender will not be permitted.

Beyond the RIDE-approved enrollment application, no additional information may be requested from applicants at the point of application.

### III. Enrollment Procedures

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By statute, charter schools must describe their enrollment procedures.<sup>5</sup> These policies and procedures should be written and approved by the charter school’s board. The procedures should include detailed explanations of each step in the student selection process, from lottery through enrollment. A charter school’s enrollment procedures should explain the following:

<i>Lottery Procedures</i>	The procedures, format, and methodology for running the school’s enrollment lottery
<i>Lottery Exemptions</i>	applicants that are enrolled prior to, or outside of, the lottery
<i>Weights/Preferences</i>	applicants that receive additional opportunities in the lottery
<i>Application Validity</i>	the criteria, consequences, and communication for applicants who have submitted applications that are deemed incomplete or invalid
<i>Waiting Lists</i>	how the school will maintain its waiting list
<i>Notification</i>	how the school notifies applicants of acceptance status

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<sup>5</sup> RIGL § 16-77.2-2(10), 16-77.3-2(10), 16-77.4-2(10)

*Backfilling*                      how the school will respond to a vacancy after a student voluntarily elects to leave the charter school for another school

*Enrollment*                      how the school enrolls students into the school

Guidance on each of these steps is provided in the pages that follow.

## **Lottery Procedures**

### *Lottery Format and Methodology*

Lotteries may be conducted in a variety of ways, so long as the result is a fair and open enrollment process for all applicants. Charter schools should describe the lottery format used (e.g. using name cards in a bingo drum, in an Excel workbook), the methodology used to run the lottery, the process by which the lottery is checked and verified for accuracy, and whether the lottery is open to the public. The procedures should be published and accessible to parents and other stakeholders who wish to understand how the charter school enrolls its students.

### *Oversight*

Establishing and implementing a fair enrollment process that conforms to all legal requirements is a condition for charter renewal. The Office of Charter Schools may audit lottery procedures at any time during the charter term(s). To facilitate these audits, schools must retain all enrollment applications, lottery materials, and other supporting documentation and make these documents available to Office of Charter Schools staff upon request.

### *Lottery Date*

Board of Regents Regulations provide the Commissioner with the authority to set a uniform date for Rhode Island's charter school lotteries<sup>6</sup>. A common lottery date ensures that charter school enrollment estimates can be shared with RIDE's Office of Finance, school district business managers, and charter school business managers, to enable planning for charter school enrollment in the upcoming school year. It also simplifies the lottery and enrollment process for families.

The current date set by the Commissioner for charter school lotteries is **April 1** of the year prior to the enrolling school year. Schools should hold their lotteries on April 1 or, if April 1 falls on a weekend, the Monday immediately following April 1.

Charter schools should set a submission deadline for applications in advance of the lottery. RIDE recommends that schools set an application submission deadline that is 3 business days prior to the lottery date. This provides the longest possible window for families to apply to the school, while also providing a reasonable amount of time for school administrators to verify the validity of all applications to be included in the enrollment lottery.

If, by the submission deadline, a charter school has received *more* applications than there are seats available, the charter school must conduct a lottery to determine enrollment.

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<sup>6</sup> Charter School Regulations 200-RICR-20-05-2 Section 2.6.2.A

If, by the submission deadline, a charter school has received *fewer* applications than there are seats available in the school, the school may enroll its applicants and is not required to hold a lottery. If, at a date in the future, more applications are received than there are seats available, these applications should form a waiting list kept in the order applications are received.

### *Data Submission*

Charter schools must submit enrollment data via RIDEMAP by **the designated deadline**. These estimates are used by the RIDE Office of Finance to produce budget projections for both charter schools and school districts. Then, in the **October 1** census after school begins, actual enrollment will be verified.

## **Lottery Exemptions**

Charter schools may have a policy exempting certain applicants from its lottery. These applicants are limited to: a) the children of school founders, teachers, or staff; and b) siblings of enrolled students<sup>7</sup>. No other students are permitted to enroll in charter schools outside of charter school lotteries. Please also note that these policies are voluntary; charter schools are not required to implement these exemptions in their enrollment procedures.

### *Children of Founders, Teachers or Staff*

Charter schools may adopt policies that permit enrollment of children whose parent or guardian is a founder, teacher or staff member at the school, as long as these students constitute no more than 10% of the school's total enrollment. Policies should clearly define each term for the purposes of implementation, and consider parameters on this exemption. For instance, consider whether an exemption should apply to children of current and former staff alike. Also, consider whether the policy should apply to founders no longer affiliated with the school.

### *Siblings*

Charter schools may adopt policies that exempts siblings of accepted and/or enrolled students from participation in the lottery. RIDE defines the word *sibling* as "one of two or more individuals having one common parent". Two children who share a common guardian may also be considered siblings. Charter school policies should reflect the definition provided.

Siblings may not be interpreted to include members of a student's extended family such as cousins, step-siblings, and others who, due to various circumstances, may have become part of the family unit and/or live in the same household.

## **Lottery Weights and Preferences**

Rhode Island regulations permit charter schools to provide weights in enrollment lotteries for certain characteristics of applicants if deemed necessary to fulfill statutory requirements<sup>8</sup>. If a charter school intends to serve educationally disadvantaged students, and wishes to increase opportunities for enrollment of these students, the school may apply to RIDE to employ a weight or enrollment preference.

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<sup>7</sup> Charter School Regulations 200-RICR-20-05-2 Section 2.6.2.C

<sup>8</sup> Charter School Regulations 200-RICR-20-05-2 Section 2.6.2.A

For the purpose of this guidance, educationally disadvantaged students are students in the categories described in section 1115(b)(2) of the ESEA, which include students who are economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities, migrant students, limited English proficient students, neglected or delinquent students, and homeless students. Lottery weights or preferences for an individual applicant's race or gender will not be permitted.

Requests for approval of lottery weights and preferences shall be made in the form of a letter to the Office of Charter Schools, and shall include:

- the characteristic of applicants to be weighted/preferred;
- a rationale describing how this particular charter school is well-positioned to increase educational opportunities for these students;
- a description of how the school will verify the characteristic or trait to be weighted;
- a description of the enrollment target for students with the identified characteristic;
- a specific methodology by which the students will be weighted/preferred and drawn in the lottery.

Schools with acceptable requests will be approved via a letter from RIDE. Permissions provided in an approval letter shall continue to be valid for each lottery event in the future. In cases where schools desire to revise an approved policy around weighting or preferring students, a new letter of approval, noting the revision, should be sought.

### *Mayoral Academies*

State statute requires Mayoral Academies to enroll from “more than one city or town including both urban and non-urban communities and which offers an equal number of enrollments to students on a lottery basis; [...]”<sup>9</sup> In order to fulfill statutory obligations, Mayoral Academies must submit for approval to RIDE enrollment procedures describing how the school intends to offer an equal number of enrollments on a lottery basis to students from both urban and non-urban communities.

### **Waiting Lists**

In the event of a charter school lottery, all students in the lottery pool shall be drawn. Once all available seats have been filled based on the order applicants were selected, the remaining applicants in the pool must be placed on a waiting list ranked in the order that they were drawn.<sup>10</sup>

Applicants should be permitted to apply to the school at any point during the school year. In cases where these applicants apply after a lottery is held and a waiting list is already created, the new applicants should be placed at the end of the existing waiting list, in the order their applications are received. Charter schools must maintain the current year's waiting list through the end of the last regular day of school of the school year. After the close of the last school day of the year, waiting list results may not roll over. The next (upcoming) school year's waiting list shall serve as the basis for enrollment offerings as spaces become available. All applicants remaining on the waiting list at the end of the current year must reapply to be included in the lottery for the upcoming school year.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> RIGL § 16-77.4-1

<sup>10</sup> Charter School Regulations 200-RICR-20-05-2 Section 2.6.4

<sup>11</sup> Charter School Regulations 200-RICR-20-05-2 Section 2.6.4.E



For example, if the current school year ends on June 30 and a current student departs on May 21, the school should offer an enrollment opportunity to the next student on the current school year's waiting list. However, if the school year ends on June 30 and a charter school receives notice of a student's intent to depart at the end of the school year (and is thus effective July 1), the vacancy should be offered to the topmost applicant on the upcoming year's waiting list.

## **Backfilling**

Rhode Island charter schools are expected to maintain enrollment at the levels described in their charters and approved by the Board of Education.

## **Notification**

Applicants are to be notified in writing whether they were selected for enrollment. Schools should establish a standard procedure for notifying applicants using multiple methods of contact. In addition, schools may establish a deadline for return correspondence from applicants, but it must provide for a response window of at least 15 days before offering up a seat to the next applicant on the waiting list.<sup>12</sup>

## **Invalid Applications**

Charter schools should adopt procedures that guide behavior when faced with an invalid application. These procedures should include: a method of informing applicants, the timing allowance for a response, and a procedure for removing any invalid applications from the lottery pool.

School procedures should include a method for verifying each applicant's information prior to the submission deadline, so applicants have an opportunity to correct any errors or omissions before the lottery and charter schools can respond appropriately to erroneous, incomplete, or fraudulent applications. However, policies should also consider scenarios where invalid applications are not recognized until after the lottery is held.

## **Enrollment Materials**

To enroll into a charter school, applicants notified of an available seat should immediately confirm intent to accept the seat in the charter school via a confirmation form (to be developed and provided by the school). After an applicant notifies the school of her intent to accept, the charter school may then request detailed enrollment information, which may include:

- Registration form
- Proof of residency
- Prior academic records
- Special education records
- Health forms
- Home language information
- Emergency contact information
- District notification
- Other information as required by the charter school

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<sup>12</sup> Charter School Regulations 200-RICR-20-05-2 Section 2.6.3

## **Appendix A: Local Aid Payments to Public Schools of Choice**


The Commissioner released guidance on May 27, 2011 regarding the process for billing local districts for local aid to charter schools. Please refer to the table included in the appendix of this guidance for information regarding statewide procedures for local aid invoicing and payment.



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Shepard Building  
255 Westminster Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Deborah A. Gist  
Commissioner

**To:** Superintendents of Schools, Charter and State School Directors, School Fiscal Officers

**From:** Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner   
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

**Date:** May 27, 2011

**Re:** Local Aid Payments for Public Schools of Choice

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This memorandum is issued in accordance with the Commissioner's authority "to interpret school law," (R.I.G.L. § 16-60-9 (viii)) as well as the Commissioner's authority "to require the observance of all laws relating to elementary and secondary education" as provided in RIGL § 16-60-6 (9) (viii) and R.I.G.L. § 16-60-6 (9) (vii). The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance concerning the interpretation of the language in R.I.G.L. 16-7.2-5 related to the procedures charter schools and the two state schools, William M Davies Jr. Career and Technical High School (Davies) and the Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center (MET) charge for students enrolled in their schools in a manner consistent with the law. Please note that the Rhode Island School for the Deaf is funded outside of the funding formula and has a separate mechanism for tuition payments. The processes outlined here are consistent with the current practice that freezes state aid at the end of -each legislative session, except for potential mid-year adjustments as outlined in RIGL 16-7.2-5(a), and local tuition updates made quarterly to charter schools based on actual enrollment.

Local tuitions to public schools of choice are determined through a process set forth in RIGL 16-7.2-5(a). The local property tax appropriation for education aid will be determined annually for each LEA based on the Uniform Chart of Accounts. The value of the local property tax appropriation shall be divided by the total resident average daily membership of that LEA, including out-placed students, to determine the local per pupil appropriation for education aid. This shall act as the charter and state school local tuition amount and is subject to the transition plan described in RIGL 16-7.2-7.

Local tuitions must be paid quarterly in August, October, January, and April as stated in RIGL 16-7.2-5(b), and public schools of choice will use 25% of the annual tuition rate provide by RIDE for each quarter's invoices. Each quarter's tuition will be updated based on actual enrollment on the first day of each quarter (August 15th, October 1st, January

1st, and April 1st), with a payment due date 30 days from the invoice date. Failure of LEAs to pay local tuitions within this 30 day timeframe will result in a warning from the director of the public school of choice. The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education shall be provided with a copy of any such correspondence. If the LEA fails to make its payments within 90 days of receipt the original invoice date, the Commissioner shall withhold state education aid pursuant to RIGL 16-5-30 and RIGL 16-7-31 in the amount of the delinquency. Please refer to the following table for the suggested timeline for these actions:

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Invoice Date</b>	<b>Due Date/Warning Letter Issued</b>	<b>Notify RIDE of Lack of Payment</b>	<b>Aid Withheld</b>
1	August 15 <sup>th</sup>	September 15 <sup>th</sup>	October 15 <sup>th</sup>	November 15 <sup>th</sup>
2	October 1 <sup>st</sup>	October 31 <sup>st</sup>	November 30 <sup>th</sup>	December 31 <sup>st</sup>
3	January 1 <sup>st</sup>	January 31 <sup>st</sup>	February 28 <sup>th</sup>	March 31 <sup>st</sup>
4	April 1 <sup>st</sup>	April 30 <sup>th</sup>	May 31 <sup>st</sup>	June 30 <sup>th</sup>

## **Appendix B: Residency Confirmation**


The Commissioner released guidance on December 21, 2011 and August 10, 2016 regarding the process for confirming residency of students in charter public schools and residency disputes. Please refer to these two documents for questions related to residency determinations.



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Shepard Building  
255 Westminster Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Deborah A. Gist  
Commissioner

TO: Superintendents of School

FROM: Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner 

DATE: December 21, 2011

SUBJECT: Procedures for confirming residency of students in charter public schools

We have learned that families of students enrolled in charter public schools are being asked to submit documentation confirming their residency at the offices of their school and again at offices of their district of residence. Families whose children are enrolled in charter public schools should not have to go through two separate procedures confirming student residency.

Each charter public school has procedures that include collection of documentation that is sufficient to verify residency for school purposes, and parents verify residency in compliance with these procedures.

To alleviate this burden on parents, from here on the verification of residency shall be made at the time of enrollment and annually thereafter by the charter public school in which the student is enrolled. The school will then submit a certified list of students to the district of residence; if the district of residence questions a student's residency, it may then request a copy of the residency documentation. If a dispute as to the residency of a student exists, the district may request a residency hearing, under R.I.G.L. 16-64-6. RIDE staff will monitor charter public schools as necessary to ensure that they implement the appropriate procedures to verify student residency.

Thank you for your cooperation in this process so that we place no undue burdens on families of students enrolled in charter public schools. Please contact Bill Clarke, Charter School Coordinator, at 222-8255 or [bill.clarke@ride.ri.gov](mailto:bill.clarke@ride.ri.gov), if you have any questions.



Ken Wagner  
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Shepard Building  
255 Westminister Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

August 10, 2016

**To:** Superintendents of Schools and School Principals

**From:** David V. Abbott, Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David V. Abbott", with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Subject: School Residency Determinations**

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As the beginning of the school year traditionally brings about many questions on the issue of school residency, I am writing to provide a brief reminder of the process by which residency disputes are to be resolved.

Rhode Island General Law 16-64-6 directs that disputes concerning the residency of students shall be resolved by the Commissioner of Education. In order for the statutory mechanism for resolving residency disputes to operate, a school district must notify the parent(s) or guardian of a student of (1) the reason(s) for the district's refusal to enroll the child in school, and (2) the right of the parent(s) or guardian to appeal the district's decision to the Commissioner. It is critical for this notice to be given so that gaps in school attendance can be avoided. Enclosed is a written notice which we request be used in all determinations that a student is not a resident of your district, along with a *Spanish translation* for your use as needed. By use of the written notice, parents can quickly determine whether they agree with the reasons for the residency determination and, if not, seek review of this decision at the state level. In this way, students whose school residency is in dispute can receive a timely hearing and not be subjected to prolonged periods out of school.

We would appreciate your cooperation in making sure that appropriate staff in your district have copies of this form and that they use it whenever a determination is made of a student's non-residency. Please keep in mind that students already enrolled and in attendance cannot be disenrolled from school upon the filing of an appeal by a parent or guardian and while a hearing is pending before the Commissioner's office, because of the state's compulsory attendance law.

**Legal Guardianship:** Please note that our statute R.I.G.L. 16-64-1 provides that a child can establish residency for school purposes even if he lives separate and apart from his parent and even if he lives with a relative or a person who is not his legal guardian. If a child lives with a person who has not been appointed as his legal guardian but who is acting in loco parentis, and the purpose for these living arrangements is for some *substantial reason other than to attend a district's schools*, the student is entitled to enroll. A district cannot condition school enrollment on the appointment of a legal guardian.

The guardianship would not necessarily change a child's residency unless the guardian has been appointed for a substantial reason other than to change the child's residency for school purposes. In the same respect, a district may not deny enrollment on the basis of a Family Court order of custody or other decree effecting custodial and/or visitation status alone. Though such order or decree may be relevant, a district should consider other indicia of residency before making a decision on residency.

***Completion of semester:*** Under R.I.G.L. 16-64-8, if a student changes residence prior to the end of the semester, the student shall be allowed to complete the semester in his or her original school district. If the student is a senior or has completed the junior year and is to enter the senior year, the student shall be allowed to complete the senior year in his or her original city or town of residence.

***Homeless Students – Residency for School Purposes:*** Homeless students receive the protections of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. This means that students defined as homeless under the Homeless Act may request to continue their education in the school district of origin, while under the protection of the Act. If a homeless student elects to remain in his or her school district of origin, transportation responsibilities shall be divided if crossing LEA lines are necessary and shall remain with the district(s) until fixed housing is obtained. Please keep in mind that while students are awaiting placement in a foster home, they are included in the definition of homeless students.

***Children Placed in Foster Care:*** Under R.I.G.L. 16-64-1.1 children placed in foster care are entitled to attend school in the city or town in which they are placed. Children placed in foster care also receive protections under the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008. This federal law addresses the needs of these children for educational stability and continuity. Under this law, a foster child is entitled to remain in his/her original school, unless it is not in the child's best interests. If remaining in the school of origin is determined by DCYF not to be in the best interests of the child, then the child must be allowed to enroll in the district where he/she resides with the foster family. A child's "best interests" will be determined by DCYF after all relevant information about the child has been reviewed.

I hope that this brief summary of the residency rules and procedures will be helpful both now and throughout the school year. Any specific questions should be referred to your district's legal counsel. If we can provide you with any additional information, please contact the Chief Legal Counsel Office at 222-8979 or email [Vilma.diorio@ride.ri.gov](mailto:Vilma.diorio@ride.ri.gov)



## **NOTICE OF NON-RESIDENCY DETERMINATION**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

This office has determined that \_\_\_\_\_ is not a resident of the town/city of \_\_\_\_\_ for school purposes. The reason for non-resident status is:

- \_\_\_\_\_ The student does not physically reside in the district.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The student lives in the district, but not with a parent, and the reason for living apart from the parent(s) is not for a substantial reason other than to attend this district's school.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The student has not shown that he/she is an emancipated minor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Exceptions to school residency under Rhode Island General Law 16-64-8 do not apply.\*
- \_\_\_\_\_ A legal guardian was appointed for no substantial reason other than to change his/her school residence.

### **RIGHT TO APPEAL**

- If you disagree with this determination of school residency, you may appeal this decision directly to the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. Written appeals, signed by a parent or guardian of the student, may be submitted to:

Commissioner Ken Wagner  
Rhode Island Department of  
Elementary and Secondary Education  
255 Westminster Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
Fax 401-222-6178

### **RIGHTS OF STUDENTS ALREADY ENROLLED**

- If the student is enrolled and attending school at the time of the district's determination of non-residency, and the parent or guardian disagrees with the district's determination of school residency, the student should remain enrolled until an expedited hearing can be held at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

or

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance Officer

\*R.I.G.L. 16-64-8 permits a student who changes his or her residency during the course of a semester to complete the semester in his/her original school district. This law also permits a student to complete his or her senior year in his/her original school district if he/she changes residence after completion of his/her junior year.

## AVISO DE LA DETERMINACION DE NO-RESIDENCIA

Estimado \_\_\_\_\_:

Esta oficina ha determinado que \_\_\_\_\_ no es residente del pueblo/ciudad de \_\_\_\_\_ para fines escolares. La razón por el estado de no-residente es:

- \_\_\_ El estudiante no reside físicamente en el distrito.
- \_\_\_ El estudiante vive en el distrito, pero no con un padre, y la razón de vivir aparte del padre(s) no es por un motivo substancial salvo de asistir a la escuela de este distrito.
- \_\_\_ El estudiante no ha demostrado que él/ella es un menor emancipado.
- \_\_\_ Excepciones a residencia escolar debajo La Ley General de Rhode Island (R.I.G.L.) 16-64-8 no se aplican. \*
- \_\_\_ Un guardián legal fue nombrado por no motivo substancial salvo de cambiar su residencia escolar.

### DERECHO A APELAR

- Si usted no está de acuerdo con esta determinación de residencia escolar, puede apelar esta decisión directamente al Comisionado de Educación Primaria y Secundaria, 255 Westminster Street, Providence, R.I. 02903. Se puede someter apelaciones escritas, firmadas por un padre o por un guardián del estudiante, a:

Commissioner, Ken Wagner  
RI Department of Elementary & Secondary Education  
255 Westminster Street  
Providence RI 02903  
Fax # 401-222-6178

### DERECHOS DE ESTUDIANTES YA INSCRITOS

- Si el estudiante está inscrito y asistiendo a la escuela al tiempo de la determinación del distrito de no-residencia, y el padre o guardián no está de acuerdo con la determinación del distrito de no-residencia, el estudiante debe seguir inscrito hasta que se pueda tener una audiencia rápida en el Departamento de Educación Primaria y Secundaria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director de la Escuela

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Oficial de Asistencia

\* R.I.G.L. 16-64-8 permite a un estudiante que cambie su residencia durante el curso de un semestre para completar el semestre en su distrito escolar original. Esta ley también permite a un estudiante terminar su último año (4<sup>to</sup>) en su distrito escolar original si cambia residencia después de terminar el 3<sup>er</sup> año.

