



Inter-district Transfer Frequently Asked Questions

This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document provides general information about interdistrict transfers in Oregon. It is intended to help students, families, school districts, and community members understand the inter-district transfer process. The information presented here reflects applicable Oregon statutes and administrative rules; however, individual district policies and circumstances may vary. Families are encouraged to contact their local school districts for specific guidance related to their situation.

For the purpose of this FAQ, the following terms are used.

District A	District B	District C
The resident school district is the district in which the student lives or currently resides. This is sometimes referred to as the “sending district.”	This is the district where the student desires to enroll. This is sometimes referred to as the “receiving district.”	This is a third district that the student would like to attend if they are already enrolled in District B.

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Q1: I live in District A and my child attends School 1, I would like them to attend District A, School 2.

A: This is an intra-district transfer. You will need to look at your District's policy for moving between schools within the District. You can usually find this information on the School District's website.

Q2: I live in District A (resident district) but I want my student to attend a school in District B. What should I do?

A: This is an inter-district transfer. You will need a release from District A and an acceptance by District B. Each School District will have their own inter-district policies and timelines. These policies can usually be found by going to the District's website and searching "transfer".

A district may consider a transfer request outside of the district's inter-district transfer policy and procedures where a hardship exists [OAR 581-021-0019](#). A hardship can mean any of the following:

- The student is impacted by a parent or guardian's military deployment;
- The student is experiencing instability related to homelessness or foster care placement;
- The student has a documented medical condition that necessitates transfer;
- Death of a student's parent;
- The student does not have access to safe and affordable childcare in the resident district;
- The student is involved in a documented case of severe harassment, intimidation, bullying or cyberbullying.

Districts establish their own process for evaluating hardships.

Q3: I applied for an inter-district transfer and District A won't release my child, what can I do?

A: ODE does not have an inter-district transfer appeal option. Districts may have an appeals process associated with their transfer policies. A school district that denied a transfer and admission to a nonresident student, must provide a written explanation to the student.

Q4: If a student starts the school year in District A, but then moves to District B in the middle of the school year, can the student stay at District A for the remainder of the school year?

A: If a student moves mid-year or over the summer, a district must give consent for a transfer so that the student may complete the school year in the school district they started in, or complete

the school year following the summer in the school district they started in. [ORS 339.127\(10\)\(a\)\(b\)](#)

Q5: If my student received a release from District A under the “Hardship” criteria, can District B refuse to accept the student if they do not agree with the Hardship assessment.

A: Yes, each school district is allowed to develop their own acceptance criteria for transfer students as long as the criteria is not in violation of [ORS 339.127](#).

Q6: What documentation is required to demonstrate a hardship?

A: Each school district may adopt policies and procedures that outline if they will consider hardship requests and what documentation is required. It is the responsibility of the school district to evaluate or determine if a hardship will be granted.

Q7: I believe an inter-district transfer is necessary to protect the health, safety or welfare of my student and qualifies as a hardship. Are the school districts required to approve my request?

A: No, school districts are not required to approve hardship requests. Refer to the district's policy and procedure or talk to the transfer coordinator to understand their process and what documentation may be required.

Q8: My child wants to attend a *Virtual* Public Charter School.

A: If a parent wants their child to attend a virtual public charter school sponsored by District B, they must submit a written notice of intent to District A (the student's resident district). The resident district must respond within 10 calendar days to approve or deny the request. If more than 3% of the district's students are already enrolled in out-of-district virtual charter schools, the district may deny the request. A denial may be appealed to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE).

District operated online schools do not fall under the 3% rule and should be considered under the district's normal inter-district transfer policies.

Visit our [Charter Schools Page](#) for more information and a list of Virtual Public Charter Schools.

Q9: My child wants to attend a Charter School that is not in our district, do I need an inter-district transfer?

A: No, if a parent wants their child to attend a charter school located in District B (non-virtual) they will apply directly to the out-of-district charter school. If accepted, the student may enroll without needing approval from District A. The 3% enrollment cap does not apply to non-virtual charter schools. Visit the [Charter Schools Page](#) for more information.

Q10: Can an inter-district transfer be revoked?

A: Yes, consent may be revoked for failure to comply with minimum standards for behavior or attendance. ([ORS 339.127](#))

Q11: If a student is on an inter-district transfer to District B from District A, can District B release the student to District C on a transfer?

A: No, if the student wishes to transfer to a third district, a new inter-district transfer agreement would need to be approved between District A and District C.

Please contact our ODE Transfers Team with any additional questions:

ode.transfers@ode.oregon.gov.

References:

[Oregon Department of Education - Interdistrict Transfers Webpage](#)

[Oregon Department of Education - Charter Schools Webpage](#)

[ORS 339.127](#)

[OAR 531-021-0019](#)

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