

POLICY JFAB - ADMISSION OF NON-RESIDENT PRIVATE TUITION STUDENTS

The West Bath School Administrative Unit (WBSAU) Board of Directors adopts this policy for accepting non-resident students whose parents wish to pay tuition to WBSAU to allow their child(ren) to attend the West Bath School.

ENROLLMENT AVAILABILITY

1. Otherwise eligible non-resident private tuition students shall be admitted only if there is space and/or personnel available within existing programs or classes that the student would be attending.
2. Decisions regarding the availability of space or personnel for non-resident tuition students in WBSAU programs and classes will be made by the Superintendent or designee, based on the following Board approved classroom caps.
 - a. K-1st Grade - 14 Students
 - b. 2nd-- 5th Grade - 16 Students

ELIGIBILITY

1. All requirements for enrollment in WBSAU schools that apply to resident students (such as age, health examinations and immunization requirements) also apply to non-resident private tuition students.
2. Non-resident private tuition students are expected to meet the same academic, extracurricular, attendance, and behavioral standards and are subject to the same disciplinary procedures as resident students, up to and including expulsion.
 - a. Any non-resident private tuition student whose enrollment is recommended to be terminated for disciplinary reasons prior to the end of the school year has the right to an expulsion hearing before the WBSAU Board of Directors, as described in 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1001(9). The decision of the Board is final.
3. WBSAU has no obligations to non-resident private tuition students under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). A free appropriate public education (FAPE) remains available to non-resident private tuition students in the school district in which the student and his/her parent(s) reside and WBSAU has no obligation to provide a FAPE to non-resident private tuition students under either the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The District will not implement an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan that was developed for a non-resident private tuition student in a former school or district.
4. Admission may be denied to any non-resident private student who is currently subject to an expulsion or suspension or is the subject of an expulsion or suspension proceeding or who has a history of dangerous behavior or conduct affecting the safety of a school in any way.

APPLICATION/ADMISSIONS PROCESS

1. WBSAU shall accept non-resident private tuition students by written application only. Applications shall be submitted to the Office of the Superintendent by May 1st, for enrollment in the upcoming school year. Admission decisions will be announced in early June based on demands of the school calendar.
2. Special consideration may be given to siblings of current tuition students so long as siblings meet the requirements of this policy.

3. Non-resident private tuition students will be subject to a pre-admission academic screening, though this screening may be waived in the event the student was formerly a West Bath resident and/or already attending the school in the year prior to application.
4. Admission decisions are made by the admissions committee on the basis of the application and the other criteria identified in this policy. Make up of the admission committee shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent.
5. Admission decisions will be based on, but not limited to: academic level, behavior of the child, recommendation from former teacher, make-up of the class the child would be entering (including class balance)
6. The Superintendent may deny or revoke the admission of a non-resident private tuition student if the Superintendent determines that the student cannot obtain an appropriate education in existing programs or classes at the school. The decision of the Superintendent shall be final.
7. A non-resident private tuition student who is accepted will not be formally enrolled in WBSAU until the student's parents have signed the Non-Resident Private Tuition Student Agreement.
8. Admission outside the application period is at the discretion of the Superintendent.

PROGRAM CONTINUITY

Once non-resident tuition students are accepted into the West Bath School, it is the intention of the Board of Directors to encourage continued enrollment through the end of 5th grade unless there are extreme circumstances under which the non-resident tuition student is asked to leave. Those circumstances may include, but not be limited to, behavior problems, non-payment of tuition, or school overcrowding. Should overcrowding become the need to terminate enrollment, tuition students will be permitted to complete the current school year for which they are participating.

TUITION PAYMENTS

WBSAU will charge an annual tuition of \$6000.00 (six thousand dollars). The total tuition cost shall be paid through 10 monthly payments of \$600, with the first payment due by August 1st. Monthly payments shall then be due by the first of each month. Final payment must be made prior to May 1st. Tuition payments not received by the 15th of each month shall be considered past due and therefore subject to a \$50 late payment fee. Tuition payment more than 30 days in arrears may jeopardize a student's enrollment status.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, WBSAU reserves the right to waive the tuition of any non-resident student born on or before July 1, 2015, with a sibling who attended the West Bath School, as of July 1, 2015.

Tuition is nonrefundable. A student who withdraws or is removed as disciplinary action is not entitled to a refund of tuition paid to date.

Failure by a parent to pay tuition as due shall be grounds for revoking the admission of the non-resident private tuition student. The WBSAU reserves the right to take the appropriate legal remedies to collect any unpaid tuition, including all costs of collection, including reasonable attorney's fees.

The WBSAU reserves the right to adjust tuition rates on an annual basis through a majority vote of the board.

TRANSPORTATION

WBSAU shall not furnish transportation for non-resident private tuition students except where the student can otherwise access normal bus runs offered by the WBSAU and at no additional expense to the SAU.

STUDENT RIGHTS

Non-Resident Tuition students enrolled at West Bath School shall be afforded the same rights and subject to the same responsibilities as resident students.

Parents of such students are also welcomed and encouraged to actively participate in all school community events, including serving as members of the West Bath PTO.

Legal References:

20-A M.R.S.A. §§ 5203(1), 5204(1), 5801, 5804, 5805, 6001-B(3)

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