

## **Students**

### **Registration and Residency**

#### **I. Students Who May Attend the Waterford Public Schools**

Individuals of school age who have not yet received a high school diploma may attend the Waterford Public Schools if:

1. They live with their parent(s)/guardian(s) in a residence in the Town of Waterford,
2. They live with another person (who is not a parent or guardian) who resides in the Town of Waterford,
3. They are homeless and last attended school in Waterford, or it is in the homeless student's best interest to attend school in Waterford,
4. They attended school in Waterford but their families or the people with whom the student resided moved out of the Town of Waterford,
5. They are moving into the Town of Waterford, or
6. Tuition is paid for their attendance in the Waterford Public Schools

Each category is discussed in greater detail below.

#### **II. Students who live with their parents or guardians, who are emancipated, or at least eighteen years old**

Individuals of school age who have not yet received a high school diploma who live in a residence in the Town of Waterford are entitled to school accommodations provided by the Waterford Board of Education without payment of tuition. This includes:

1. Individuals of school age who live with their parent(s)/guardian(s) in their own home, apartment, or condominium in the Town of Waterford,
2. Individuals of school age who live with their parent(s)/guardian(s) in someone else's home, apartment, or condominium in the Town of Waterford, and
3. Legally emancipated minor children or students eighteen years of age or older who live in Waterford with the intent to reside there on a permanent basis.

**III. Students Living With Someone other than a Parent/Guardian**

Individuals of school age who have not yet received a high school diploma who live with someone other than their parent or guardian (including, but not limited to an aunt or uncle, or family friend) are entitled to school accommodations provided by the Waterford Board of Education without payment of tuition, so long as they live with that person under the following conditions:

1. The residency is intended to be permanent,
2. The residency is provided without pay from the student, his/her family or other individual and
3. The residency is not for the sole purpose of obtaining school accommodations in Waterford.

**IV. Homeless Students**

Homeless students who attended Waterford Public Schools at the time they became homeless, or in whose best interest it is to attend Waterford Public Schools, are entitled to school accommodations provided by the Waterford Board of Education without payment of tuition in accordance with Board Policy 51181.1. Parents/Guardians who are homeless, and unaccompanied students who are homeless, may obtain assistance from Waterford's homeless liaison: currently Kathy Vallone, at 15 Rope Ferry Road; Waterford, CT 06385; (860) 444-5802; kvallone@waterfordschools.org.

**V. Former Residents**

When a family moves from Waterford during the school year, a student may continue to attend the Waterford school he/she was attending for the remainder of the school year upon written request to the Superintendent and under the following conditions:

1. The family will be required to pay tuition on a pro rata basis for the balance of the school year if the family moves from Waterford prior to the last quarter (at the high school) or last trimester (at the elementary and middle levels) of any school year.
2. The family will not be required to pay tuition for the balance of the school year if the family moves from Waterford after the last quarter (at the high school) or last trimester (at the elementary and middle levels) of any school year.
3. In the senior year of high school, requests to continue enrollment in the Waterford Public Schools without tuition will be considered by the Superintendent and/or his/her designee on a case-by-case basis.

## **Policy 5270 (c)**

When a family moves from Waterford during the school year, a student may complete the current quarter (at the high school level) or the current trimester (at the elementary and middle levels) without a tuition fee upon written request to the Superintendent.

In all cases where a student continues in attendance in the Waterford Public Schools after his/her family moves from Waterford, responsibility for transportation to and from Waterford must be arranged by the family. Lack of transportation shall be a valid reason for denying continued attendance to such student.

The decision regarding the residency status of any child shall be made by the Superintendent. The Superintendent's decision and approval of the enrollment of a nonresident student in any school year shall not be binding in any subsequent school year. At the end of each school year, the Superintendent will review the status of each nonresident student enrolled pursuant to this policy for approval or denial for the ensuing school year.

### **VI. Future Residents**

A family residing outside of Waterford with firm plans to reside in the Waterford school district by November 1 of that school year may be allowed to begin the school year in Waterford. For purposes of this policy, the term "firm plans" shall be defined as having a signed purchase and sale agreement for a dwelling (that is able to be immediately occupied) and has a closing date on or before November 1, or having signed a lease or rental agreement for a dwelling (that is to be immediately occupied) that is to begin on or before November 1. If, for any reason, families that have received approval to begin the school year in Waterford are not actually residing in Waterford on or before November 1, tuition will be charged on a pro rata basis for any period of time that students are in attendance after November 1<sup>st</sup> until such date the family is residing in Waterford.

### **VII. Tuition Students**

Nonresident students who do not meet one or more criteria under previous sections of this policy may only attend Waterford Public Schools by tuition payment. Tuition fees are set annually by the Board. Tuition may include additional fees for individualized services.

Tuition students are enrolled at the discretion of the Superintendent under the following conditions:

1. Enrollment is dependent upon space available and must not lead to the hiring of additional staff or the inability to eliminate positions due to declining enrollment or other factors.
2. The Superintendent shall make the school assignment.
3. Such enrollment is reviewed annually.
4. Parents are responsible for transportation to and from school.

**Policy 5270 (d)**

Nonresident tuition students are expected to adhere to school rules of conduct. Failure to do so may result in the denial of the privilege of attending Waterford schools.

Attendance by a nonresident tuition student may be terminated by the Superintendent if he/she deems such termination is in the best interest of the Waterford Public Schools. An adjustment of tuition on a pro rata basis will be made in this instance.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
Connecticut General Statutes  
10-4a Educational interests of state defined (amended by PA 97-290,  
An Act Enhancing Educational Choices and Opportunities)  
10-33 Tuition in towns in which no high school is maintained.  
10-35 Notice of discontinuance of high school service to nonresidents.  
10-253 School privileges for children in certain placements,  
nonresident children and children in temporary shelters.

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