

## **School Admissions and Residency Requirements**

A person is eligible to attend the Hopkinton Public Schools if he or she is of school age and is:

- Living with the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) who have physical custody and are residents of Hopkinton, or
- Intending to be a resident within a reasonable time, and approved by the Superintendent or designee, or
- At least eighteen (18) years of age, having established residency, or
- An approved tuition-paying student, or
- Homeless, which is defined as a person living in Hopkinton who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence such as a shelter or a place not designed to be a sleeping accommodation.

An eligible student will be admitted regardless of national citizenship, race, color, sex, religion, national origin or sexual orientation.

A student registering for the first time must present a birth certificate or equivalent proof of age as well as proof of vaccination and immunizations as required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. A child whose parent(s) or guardian(s) state religious objections to vaccinations or immunizations or who are homeless may register without vaccination or immunization records.

Proof of legal guardianship may be required.

Proof of residency may be required at the time of registration or at any time that school officials have reason to question a student's residency, which is defined as the place where a person resides permanently, not temporarily or sporadically, and is the center of his or her domestic, social, and civic life.

The superintendent may request three or more of the following as proof of residency: copy of deed, record of most recent mortgage payment, copy of lease with record of most recent rent payment, notarized attestation of residency from landlord, Section 8 agreement, energy (gas, oil, or electric) bill, home (not cellular) telephone bill, cable bill, valid driver's license, current vehicle registration, valid Massachusetts photo identification card, voter registration, valid passport, or payroll stub issued within the past thirty (30) days.

The superintendent reserves the right to investigate at any time if a student's residency is in question. If an investigation establishes that a student is not a resident, the student will be dismissed from the Hopkinton Public Schools. Parents or guardians of a non-resident student may be required to submit restitution for the period of time that the student was improperly attending school in Hopkinton. Anyone who assists in the violation of the

residency law may be required to submit restitution in the event that the parents or guardians cannot pay the full amount.

With School Committee approval, a student who has established a temporary residence other than the legal residence of his or her parent or guardian for the special purpose of attending school in Hopkinton may attend on a tuition-paying basis. The student or his or her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must make application to the Superintendent's office. Tuition may not exceed the average per pupil daily cost.

The superintendent may allow high school seniors whose parents or guardians have moved out of town to complete their education on the following two conditions:

1. The family moves January 1 or later in the school year
2. The student has remained in good standing with his or her discipline and academic records

For a student intending to be a resident within a reasonable time, the superintendent will require evidence such as a rental agreement, property lease, contract to build a house, or other such evidence that clearly indicates the date by which residency will be established. If residency is not established by the agreed-upon date, then the student will be dismissed from the Hopkinton Public Schools.

First Reading	May 17, 2007
Second Reading	June 21, 2007
Third Reading	October 18, 2007
Adopted	October 18, 2007
Policy Amended	
Legal References	MGL 76:1, 76:5; 76:6; 76:15. 603 CMR 26.02 McKinney Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001
Policy Cross Reference	JEB Requirements for School Entrance
Procedure Reference	