

4.59---ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS – School Board Policy

The District allows private school and home school students whose parents, legal guardians, or other responsible adults with whom the student resides are residents of the District to attend academic courses offered by the District. The District will place a list of courses that a private school or home school student may request to attend on their website by:

1. June 1 for courses to be offered during the Fall semester; and
2. November 1 for courses to be offered during the spring semester.

A private school or home-schooled student who desires to attend one or more of the available academic courses shall submit a written request to attend the academic course(s) to the superintendent, or designee, no later than:

- a. August 1 for Fall semester courses; or
- b. December 1 for spring semester courses.

The superintendent, or designee, is authorized to waive the application deadline on a case-by-case basis.

The District permits a private school or home-schooled student to attend a maximum of six (6) courses per semester.

The District may reject a private school or home-schooled student's request for attendance if the District's acceptance would:

- Require the addition of staff or classrooms;
- Exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building;
- Cost the District more for the student to attend the academic course than the District receives for the student's attendance;
- Cause the District to provide educational services the District does not currently provide at a financial burden to the District; or
- Cause the District to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

Requests to attend an academic course will be granted in the order the requests are received.

Upon the receipt of a private or home-schooled student's request to attend the academic course(s), the District will date and time stamp the request for attendance. If a private school or home-schooled student is denied attendance based on a lack of capacity and an opening in the requested course occurs prior to the start of the course, the District will use the date and time stamp on the request for attendance to determine the private school or home-schooled student who will be notified of an opening in the requested course.

As part of the request to attend academic courses in the District, a private school or home-schooled student shall:

- Indicate the course(s) the private school or home-schooled student is interested in attending;
- If the course(s) the private school or home-schooled student is interested in attending is being offered by the District in both a physical and digital format, whether the private school or home-schooled student intends to attend the physical course or the digital course;
 - Submit, along with the student's application, a copy of the student's transcript indicating that the student has received credit for the course(s), or equivalent course(s), that is a prerequisite to the course(s) the student desires to attend the District;
- Agree to follow the District's discipline policies; and
- Submit immunization documentation required by Policy 4.57---IMMUNIZATIONS.

A private school or home-schooled student who fails to attend an academic course by the eleventh (11) day of class or who is absent without excuse for eleven (11) consecutive days during the semester shall be dropped from the course; however, a private school or home-schooled student shall not be considered truant for unexcused absences from the course(s) the student is attending at the District.

Private school or home-schooled students shall receive a final grade and transcript for each academic course the student completes.

The responsibility for transportation of any private school or home-schooled student attending academic courses in the District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents.

The opportunity provided to homeschooled students under this policy is in addition to the opportunity provided in Policy 4.56.2---EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS.

Cross References: 4.6---Homeschooling 4.56.2---Extracurricular Activity Eligibility for Home-Schooled Students
4.57---Immunizations

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6.15-509 A.C.A. § 6.18-232 A.C.A. § 6-18-702 A.C.A. § 6-47-401 ET sq.

DESE Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning Commissioner's Memo COM-19-021

DESE Rules Governing Kindergarten through 12th Grade Immunization Requirements in Arkansas Public Schools

Date Adopted: June 2017

Last Revised: June 2024