

RESIDENCY

To attend the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District, a student must be a full time resident of Dighton or Rehoboth; provided, however, that this requirement shall not apply with respect to a child enrolled under the provisions of MGL Chapter 76, Section 12 (School Committee Agreement), or when a student is placed with a resident of Dighton or Rehoboth by a licensed adoption agency or by the State Department of Social Services.

The residence of a minor child is presumed to be the legal residence of the parent(s) or guardian(s) who have physical custody of the child. "Residence" is the place where a person dwells permanently, and is the place that is the center of his or her domestic, social, and civic life. Full time residency is defined by Massachusetts law as living and sleeping overnight in a community, a minimum of Monday through Friday of each week. In cases of Joint Custody or Shared Custody, a legal court order may be requested as proof by school administration. The Massachusetts court system has defined parental custody in these cases as having a minimum of 50% of the child to reside and attend school in a community. This means that a child must reside (sleep) at the community residence three school days a week in order to attend school in that community school system. Weekends are not included in the calculation for attending school. Residence in the Towns of Dighton or Rehoboth, solely for the purpose of attending a Dighton-Rehoboth school, shall not be considered residency.

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parents or guardians for school attendance purposes. In the event the residency dispute involves an 18-year-old student, all notices will be delivered to the student because at 18 the student ceases to be a minor.

In determining residency, the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District reserves its right to request a variety of documentation. Investigations may be made by Dighton or Rehoboth Police Departments and/or Dighton or Rehoboth school officials to assure that the student maintains bona fide residence in the Towns of Dighton or Rehoboth. Parents/Guardians are under a continuing obligation to inform Dighton or Rehoboth school officials of any and all changes to a student's residential status.

Any student who becomes a non-resident of the district during the school year will be permitted to remain in the district until the end of the semester in which the non-residency occurs. If a senior becomes a non-resident on or after the first day of school during the senior year, the student will be allowed to continue attending school until the end of the school year. Transportation will be provided by the parents/guardians.

Students who are citizens of a foreign country will be considered residents if they meet the following requirements:

The student is in the United States under a Visa other than a Visitor's Visa or a Student Visa;

The student is a participant in a foreign exchange program approved by the Superintendent;

The student resides with his/her parents/guardians.

File: JFAA/JFBA

A determination that a student is ineligible to attend Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District due to a failure to reside in the Towns of Dighton or Rehoboth will result in dismissal from the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District. Any person who violates this policy may be required to pay a fine based on the cost of the educational services received during the period of non-residency, not to exceed the average per pupil cost for the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District.

CERTIFICATE OF RESIDENCY

The policy of the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District is attached.

The residence of the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the student will not be considered in determining whether the student is a resident.

1. I understand that _____ must be a resident of
(name of student)
either Dighton or Rehoboth.

2. I understand that _____ is residing with me at the
(name of student)
following address:

3. I certify that I am a legal resident of _____ Dighton, _____ Rehoboth (proof of residency attached ~ minimum two of the following: current utility bill - not telephone or cable; closing documents; and/or occupancy or rental agreement).

4. I am _____, am not _____'s legal guardian.
(name of student)
If guardianship exists, please attach legal documentation.

5. I certify that this living situation is not an arrangement of convenience for the sole purpose of having the student residing with me attend schools within the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District.

List the reason(s) for the current living situation. (If this living situation is a result of a marital action for separation/divorce, attach documentation evidencing the custody agreement).

(use back of form if necessary)

I understand that enrolling the child named above in the Dighton~Rehoboth Regional School District is contingent upon the conditions of the Residency Policy; File JF, which I have read. I also understand that violation of this policy may result in termination of the child's enrollment and that I may be liable for a fine.

I hereby certify under the pains and penalties of perjury, the information provided above is accurate and true.

(signature of Guardian, Grandparent, Foster Parent, other Relative or other Dighton~Rehoboth Regional School District resident) (date)

(signature of Parent) (date)

(signature of Notary) (date)

My term expires:

Seal: