



Out of Zone Requests Frequently Asked Questions

Open Zoned Schools—Lottery

Why do we have an open zoned school lottery this year?

In May 2021, Governor Lee signed an amendment to T.C.A. Section 49-2-128 that requires school districts to identify each school that has available space to enroll and serve additional students. In compliance with the new requirements, we reviewed our enrollment projections for each school, our understanding of the growth taking place and planned within that school's zone and within that school's feeder pattern, and other issues such as current construction activities, that may impact a school's ability to serve more students. Districts are required to conduct a lottery for each school where open enrollment requests exceed the number of spaces available.

How do I apply for an open zoned school?

The link to the portal is found in the School Zones section of the Buses & Zoning page of the website. You select Open Zoned School Request, create an account through the online portal, and follow the prompts to submit the request. A confirmation email with order number is received when the request is successfully submitted.

What is the deadline to apply for an open zoned school?

The new deadline is April 15, 2022. The School Board approved the change from May 15 at the February 21 school board meeting.

When will I know if my student is assigned a seat in the open zoned school lottery?

After the deadline to apply, if the number of applications exceeds the number of spots available at a particular school, the lottery option will take effect within 5 business days.

How does the lottery work?

The out of zone software randomly assigns an order number to each application. A student list is determined by the application order number. The student wait list is created after the number of available spots are assigned.

How am I notified if my student received an open zoned spot or is on the waiting list?

You receive an email stating your child is now assigned a placement in the requested open zoned school. You must log into the out of zone account to accept or reject the placement within 7 calendar days from the date of the email. Wait listed students receive an email of their wait list number.



How long is the waiting list effective?

All placements will be made by August 4, 2022, at 5:00 pm CST and the wait list/lottery process will conclude for the 2022-23 school year.

Questions regarding other out of zone options

What if my student is going out of zone for a reason other than open zone schools?

The link to the portal is found in the School Zones section of the Buses & Zoning page of the website. You select Out of Zone Request—All Other Provisions, create an account through the online portal, and follow the prompts to submit the request. A confirmation email with order number is received when the request is successfully submitted.

What is the deadline to apply for an out of zone school?

The new deadline is April 15, 2022. The School Board approved the change from May 15 at the February 21 school board meeting.

If my student was approved out of zone last year and is not changing buildings, do I need to reapply this year?

No, you do not have to re-apply if you still reside in the same residence.

If my student is attending an out of zone school and is changing buildings next year, (5th grade to 6th grade or 8th grade to 9th grade) do I need an out of zone request or is the student automatically moved to the next school in the feeder pattern?

Yes, you need a new out of zone request under the Out of Zone Request—All Other Provisions. Please select the category for your request: continue in the feeder pattern, sibling, or WCS full-time employee.

My student is interested in a program of study offered at an out of zone high school.

What do I need to do?

Please visit the College, Career, and Technical Education webpage for information on which schools are accepting out of zone applications for programs of study.

<https://www.wcs.edu/domain/1182>

What if my student is interested in the International Baccalaureate Program of Study at Franklin High School?

Please visit the Franklin High IB webpage for information: <https://www.wcs.edu/domain/1078> . Your child must be accepted into the program before the out of zone request is submitted.

What's next if my student is approved for a program of study at an out of zone school?

You need to submit an out of zone request under the Out of Zone Request—All Other Provisions in the program of study category and upload a copy of the acceptance letter to the portal.



What if my house does not close or the lease agreement does not begin until after the start of school, but I don't want my child to have to change schools when we move?

You can submit an Out of Zone Request—All Other Provisions under the moving to zone category. You will need to upload a copy of the non-contingent contract or lease agreement on the home in the zone. The Planning & Zoning Department needs to know the address of your temporary residence. If the temporary residence is in Williamson County, proofs of residency are required to the school. If the temporary residence is outside of Williamson County, the board established out of county tuition fee is due by check before the student can start school. The tuition fee is refunded in full after proofs of residency are provided to the Planning & Zoning Department by the end of the semester.

If my student attends an out of zone school, how does that affect sports eligibility with TSSAA?

Please contact Williamson County Schools' Athletic Director, Darrin Joines, for information:
Darrin.joines@wcs.edu