



OAK PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

INTER-DISTRICT PERMITS

Permits Submitted Anytime Outside of Our Open Enrollment Period of 11/1 - 12/31

(Authorized by Education Code 46600)

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Inter-district Permit Facts

Traditional inter-district permits are authorized by Education Code 46600-46607 and provide parents with the opportunity to transfer their child into Oak Park USD from from their resident school district. Unlike the District of Choice permit this type of permit requires that the resident school district first release a student to attend Oak Park USD. Acceptance into Oak Park is then dependent upon space availability as well meeting any conditions stipulated in the inter-district permit. Parents may appeal denial of a transfer to the Ventura County Board of Education. Normally, traditional Inter-District permits are renewed annually. However, all twenty school districts in Ventura County have signed an Inter-District Transfer Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that eliminates the need for parents to have the district of residence sign off each year on the permit.

All traditional inter-district permits between Oak Park and school districts outside of Ventura County (e.g., Las Virgenes USD, LAUSD, etc.) are handled on an individual basis. Each of the resident districts have their own policies for how the inter-district permits are processed and rules about annual renewals. Parents from these districts can appeal denials to the County Board of Education where their district is located.

Oak Park residents who would like to use the traditional permit process to transfer out of Oak Park to another school district can obtain the permit from Linda Gam at our District Office located at 5801 East Conifer Street.

Oak Park Unified accepts students on traditional Inter-District permits throughout the year based on available space.

1.) My children are currently attending school in Oak Park, but we have recently moved out of the district. Can my children stay? Aren't they "Grandfathered In?"

Once you no longer have residency within Oak Park, your child cannot continue attending school here unless you get an Inter-District Permit from your new district of residence releasing you from their schools. Once we receive the signed Inter-District Permit from your new district of residence, we will consider it for approval.

When a family moves out of Oak Park, they are no longer considered residents and must follow the procedures for out of district families. **Students are never considered to be "Grandfathered In."**

2.) Once I have been released from my home district, is my child now able to attend Oak Park schools?

Depending on what grade level your child is in and whether or not that grade level is impacted will be what determines your child's enrollment. In addition, other factors such as grades, attendance and behavior will be considered in the approval process.

3.) My children have been in Oak Park schools for years, why can't they stay in the same school?

Our first priority is providing education for families that are residents within our district. Once you leave our district we cannot legally continue to enroll you without permission from your new district of residence.

4.) Because my children are currently enrolled, shouldn't they already have a spot?

There are instances where a grade level at a school is over capacity and that has to be taken into consideration when a student moves out. Because we are required to enroll any new student who moves into our district we try to set aside a couple of seats per grade level to accommodate these new resident families.

5.) How can I make sure my child gets a spot in Oak Park Schools for the entirety of their education?

The best way to ensure continuous enrollment is to acquire permanent residency in Oak Park and physically live here. The other option is to apply for enrollment through the District of Choice (DOC) program. The application is available on our website from November 1st - December 31st each year for the following new school year.

Space is limited to certain grade levels and applicants will be chosen through a random lottery that is scheduled during the middle of January each year.

6.) I want my child to attend Oak Park schools, but it is already mid-year. Can my child transfer to your schools for the second semester?

Normally, this is not in the best educational interests of the student or the school to transfer mid-year. We recommend that you apply for an Inter-District Permit for the following school year. Enrollment is based on space availability at the requested grade level.

7.) If I get an Inter-District Permit for my child to attend for the following school year, will my child be enrolled?

Depending on which grade level you are requesting and whether or not we have room in that grade level dictates if your child will be enrolled. Some of our grade levels for the following school year could be CLOSED, meaning there will be NO Inter-District applicants accepted into those grade levels.

9.) My family is planning on moving to Oak Park in the fall of the upcoming school year can I enroll my child now?

If you provide final escrow papers or a lease agreement that confirms your new residence in Oak Park, along with utility bills in your name, and proof you will be physically living in your new Oak Park residence, your child will have guaranteed enrollment in the upcoming school year and all years following provided you retain residency in Oak Park. For our elementary students we cannot guarantee your child will be placed at the school nearest to your home. However, there is an opportunity for an intra-district transfer to that school for the next school year if space opens up.

10.) If there is no room in the grade level we requested can we enroll at OPIS? I see that they have ongoing acceptance.

[OPIS](#) is a specialty program designed for students who work well independently and is not for every child. It provides an alternative learning environment for students who may require a more flexible schedule due to the pursuit of professional acting or athletic careers. Other students may also benefit from this type of instructional strategy, but this is determined on an individual basis after meeting with the principal of the school. Students in OPIS are asked to commit to a full year in the program.

11.) My child is attending a private school and does not live in Oak Park, how do I get released in order to apply for enrollment in Oak Park?

You will need to contact your resident public school district and get released on an Inter-District Permit. The private school where you are enrolled will take no part in the process of getting an Inter-District Permit.

12.) I have been accepted into Oak Park through an Inter-District Permit. Do I have to do anything else to retain my permit?

If you move within the boundaries of another school district anytime in the future, you will need to contact your new resident school district and get released on an Inter-District Permit. If you move to another city *within* the same district, a new permit is *not* needed. In both scenarios, please contact your school office with your new address after your move.

Your district of residence *may* require that you renew your permit each year. OPUSD does NOT require you to renew permits each year. If your district of residence contacts you to submit a permit for renewal, please comply. Otherwise, it is not necessary to renew your permit each year.

13.) I am no longer a resident of Oak Park. My permit for the following school year was denied, but I know there is room in the grade level. Why was my permit denied?

If the student(s) enrolled had consistently earned poor grades (i.e. D's and F's), had poor attendance, and/or severe behavioral issues, they can be declined for renewal for the following school year.

14.) How will I be notified that I have been accepted/denied admission into Oak Park schools?

You will receive a letter that contains your original permit which will show whether or not you were accepted or denied. If accepted, you will be directed by Linda Gam to contact your newly assigned school in order to move forward with the enrollment process.