

4.04 – STUDENT TRANSFERS

The Benton School District shall review and accept or reject requests for transfers, both into and out of the district, on a case by case basis.

The District may reject a nonresident's application for admission if its acceptance would necessitate the addition of staff or classrooms, exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building, or cause the District to provide educational services not currently provided in the affected school. The District shall reject applications that would cause it to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to a school in this district shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school. Any grades, course credits, and/or promotions received by a student while enrolled in the Division of Youth Services system of education shall be considered transferable in the same manner as those grades, course credits, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities.

Any student transferring from a school that is not accredited by the DESE to a District school shall be evaluated by District staff to determine the student's appropriate grade placement. A student transferring from home school will be placed in accordance with Policy 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING.

Any person who has been expelled from any other school district shall receive a hearing before the Board at the time the student is seeking enrollment in the District. The Board reserves the right to not allow the enrollment of such students until the time of the person's expulsion has expired following the hearing before the Board.

Except as otherwise required or permitted by law, the responsibility for transportation of any nonresident student admitted to a school in this District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents. The District and the resident district may enter into a written agreement with the student or student's parents to provide transportation to or from the District, or both.

PETITIONS FOR TRANSFER OF STUDENTS

Petitions for Board-to-Board transfers and inter-district transfers will only be considered in August for the fall session and December for the spring session for any school year.

The board will consider, on a case by case basis, petitions for inter-district transfer on behalf of students entering the 11th or 12th grade who wish to finish high school in a school they have attended immediately preceding the transfer request.

Petition for transfer may be allowed for a student in grades K-12 to remain in the school that the student has been attending for the remainder of a school year in the event that the student becomes a resident of another district so long as the student's new resident district

does not object to the transfer, and the student shows an intent to remain in the original district by the filing of a school choice declaration within twenty days of the change of residence.

The district will not be permitted to accept any non-resident from a district operating under a school desegregation-related court order or a district that has ever been under such an order or that would violate the Arkansas School Choice Law.

TRANSFER CREDITS

The following rules will be in effect in regard to transfer credits:

Accredited high schools—BHS will accept credit from any high school accredited by a state department of education or by North Central or their regional accrediting agency. Since Arkansas allows credit in Algebra I and foreign language courses taken in eighth grade to count toward graduation, BHS will accept only these credits from eighth grade for transfer students. All other transfer credit accepted for graduation will be limited to grades 9-12.

Accredited private schools—Students from private schools accredited by the Arkansas School Nonpublic Accrediting Association, Inc. or a state non-public accrediting association will be accepted at Benton High School and their grades will be allowed as transfer grades.

Correctional institution schools—Credits earned at correctional institution schools will be accepted at Benton High School as per other regulations.

Correspondence credit—Transfer students shall be bound by the same rules that govern BHS students, which are as follows:

- a. Students may earn a maximum of two credits by correspondence providing the courses are taken through the Department of Independent Study, Brigham Young University. All courses must be approved by the building principal.
- b. Students transferring correspondence credit from other states must have taken the work through an accredited state university.
- c. Correspondence courses will not count on a student's GPA.

Summer school credits—Credit will be allowed for summer school work provided that work was completed in an accredited high school and meets state department and/or NCA requirements. All courses must be approved by the building principal and will not count on a student's GPA.

Unaccredited private schools—Credits will be given for transferred core courses provided the student makes an acceptable grade on the specific course exams administered at BHS. These tests, prepared by BHS departments, are on file in the general office and will be graded by department chairmen. Credits earned through these course exams will not affect a student's GPA.

Home Schooling—The Benton School District shall have authority to assess any home schooled student who enrolls or reenrolls in the district in order to determine proper educational placement. Benton High School shall utilize the norm-referenced test approved by the state Board of Education as well as specific course exams prepared by BHS departments to

determine placement in the appropriate grade level and for course credit. Credits earned through these course exams and norm-referenced tests will not count on a student's GPA.

Benton High School will not recognize credits from the following sources:

- GED
- Credit by Examination
- Independent Study
- Work Programs

Classification of Students

The following will be used:

Sophomores	4 ½ credits
Juniors	11 (with grade-level English attempt) credits
Seniors	18 (with grade-level English attempt) credits

Transfer students will be classified on a temporary basis until proper confirmation of grade placement is received from the school from which the student has withdrawn.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-504
A.C.A. § 6-18-316
A.C.A. § 6-18-317
A.C.A. § 6-18-510
A.C.A. § 9-28-113 (b)(4)
A.C.A. § 9-28-205
A.C.A. § 6-18-202
A.C.A. § 6-18-206
A.C.A. § 6-18-207
A.C.A. § 6-18-208
A.C.A. § 6-18-221
A.C.A. § 6-18-222
A.C.A. § 6-18-223

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