

# **Boundary Exception Facts and FAQ**

## **Definition of Terms**

In-district boundary: students living in Camas School District requesting to attend another school within the district

(i.e. Prune Hill to Grass Valley).

Out-of-district boundary: students living outside Camas School District requesting to attend a school in Camas

(i.e. Washougal SD to Camas SD).

## **In-District Boundary**

Application forms for in-district boundary exceptions will be available at school offices beginning April 15. Parents may submit completed applications to school offices beginning April 15. For students in grades 6-8 who are renewing a boundary exception, notification of approval or denial\* will be given by June 30.

#### **Out-of-District Boundary**

Out-of-district boundary exception applications will be available at school and district offices in May. They must be turned in at the district office of the student's <u>resident school district</u> beginning in May.

For students in grades 6-12 who are renewing a boundary exception, notification of approval or denial\* will be given by June 30.

For new and returning students in grades K-5 and new students in grades 6-12, notification of approval or denial will be given by the end of the first week of school in September.

Please note: Students are assured enrollment in their resident school district.

\*Approved boundary exceptions may be denied or revoked at any time before the first day of the school year if enrollment increases within the specific grade level.

## Frequently Asked Questions

## How is approval/denial determined?

Requests for boundary exceptions into a school are considered on a space-available basis within the grade level and/or class. If no space is available the request will be denied, however parents may reapply throughout the school year.

## How is space availability determined?

Camas school district will deny boundary exception applications when the average class size per grade at any school reaches 2 students below the contract limit. Contract limits are as follows:

Grades K-5 24:1Grades 6-8 30:1Grades 9-12 31:1

Space availability for special services is determined by the capacity of the program. Contact the Special Services Department at 360-833-5570 for more information.

## Are other factors taken into consideration for approval of a boundary exception?

While boundary exceptions are often requested for a variety of reasons including financial, educational, safety or health conditions affecting the student, proximity of school to childcare or parent workplace, or special hardship, the district endeavors to accommodate all boundary requests.

## Who transports students on boundary exceptions?

Parents of students with boundary exceptions are responsible for transporting students to and from school on time each day. Please note that students who frequently engage in misconduct or disruptive behavior in violation of school rules may have their boundary application denied or rescinded (revoked) in accordance with district Policy 3141.

#### Is the boundary exception guaranteed forever?

No. Requests for boundary exceptions must be approved each school year. A boundary exception approved one school year does not guarantee approval the following year.

## Who gets priority for boundary exceptions?

State law requires schools to give priority to children of school personnel. In Camas, boundary requests are prioritized using the following criteria in rank order:

- 1. Space availability
- 2. In-district student of full-time school personnel
- 3. In-district student
- 4. Out-of-district students of full-time school personnel (provided they live in Washington)
- 5. Out-of-district students
- 6. Student's longevity with peers\*\*
- 7. Siblings enrolled in requested school
- 8. Date the boundary exception application was received

Scenario 1: Boundary exceptions are considered by the student's place of residence and whether or not the parent is a full-time staff member of the Camas School District. When students are seeking one spot within a grade, rank them as follows:

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Rank Order	Student Residence	Parent Type		
First	Inside Camas	Resident Staff		
*Second	Inside Camas	Resident		
*Third	Outside Camas	Non-Resident Staff		
Fourth	Outside Camas	Non-Resident		
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\*See Scenario 3

Scenario 2: Two "Inside Camas" students (Non-Staff) are seeking one spot at fourth grade. All other things being equal, use longevity\*.

Rank Order	Student Residence	Parent Type	Student Longevity
First	Inside Camas	Resident	3 years
Second	Inside Camas	Resident	2 years

Scenario 3: Two students are seeking one spot at fourth grade. One is a staff member's child who lives outside the district and one lives in the district, but is not a full-time staff member's child. Use the same rank order.

Rank Order	Student Residence	Parent Type
First	Inside Camas	Resident
Second	Outside Camas	Non-Resident Staff

Note: In this case, the staff member ranks lower than the resident because the WAC guarantees the staff member a spot for his/her student within the district, but not necessarily at the school of that staff member's choice. However, if the resident student's boundary request would place them in a new school (different than the previous year), and approval of the boundary request would displace a non-resident staff member's student who <a href="https://necess.org/newstart/">https://necess.org/newstart/</a> at that school, the non-resident staff member's student boundary request will take precedent.

Scenario 4: Three "Inside Camas" students (non-staff) are seeking one spot at fourth grade and have equal longevity. Consider siblings, then lottery.

Rank Order	Student Residence	Parent Type	Student Longevity	
	Inside Camas	Resident	3 years	
	Inside Camas	Resident	3 years	
	Inside Camas	Resident	3 years	

<sup>\*\*</sup>Longevity is defined by the number of years a student has attend school with his/her peers consecutively. For example, if a student lived in and attended Lacamas for six years, but then moved to the Skyridge area and applied for a B.E. to Liberty, that student's longevity is six years.