

**New Open Enrollment Rules and Regulations Updated per Senate File 2435
School Year 2024-2025 & 2025-2026**

Date	Explanation
Applications to Approved Online Schools	The deadline does not apply to parents/guardians applying for their student to attend a public school district with an approved online school by the Iowa Department of Education.
June 30, 2024	Any application filed on or before June 30, 2024 will not require good cause for waiving the March 1 deadline. The receiving district may accept open enrollment applications for the 2024-2025 school year without approval from the resident school district.
July 1, 2024	Senate File 2435 takes effect. Applications for students grades 1-12 will be denied unless the parent or guardian is able to demonstrate good cause.
September 1	Application deadline for incoming preschool students who receive special education services requiring specially designed instruction (SDI) to open enroll for the current school year.
September 1	Application deadline for incoming kindergarten students to open enroll for the current school year.
September 2	Applications for incoming preschool students requiring SDI and kindergarten students will be denied unless the parent or guardian is able to demonstrate “good cause.”
March 1	Application deadline for students in grades 1-12 to open enroll for the upcoming school year.
March 2	Applications for students grades 1-12 will be denied unless the parent or guardian is able to demonstrate good cause.

Good Cause Circumstances

The following circumstances are considered "good cause" and are acceptable conditions for a timeline waiver if the change occurred or began after March 1 (or September 1):

- Change in family district of residence
- Change in child’s residence from one parent or guardian to the residence of a different parent or guardian
- Change in the state in which the family residence is located
- Change in the marital status of the student's parents resulting in a change in resident district
- Change in guardianship or custody proceeding that results in a change in resident district
- Placement of the child in foster care resulting in a change of residence
- Adoption
- Participation in a foreign exchange program
- Initial placement of a preschool student in a special education program requiring SDI
- Participation in a substance abuse or mental health treatment program resulting in a change of residence
- Change in the status of a child’s resident district such as removal of accreditation by the Iowa State Board of Education (State Board), surrender of accreditation, or permanent closure of a private school after March 1

Good Cause Circumstances Continue

- Revocation of a charter school contract as provided in section 256F.8
- Failure of district negotiations for whole grade sharing or the rejection of a whole grade sharing agreement after March 1*
- Failure of district negotiations for reorganization or rejection of a proposed reorganization plan after March 1*
- Failure of district negotiations for a dissolution agreement after March 1*
- Loss of accreditation or permanent closure of a private school after March 1

Circumstances not defined above that would be considered good cause (and subject to the approval of the board of the resident district and the board of the receiving district) include:

- Repeated student harassment that the resident district cannot adequately address or
- The child has a serious health condition that a school district cannot adequately address

*The request must be filed within 45 days of last board action or within 30 days of certification of an election, whichever is applicable. This is only applicable to affected students.