

# ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

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To enroll in Cabot Public Schools, the child must be a resident of the Cabot School District as defined in District policy (RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), meet the criteria for HOMELESS STUDENTS, be accepted as a transfer student under the provision of the transfer policy, or participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option.

For the 2016-2017 school year, students may enter kindergarten in the public schools of this state if they will attain the age of five (5) on or before August 1, 2016.

Any child who will be six (6) years of age on or before October 1 of the school year of enrollment and who has not completed a state-accredited kindergarten program shall be evaluated by the district and may be placed in the first grade if the results of the evaluation justify placement in the first grade and the child's parents or legal guardian agrees with placement in the first grade; otherwise, the child shall be placed in kindergarten.

Any child may enter first grade in one of Cabot's elementary schools if the child will attain the age of six (6) years during the school year in which the child is seeking enrollment and the child has successfully completed a kindergarten program in a public school in Arkansas.

Any child who has been enrolled in the first grade in a state-accredited or state-approved elementary school in another state for a period of at least sixty (60) days, who will become age six (6) years during the school year in which he/she is enrolled in grade one (1), and who meets the basic residency requirements for school attendance may be enrolled in the first grade.

Students who move into the Cabot School District from an accredited school shall be assigned to the same grade as they were attending in their previous school (mid-year transfers) or as they would have been assigned in their previous school. Home-schooled students shall be evaluated by the District to determine their appropriate grade placement.

The district shall make no attempt to ascertain the immigration status, legal or illegal, of any student or his/her parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment. Anyone questioning a person's legal status will be referred to legal authorities.

Prior to the child's admission to a Cabot School District school:

1. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall furnish the child's social security number, or if they request, the District will assign the child a nine (9) digit number designated by the Department of Education.
2. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall provide the District with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child's age:
  - a. A birth certificate;
  - b. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth;
  - c. An attested baptismal certificate;

- d. A passport;
  - e. A military ID;
  - f. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent or guardian; or
  - g. Previous school records.
3. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall indicate on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding.
4. The child shall be age appropriately immunized from poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, red (rubeola) measles, rubella, and other diseases as designated by the State Board of Health, or have an exemption issued by the Arkansas Department of Health. Proof of immunization shall be by a certificate of a licensed physician or a public health department acknowledging the immunization. Exemptions are also possible on an annual basis for religious reasons from the Arkansas Department of Health. To continue such exemptions, they must be renewed at the beginning of each school year. A child enrolling in a district school and living in the household of a person on active military duty has 30 days to receive his/her initial required immunizations and 12 months to be up to date on the required immunizations for the student's age.

# RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

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### **Definitions:**

**“Reside”** means to be physically present and to maintain a permanent place of abode in the Cabot School District for an average of no fewer than four (4) calendar days and nights per week for a primary purpose other than school attendance.

**“Resident”** means a student whose parents, legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside in the Cabot School District.

**“Residential address”** means the physical location where the student’s parents, legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside. A student may use the residential address of a legal guardian, person having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or person standing in loco parentis only if the student resides at the same residential address and if the guardianship or other legal authority is not granted solely for educational needs or school attendance purposes.

**“In Loco Parentis”** means in place of the parents

The schools of the District shall be open and free through the completion of the secondary program to all persons between the ages of five (5) and twenty-one (21) years whose parents, legal guardians, or other persons having lawful control of the person under an order of a court reside within the Cabot School District and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the Cabot School District for educational purposes.

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parents or guardians for school attendance purpose.

In order for a person under the age of eighteen (18) years to establish a residence for the purpose of attending the District’s schools separate and apart from his or her parents, guardians, or other persons having lawful control of him or her under an order of a court, the person must actually reside in the District for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance. However, a student previously enrolled in the district who is placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty may continue to attend district schools.

Under instances prescribed in A.C.A. §6-18-203, a child or ward of an employee of the district or of the education coop to which the district belongs may enroll in the district even though the employee and his/her child or ward reside outside the district.