



OPEN ENROLLMENT IN MISSOURI

The Policy



Open-enrollment policies allow families to choose their public school either within their home school district (intradistrict choice) or in a different district (interdistrict choice).

The Facts



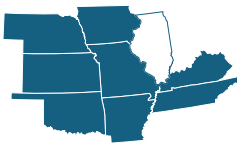
75 percent of parents support open-enrollment policies.



Nationwide, the percentage of students attending their assigned public school has been declining since the early 1990s, while the percentage of students attending a chosen public school has steadily increased.



Since 1989, 43 states have passed open-enrollment policies, and in 25 of those, districts are required to participate by accepting students who want to transfer in.



Of the eight states that neighbor Missouri, only Illinois does not offer open enrollment to families.

Good Open Enrollment Policy Checklist



Mandatory Cross-district Open Enrollment
Mandatory Within-district Open Enrollment
Thorough Reporting on Program Participation by DESE
Transparent Reporting by Participating Districts on Available Seats
No Transfer Tuition

Open Enrollment Benefits Rural Students, Too

Minnesota has maintained open enrollment for **30+ years**, and 15% of rural students participate—the highest rate of all community types.

Students in some of our lowest-performing rural schools could benefit from open enrollment by moving to better-performing schools nearby.



Over half of Missouri's high school students would have to travel less than 20 miles to attend school in another district.



Talk to a Policy Expert

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