

**STUDENT RESIDENCY****Residents**

Only children including those aged 18 or older who reside in Portsmouth, residency being as defined by the Rhode Island General Laws, Section 16-64-1, and who are legally under the control of the adults with whom they reside shall be allowed to attend the Portsmouth Public Schools.

**Former Residents**

Parents or guardians who will be leaving Portsmouth prior to the end of the school year may request, in writing, permission to allow their children to attend Portsmouth schools in accordance with the provisions of R.I. General Law 16-64-8. When a student changes his or her residence during the course of a semester, the student shall be allowed to complete the semester in Portsmouth. If the student is a senior or about to enter his or her senior year, the student shall be allowed to complete his or her senior year in Portsmouth as long as the student has sufficient credits which will enable him/her to graduate upon completion of one additional year. The School Committee will consider 'about to enter his/her senior year' to mean a student who has completed the third academic quarter of his/her junior year.

**Future Residents**

Parents or guardians who will be moving to Portsmouth soon after the school year begins may request, in writing, permission to allow their children to attend Portsmouth schools. Said request must include any Purchase and Sale Agreement or Lease Agreement for the intended place of residence and a projected date of occupancy for the residence. Parents will be required to pay tuition beginning on the first day and must make, at a minimum, payment for the quarter. If the parents take up residency in the community within forty-five (45) school days from the start of school, the tuition will be refunded in full. If residency takes place after the 45th school day, tuition will then be charged on a per diem rate for all days attended as a non-resident.

**Non-Residents**

Parents of non-resident children may request in writing, from the Superintendent of Schools, permission for a child or children to attend Portsmouth Public Schools at a tuition rate established by the School Committee.

Requests to attend Portsmouth Schools on a tuition basis will only be granted when space is available, the attendance of another student will not compromise the educational program, and the educational and physical needs of the child in question can be met, as determined by the Portsmouth School District. Requests, for both new and continuing tuition students, will be reviewed annually with respect to these criteria.

**STUDENT RESIDENCY** (cont.)

Tuition will be established each year, using district costs, as established by state and/or other data, as well as any other information or criteria that the School Committee deems appropriate. The School Committee will approve these rates on an annual basis.

In the cases of students with special needs, including but not limited to special learning needs, physical or emotional needs, or other needs which require extraordinary services, whether required by an IEP or similar plan or otherwise, tuition will include reimbursement for the costs of those services as determined through the application of state-level and district data pertaining to the costs thereof or, when available, the actual costs of such services. In addition, the costs of special personnel necessary to implement the services – e.g., teacher assistants or personal nursing aides – or other services or equipment needed to serve the student, shall be assessed.

**Guidelines**

The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement administrative procedures for determining the residency of students attempting to enroll in the Portsmouth Schools and for verifying the residency of students already enrolled, where circumstances suggest the student may be a resident of another school district.

## Reference:

R.I. General Laws, Section 16-64-1

R.I. General Law 16-64-8