

TOMBALL ISD LIMITED OPEN ENROLLMENT

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Limited Open Enrollment?

Limited Open Enrollment is a program that allows children who do not live within Tomball ISD's boundaries to apply for enrollment in Tomball ISD.

2. What grade levels are eligible for Limited Open Enrollment?

- Grades K-8
- Grade 9 only for Tomball Star Academy, located at 30330 Quinn Road, Tomball, TX 77375

3. Which schools can students attend?

<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Jr. High</u>
Creekview	Tomball	Creekside Park
Decker Prairie		Tomball
Rosehill		
Timber Creek		
Tomball		

4. How does Limited Open Enrollment work?

The District will establish an enrollment period during which a limited number of applications will be accepted. Parents of a child living outside the Tomball ISD attendance boundaries must complete an online application form and submit it to the District. Once an application is received, an interview will be scheduled with the parents of the applicant. Parents must provide attendance and discipline records for their student from the current school year and prior school year, as well as any records relating to special programs for which the student qualifies. After the interview, an Application Review Panel of administrators will determine whether the student's application will be approved.

5. Is there a tuition charge for non-resident students?

No. Students who are accepted through the Limited Open Enrollment program will attend school in Tomball ISD at no charge. However, there is a nonrefundable application fee of \$50. Also, electives and lab courses often require class fees, which are required of any student enrolled in the course, regardless of residency.

6. Where can I get an enrollment application form?

The Limited Open Enrollment form is available during the open enrollment period on the District's website (www.tomballisd.net) under "Quick Links." Once the application is submitted electronically, applicants must print out the confirmation page. The Administrative Services department will contact the applicant to schedule an interview and discuss documents needed for the process. For questions regarding required documents please contact:

Rebecca Devlin
310 South Cherry Street
Tomball, TX 77375
281-357-3100, ext. 2079

7. If my child's application is accepted, can I choose which school he/she will attend?

The application form allows the parent to list choices of schools (in order of preference) for the student to attend. However, the District will only allow non-resident students to enroll in schools where there is available space and staff capacity. All grade levels are not available at every school.

8. Will District transportation be provided for my child?

No. Parents of children who enroll through the Limited Open Enrollment program are responsible for transporting their children to and from school in Tomball ISD.

9. Once a student is allowed into the District through Limited Open Enrollment, how long can he or she stay?

Limited Open Enrollment applications must be renewed every year; however, it is the goal of Tomball ISD that all Limited Open Enrollment students in good standing will remain in the district through high school and receive a Tomball ISD diploma.

10. Are siblings of a student accepted into the District through Limited Open Enrollment automatically considered for enrollment?

No. Siblings must apply and will be held to the same criteria for enrollment as the first student.

11. What if a student who enrolls through Limited Open Enrollment repeatedly violates District rules, policies, or procedures?

Board Policy FDA (LOCAL) states that students who transfer into the District may jeopardize their enrollment status if they do not follow all rules and regulations of the District. Failure to do so could result in a transfer request not being approved the following year.

12. My child is at a low-performing campus in another district. May we apply for Limited Open Enrollment?

You may apply for Limited Open Enrollment; however, the district does not accept PEG, AYP or other charter school applications.

13. Why is the District allowing students from outside the District to attend school free of charge?

- Even though the parents of students who enroll through this program pay no Tomball ISD taxes, Limited Open Enrollment means more funds for our District. The “Robin Hood” school funding system is designed to only fund a certain amount per pupil regardless of the local taxes paid to Tomball ISD. Because of this, the “Robin Hood” school funding system requires the District to send millions of Tomball ISD tax dollars to the State each year to fund other educational needs as determined by the State Legislature.
- Limited Open Enrollment will bring in more students, and for each additional student enrolled in our schools, we are able to keep \$6,263 per pupil that we would otherwise have to send away. Thus, if 200 students enroll through this program, the District would be allowed to keep an additional \$1.25 million in local tax dollars.
- The program is a win-win situation because students who enroll through Limited Open Enrollment are able to benefit from Tomball ISD’s excellent facilities, exemplary instructional program, and dedicated teaching and support staff. The additional funding and decreased “Robin Hood” recapture helps us keep local dollars in Tomball ISD to continue to provide a high level of education within our community.

14. Will allowing non-resident students from outside Tomball ISD cause my taxes to increase?

No.

15. Doesn't the District have to add more teachers if more students are enrolled?

In most cases, the answer is "no," because student space is available in some grades and classes. However, in some cases, it is beneficial for Tomball ISD to maximize building capacities by adding a teacher without negatively impacting the District's financial planning.

16. How many non-resident students will be accepted?

The District will accept as many non-resident students as space will allow with consideration and priority given to space for future District residents.

If you have further questions, please contact the Tomball ISD Administrative Services Department at 281-357-3100, ext. 2010.