



## OUT-OF-DISTRICT ATTENDANCE

### OVERVIEW

[HB 203](#) generally revised education laws to enhance educational opportunities. This amended the title of [20-5-320](#), MCA, to be: *Out-of-district attendance by parent or guardian request with no extenuating circumstances*. In addition, this provides limited circumstances under which an out-of-district attendance application may be denied, as well as requiring the resident district to pay for resident children who attend out of district. Section [20-5-324](#), MCA requires the following to be reported to the Education Interim Committee:

*(8) In accordance with [5-11-210](#), the superintendent of public instruction shall report annually to the education interim committee on out-of-district attendance under [20-5-320](#) through [20-5-324](#) in the prior school fiscal year. The report must include the following for each school district:*

- (a) the total enrollment of the district;*
- (b) the number of nonresident students served by the district under out-of-district attendance agreements; and*
- (c) the number of resident students served by other school districts under out-of-district attendance agreements.*

### ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS

As of 8/23/2024, approximately 805 attendance agreements “contracts” have been collected.

### IMPLEMENTATION

The OPI has updated the [Student Attendance Agreement Form, FP-14](#), to align to this new legislation. A [tuition guidance document](#) and [frequently asked question document](#) are also available on OPI’s website.

### DATA COLLECTION PLAN

The initial data collection has been planned for and will be available for Education Interim Committee review in September 2025. The following overview plan has been put in place:

- Feb – April 2024 – Collection of Attendance Agreements. Collection timeline is set by school district policy.

- May 2024 – End of School Year by June 30, 2025 - Districts must enter the Attendance Agreements into Infinite Campus for the 2024-2025 school year, after the agreement is accepted and the student has been enrolled.

Throughout the 2024-2025 School Year: Student attendance data is collected in Infinite Campus

- Districts make an initial import of attendance/enrollment information into MAEFAIRS tuition module.
- Throughout the year the attendance/enrollment of the students will be updated in the Infinite Campus system and the MAEFAIRS tuition module will be synchronized with these updates.

**June 2025** - Districts must have tuition agreements entered to MAEFAIRS by June 30, 2025.

- District enrollment is finalized and certified in Infinite Campus.

**Sept 2025** - A final report will be generated and will provide the following information:

- (a) The total enrollment of the district;
- (b) The number of nonresident students served by the district under out-of-district attendance agreements; and
- (c) The number of resident students served by other school districts under out-of-district attendance agreements.

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