



Access to Services for Residents With Uncertain or No Immigration Status

Burnaby Board of Education Practice and Procedures

The District endeavours to do everything it can to allow all students to receive a publicly funded education while recognizing constraints established within Ministry of Education funding policies and other regulatory frameworks.

Q. How do students who are new to Canada register within the Burnaby School District?

A. Students who are eligible for publicly funded education register at their attendance area school. For complete details, please see the district website, [_____](#)

Q. How is a child's eligibility for a publicly funded education determined?

A. Eligibility for a publicly funded education is based on the parent/ legal guardian and school-aged child maintaining ordinary residence in BC, even when the child is born in Canada (see MOE policy: [_____](#)

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Q. What if a parent does not have the necessary documents to demonstrate ordinarily resident status?

A. Parents/ legal guardians will be asked to provide evidence to substantiate that they have maintained ordinarily resident status in BC. For a list of documents see the district website, [_____](#). Parents/ legal guardians who do not have the necessary documents to demonstrate that they are ordinarily resident are referred to district staff. For parent/ legal guardians who do not have the proper immigration documents, determination of eligibility for a publicly funded education will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, with care and sensitivity.

Q. What if a parent/ legal guardian is concerned about their immigration status being referred to the federal immigration authorities for some reason?

A. Confidentiality of personal information is important and parents/ legal guardians need not be afraid to come to the Burnaby School District. While the school district recognizes the federal government's legal jurisdiction over immigration matters, it is not the role of the school district to share immigration status information with external federal agencies unless legally ordered to do so.

Q. What if a student does not qualify for a publicly funded education?

A. Students who do not qualify for a publicly funded education through either residency, or work or study permit eligibility, are referred to the fee paying International Education Program. District staff and Settlement Workers in Schools may also inform parents/ legal guardians about other community, religious or independent