Proposed New policy

SECTION 43 – SCHOLAR POLICY –RESIDENCY POLICY

The executive summary provides an overview of California law and the residency requirements for enrollment in an independent study charter school, specifically Compass Charter Schools (CCS). Here are the key points:

1. Residency Requirements: California law mandates that a scholar enrolled in an independent study charter school must be a California resident and reside in the county where the apportionment claim is reported or in an adjacent county.
2. Definition of Residence: Residence is defined as a factual place of abode with some permanency, indicating more than a temporary stay. Owning a home in California or a specific county does not automatically qualify a scholar for enrollment unless they also reside in the home for at least three days per week during the school year.
3. Proof of Residency: CCS requires scholars to provide two current proof of residency documents before being unconditionally enrolled. Any change of address must be promptly communicated to the school within five business days through the Change of Contact Information Form available on the CCS website.
4. Housing Questionnaire: Each academic year, scholars are required to submit a Housing Questionnaire to verify residency. If the address provided does not match the household record, parents or guardians must submit two new proof of residence documents to the Records Department within five business days.
5. Extended Vacation Policy: A scholar going on an extended vacation of up to four months (cumulative or consecutive) in one school year will not lose California residency. Parents, guardians, or caregivers must submit an Extended Vacation Form, available on the CCS website, prior to the absence.
6. Residency Investigation: If there are doubts about a scholar's residency, CCS may conduct an investigation to authenticate the home address on file. If it is determined that a scholar lives outside the served county, CCS will provide a written notice of involuntary withdrawal due to non-residency within five days.
7. Residency Hearing: The notice of non-residency must include an explanation of the parent/guardian/education rights holder's right to request a hearing within five days. The hearing allows the scholar to present testimony, evidence, and witnesses, cross-examine adverse witnesses, and be represented by legal counsel or an advocate. If a hearing is not requested, the scholar will be disenrolled.
8. Exceptions: CCS will continue to serve certain categories of scholars who lose residency due to their specific status:
* Children of Military Families: CCS will allow scholars to continue their education regardless of changes in the military family's residence during the school year or due to the end of military service. High school scholars can continue until graduation.
* Homeless Youth: CCS will be considered the school of origin for homeless youth and allow them to continue their education for the duration of homelessness. If no longer homeless, high school scholars can continue until graduation.
* Foster Youth: CCS will be considered the school of origin for foster youth and allow them to continue their education for the duration of the court's jurisdiction. If jurisdiction is terminated, high school scholars can continue until graduation.
* Migratory Youth: CCS will be considered the school of origin for migratory youth and allow them to continue their education through the academic school year or until graduation if enrolled in high school.

The definitions and criteria for these exceptions are outlined in the summary.

It is important for parents, guardians, or caregivers to familiarize themselves with the residency requirements and promptly communicate any changes or potential exceptions to ensure compliance and continuity of enrollment in CCS.