

Edgewater School District

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Siobhan Tauchert
Chief School Administrator
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July 15, 2021

NOTICE OF RE-REGISTRATION

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As you may be aware, under New Jersey law, the Edgewater Board of Education (“the Board”) is required to provide free public school education to all those children between the ages of five and twenty, who are either domiciled in the Edgewater Public School District (“the District”), who are kept in the home of an Edgewater resident *gratis*, as if the child were the Edgewater resident’s child, due to an economic or family hardship, or who meet certain other legal requirements.

In the past, community members have expressed concerns that there may be a number of students attending school in the District who are not legally eligible to receive a tuition-free education. **In an effort to ensure the appropriate use of available resources, on July 8, 2021, the Board authorized me to verify student enrollment in the District.** The Board wishes to remain vigilant in enforcing the residency requirements, and by requiring the parents and guardians of students to confirm their eligibility to attend school in the District, the Board is acting aggressively to provide services only to those children legally entitled to receive them.

Any student of the Edgewater School District that is an incoming first, second, fourth, fifth, sixth, and eighth through twelfth grades will need to re-register. If you are a sibling of a child that registered or re-registered from January 2021 through today, you do not need to re-register your family. For example, if you registered your incoming seventh-grade student this spring and that child has siblings in grades first and ninth, you do not need to re-register those siblings.

Re-registration will occur on July 27th and 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., August 4th and 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and August 5th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **All re-registration will take place at George Washington School.** Please come to the main entrance.

In order to verify a pupil’s enrollment status, the Board is requiring all parents or guardians to fill out a registration form. These forms, and instructions on how to complete the same, can be

retrieved from the District's website, located [here](#). Here you will find registration forms and affidavits. Affidavits will be on the website by July 19th. We wanted to get this information out to the community as soon as possible so everyone can begin to get their information in order.

To ensure that this process is completed in a smooth and efficient manner, the District hereby requests that you undertake the steps outlined below in accordance with your student's status in the Edgewater Public School System. Assuming that the forms are properly completed and the proofs are proper, re-registrants will receive notification that their children have been successfully re-registered for the current school year.

Standard Enrollment Process (for all resident children)

To register a student under this process, a parent or guardian must provide the following for each student:

1. A signed and completed Registration Form
2. Proof of domicile in Edgewater, including a copy of a Deed, Contract of Sale or Lease Instrument, or, if there is no written lease, a signed and notarized Affidavit from your landlord ([Residency Affidavit 1](#)), and three other forms of proof, which *may* include the following:
 - a. Driver's license, automobile registration, and/or automobile insurance card;
 - b. Rent or mortgage receipts;
 - c. Current utility bill (electric, water, home telephone, cable);
 - d. Property tax bills;
 - e. Bank statement or other financial account information;
 - f. Homestead tax rebate receipt;
 - g. Public assistance documents;
 - h. Voter registration cards;
 - i. Delivery receipts; or
 - j. Other evidence of personal attachment to a particular location.

"Affidavit" Students

To register a student who is not living with his or her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) due to a family or economic hardship that prevents the parent or guardian from caring for or supporting the child, the person registering the child must provide the following for each student:

1. A signed and completed Registration Form
2. A signed and notarized Affidavit from the parent or legal guardian ([Residency Affidavit 2a](#)) indicating that he or she is not capable of supporting the child due to a family or economic hardship, along with documentary proof of such family or economic hardship. Proofs may include, but are not limited to, medical reports, counselor or social worker assessments, employment documents, benefit statements, and/or other evidence of circumstances demonstrating a family or economic hardship;
3. A signed and notarized Affidavit from the Edgewater resident housing the child ([Residency Affidavit 2b](#)) indicating that he or she is supporting the child gratis due to an economic or family hardship of the child's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and that the student is not living with the resident solely for the purpose of receiving free public education in the District;
4. The Edgewater resident must also provide proof of domicile in Edgewater, a copy of a Deed, Contract of Sale or Lease Instrument, a fully executed Affidavit from the resident's landlord ([Residency Affidavit 1](#)), and three other forms of proof, which *may* include the following:
 - a. Driver's license, automobile registration, and/or automobile insurance card;
 - b. Rent or mortgage receipts;
 - c. Current utility bill (electric, water, home telephone, cable);
 - d. Property tax bills;
 - e. Bank statement or other financial account information;
 - f. Homestead tax rebate receipt;
 - g. Public assistance documents;
 - h. Voter registration cards;
 - i. Delivery receipts; or
 - j. Other evidence of personal attachment to a particular location.

Please note that the Board will continue to review all affidavit submissions on a yearly basis.

Temporary Residents

To register a student whose family is *temporarily residing* in Edgewater, a parent or guardian must provide the following for each student:

1. A signed and completed Registration Form
2. Documentation demonstrating temporary residency in Edgewater and the basis for such residency, including, but not limited to, medical reports, counselor or social worker assessments, employment documents, benefit statements, and/or other evidence of circumstances demonstrating temporary residency;
3. A signed and notarized Affidavit from the Edgewater resident temporarily housing the family ([Residency Affidavit 3a](#)) as well as an Affidavit from the temporary residents ([Residency Affidavit 3b](#));
4. The Edgewater resident must also provide proof of domicile in Edgewater, including a copy of a Deed, Contract of Sale or Lease Instrument, a fully executed Affidavit from the resident's landlord ([Residency Affidavit 1](#)), and three other forms of proof, which *may* include the following:
 - a. Driver's license, automobile registration, and/or automobile insurance card;
 - b. Rent or mortgage receipts;
 - c. Current utility bill (electric, water, home telephone, cable);
 - d. Property tax bills;
 - e. Bank statement or other financial account information;
 - f. Homestead tax rebate receipt;
 - g. Public assistance documents;
 - h. Voter registration cards;
 - i. Delivery receipts; or
 - j. Other evidence of personal attachment to a particular location.

Again, *please note* that the Board will continue to review *all* submissions for temporary residency on a *yearly basis*.

Illegal Enrollments

Failure to complete the re-registration process will result in a determination that the pupil(s) are ineligible to attend school in the District on a tuition-free basis, and will lead to my application to the Board to have that pupil removed from the school. Tuition payments will be pursued for any period of illegal enrollment.

The Board thanks you in advance for your cooperation in seeing to it that all of our available resources are dedicated to the educational welfare of our students. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact my office at 201-945-4106 x2200.

Sincerely,

Siobhan Tauchert
Superintendent of Schools