

# BOUNDARY EXCEPTION OR OPEN ENROLLMENT

WHICH ONE APPLIES TO ME?  
WHEN DO I APPLY?



The difference between a boundary exception and open enrollment is that **boundary exceptions are for** students in grades KG-5 who reside in the Wisconsin Rapids Public School District, but wish to attend a different WRPS school outside of their normal attendance boundary area (*for example, you reside in the Howe Elementary attendance area, but wish to have your children go to Mead Elementary*).

**Open enrollment is the process** to use when your child (grades 4K-12) resides in one school district, but you would like your child to attend school in a different district (*for example, you live in Stevens Point, but would like your children to attend school in Wisconsin Rapids*).

Both the boundary exception and open enrollment processes have very specific guidelines to follow in order to apply. Procedures for both are explained on the WRPS website under the “[Parents](#)” tab found at the top of our homepage (<http://www.wrps.org/>). Boundary exceptions use a **paper form** process, while open enrollment uses an **on-line process** hosted through the Department of Public Instruction website.

It is crucial for families who wish to have their children attend a school, other than the one they would normally attend within their attendance boundary area, to choose the correct process (boundary exception vs. open enrollment) and **meet the required deadline** to apply.

The timeframe to apply for **boundary exceptions** for 2020-21 is **February 3-28, 2020**.

The timeframe to apply for **open enrollment** is **February 3, 2020 through April 30, 2020**.

If you have any questions, here is how you can obtain more information:

- ☞ check out the WRPS webpage at [www.wrps.org](http://www.wrps.org) (hover over the “[Parents](#)” tab at the top of the page for a drop-down menu)
- 📞 contact your building office
- 📞 call Jean Westover at 715-424-6715, ext. 2, for questions related to the **open enrollment process** (email: [jean.westover@wrps.net](mailto:jean.westover@wrps.net))
- 📞 call Missy Bouchard at 715-424-6713, for questions related to the **boundary exception process** (email: [melissa.bouchard@wrps.net](mailto:melissa.bouchard@wrps.net))

