

REFERENCE TITLE: exchange programs; student count.

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

SB 1557

Introduced by
Senator Bennett

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-823, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO SCHOOL
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-823, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-823. Admission; residents of other school districts;
5 nonresidents of this state; tuition

6 A. Except as provided in subsections B, C, D, E, F, G and H of this
7 section, children of nonresidents of this state may be admitted on payment
8 of a reasonable tuition fixed by the governing board.

9 B. The governing board shall admit children of nonresident teaching
10 and research faculty of community college districts and state universities
11 and children of nonresident graduate or undergraduate students of
12 community college districts and state universities whose parent's presence
13 at the district or university is of international, national, state or
14 local benefit without payment of tuition.

15 C. The governing board shall admit children who are residents of
16 the United States but who are nonresidents of this state without payment
17 of tuition if evidence indicates that the child's physical, mental, moral
18 or emotional health is best served by placement with a grandparent,
19 brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, aunt or uncle who is a resident
20 within the school district, unless the governing board determines that the
21 placement is solely for the purpose of obtaining an education in this
22 state without payment of tuition.

23 D. The governing board may admit nonresident foreign students who
24 are in exchange programs without payment of tuition or as it may otherwise
25 prescribe.

26 E. Notwithstanding subsection D of this section, beginning in the
27 ~~2016-2017~~ 2024-2025 school year the governing board may admit ~~the same~~
28 ~~number of~~ nonresident foreign students who are in exchange programs and
29 who are recipients of a J-1 visa pursuant to federal law, ~~that is equal to~~
30 ~~the number of resident students enrolled in that local education agency~~
31 ~~who are currently participating in a foreign exchange program, as~~
32 ~~determined by the department,~~ without the payment of tuition.
33 NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 15-901, A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR A CHARTER SCHOOL MAY
34 INCLUDE STUDENTS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION IN THE DISTRICT'S OR CHARTER
35 SCHOOL'S STUDENT COUNT AND MAY OBTAIN STATE FUNDING FOR THESE STUDENTS.

36 F. The governing board may admit children who are residents of the
37 United States without payment of tuition if evidence indicates that
38 because the parents are homeless or the child is abandoned, as defined in
39 section 8-201, the child's physical, mental, moral or emotional health is
40 best served by placement with a person who does not have legal custody of
41 the child and who is a resident within the school district, unless the
42 governing board determines that the placement is solely for the purpose of
43 obtaining an education in this state without payment of tuition.

1 G. The governing board may admit children who are residents of the
2 United States, but who are nonresidents of this state, without payment of
3 tuition if all of the following conditions exist:

4 1. The child is a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

5 2. The child resides on Indian lands that are under the
6 jurisdiction of the tribe of which the child is a member.

7 3. The area in the boundaries of the reservation where the child
8 resides is located both in this state and in another state of the United
9 States.

10 4. The governing board enters into an intergovernmental agreement
11 with the governing board of the school district in another state in which
12 the nonresident child resides. The intergovernmental agreement shall
13 specify the number of nonresident children admitted in this state and the
14 number of resident children that are admitted by the governing board in
15 another state.

16 H. The governing board may admit children who are residents of the
17 United States, but who are nonresidents of this state, without payment of
18 tuition if all of the following conditions exist:

19 1. The child is enrolled in a year-round residential boarding
20 academy located in this state specializing in intensive instruction and
21 skill development in sports, music or acting.

22 2. The child's parents have executed a current notarized
23 guardianship agreement covering the child while enrolled at the academy,
24 which is a condition of enrollment at the academy and authorizes academy
25 representatives to act on behalf of the child's parent or legal guardian
26 in making all decisions on a daily basis as to the child's activities and
27 needs for medical, educational and other personal issues.

28 I. The governing board shall charge reasonable tuition for the
29 number of nonresident pupils who reside in another state and who are
30 admitted by a governing board in this state pursuant to subsection G of
31 this section that exceeds the number of resident pupils from this state
32 who are admitted into a school district by the other state.

33 J. The governing board of a school district shall pay reasonable
34 tuition for the number of resident pupils who reside in that school
35 district and who are admitted by a school district in another state
36 pursuant to subsection G of this section that exceeds the number of
37 nonresident pupils from that other state who are admitted by the governing
38 board into that school district in this state.

39 K. Children admitted under this section shall be counted or not
40 counted as resident pupils as prescribed in section 15-824, subsection D.

41 L. Except as provided in subsections E, H and K of this section, a
42 school district or a charter school shall not include pupils who are not
43 residents of this state in the district's or charter school's student
44 count and shall not obtain state funding for those pupils.