

**Marion County School System  
RESIDENCY FAQ'S**

**What is residency fraud?**

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are committing residency fraud if they submit an address that is not their true residence in the affidavit and enrollment process or in other documents submitted to the District.

Examples:

- Using the address of a relative, friend or another person to represent that the parent resides at that address
- Falsifying or creating fictitious documents
- Improperly using a guardianship

**Other Reasons to Verify an Address**

A request for Verification of Student Residency may also be initiated when District staff members have reason to believe that the residence information provided at enrollment was inaccurate or is no longer accurate. Such information may include:

- school mail returned by the Post Office;
- reports by school bus drivers of a change in student residence;
- information provided by citizens or other students that a student's residence has changed;
- information that a student who is dropped off by a parent is repeatedly late for school;
- information that a student is repeatedly picked up late from school;
- student reports to school staff that their residency has changed;
- information provided by landlords;
- multiple unrelated students using the same residence address;
- information that vehicle registration is not accurate for county of residence; or
- other information that tends to suggest that a student's residence may not be the same as that contained on school records.

**What happens if the District investigates and I am caught using a false address?**

The student will be withdrawn from school and must enroll in the district of residency. The parent must reimburse the District for tuition for the time period the student was enrolled and investigative costs. The District may also pursue civil or criminal action against anyone making false claims.

**Are parents to provide proof of residency each year?**

Yes, parents, legal guardians are required to provide proof of residency each year along with an affidavit. By signing the affidavit, the parent verifies under oath that the information he/she is submitting is true and accurate.

**What happens if:**

**I own rental property and pay taxes in Marion County. Is my child allowed to attend school in Marion County?**

No. This is not your primary residence.

**I own a business in Marion County. Is my child allowed to attend school in Marion County?**

No. This is not your primary residence.

**My wife and I are divorced. My child lives with his/her mother. Can my child attend school in Marion County where I live?**

No. The child must attend school in the zone of the primary residence of his custodial parent.

**My wife and I are divorced. We have joint custody of our child. Can my child attend school in Marion County where I live?**

It depends. The child must attend school in the zone of the residence where he lives 91+ school nights during the year. It is recommended that parents maintain a calendar to document the number of school nights the child spends with each parent.