

POLICY FAMILY	Services for Students	600
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Policy 623: Preferred Vocational Technical School

Adopted 12/04/24

Because the Town of Shrewsbury is not a member of a regional vocational technical high school district, students who reside in the Town of Shrewsbury who wish to be enrolled in a state-approved vocational technical high school must apply as “non-resident students,” and if accepted the School Department must pay the tuition and transportation costs for the student to attend, provided that the student submits a non-resident tuition student application by the state’s deadline of April 1 of the prior year. Per guidance issued by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regarding Massachusetts General Law Chapter 74 and state regulations 603 CMR 4.00 related to vocational technical education programs, the School Committee may vote to designate one or more vocational technical high schools as a school of preference for Shrewsbury resident students who wish to apply for admission to a state-approved Chapter 74 vocational technical high school program.

By designating a school of preference, the School Committee directs Shrewsbury resident students to apply to the preferred school(s) before applying to any other vocational technical high school. While a student residing in Shrewsbury may apply to any vocational technical high school which accepts applications from non-resident students, if a student does not apply to a preferred school, the Superintendent may disapprove the application for non-resident tuition to attend a school other than the preferred school. When making such a determination, the Superintendent will weigh the reasons for the student’s preference against the district’s designation of a preferred school. This will include consideration what Chapter 74 vocational technical programs are available at the preferred school and the other school(s) to which the student is applying, the student’s reason for seeking admission to the non-preferred school(s), the financial impact of attending and being transported to the non-preferred school(s) instead of the preferred school, and any other relevant factors.

This policy and information regarding any vocational technical high school that has been designated by the School Committee as a school of preference will be provided to families of students attending Oak Middle School and Shrewsbury High School each year in the student handbook or other means of communication.

This policy will be reviewed within three years of its adoption.