

— KNOW YOUR RIGHTS —

Involuntary Transfers

What is an involuntary transfer?

An involuntary transfer is when a school district transfers a student to an alternative school against the wishes of their parent or guardian.

What is an alternative school?

Alternative schools include county community schools, community day schools, and continuation schools. These schools may help some students, but they often do not provide the same educational or extra-curricular opportunities as traditional schools.

What is a county community school?

A county community school is a program run by the county office of education for students who are expelled, who have behavior problems, or who are referred by the School Attendance Review Board.

What is a community day school?

A community day school is a program focused on “at risk” students who are more likely to drop out. Often, class sizes are smaller so teachers can work with each student.

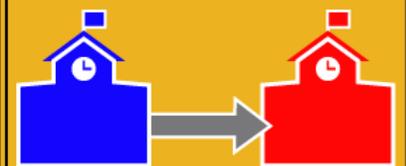
What is a continuation school?

A continuation school offers students flexible ways to get credits needed to graduate. It is specifically meant to help students with truancy issues or those behind in credits.

What is the School Attendance Review Board?

The School Attendance Review Board, or “SARB,” accepts referrals for students who are often absent from or late to class or who are disobedient and disorderly during school.

When SARB gets a referral, it can make recommendations, including parent interventions, transfers to county community schools, or even referrals to juvenile court.



Your Rights in Involuntary Transfers

What are your rights in involuntary transfers to county community schools?

A student **may not** be involuntarily transferred to a county community school:

- Just because they are homeless or in foster care
- If the school cannot meet educational needs
- If there are safety concerns
- If the school does not have enough space
- If the school is too hard to get to

If you are transferred because of a SARB referral, you must be allowed to return to a traditional school at the end of the transfer period.

What are your rights in involuntary transfers to community day schools?

A student may only be involuntarily transferred to a community day school if they are expelled, on probation from a court, referred by SARB, or referred through a district-level referral process.

You **do not** have a right to appeal a transfer to a community day school, but you **can** appeal an expulsion that led to the transfer.

What are your rights in involuntary transfers to continuation schools?

A student may only be involuntarily transferred to a continuation school if they commit a suspendable or expellable offense or they have attendance problems.

- The district must have tried other strategies to change behavior before the transfer, unless the student's behavior is dangerous or highly disruptive.
- The transfer to a continuation school can only last for the semester in which the offense occurred or one semester after.

You have the right to:

- Request a district meeting before the transfer to share your side of the story.
- Have no one from your school be involved in the district's final transfer decision.
- Receive written notice of the district's final transfer decision.
- Return to a traditional school the next year with the district superintendent's permission.