

**Jackson County School System (JCSS)
Procedures for Senate Bill 10 (SB-10)
Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program**

Senate Bill 10 Georgia Special Needs Scholarship allows parents of students with disabilities who are enrolled in the Jackson County School System and have an active IEP to choose the educational setting – public or private – for their child.

Georgia Special Needs Student Scholarship (GSNS) Eligibility Criteria

The following criteria must be met for the student to participate in the SB-10 Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program:

- The student’s parent currently resides within Georgia and has been a Georgia resident for at least one calendar year; and
- The student has spent the prior school year in attendance at a Georgia public school in grades K-12 and was in attendance on both the October and March FTE counts; and
- The student was served under an IEP written by the public school in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations during the previous school year.

Private School Choice

JCSS students with disabilities that had an active Individualized Education Plan (IEP) during the prior school year will be allowed to apply for a transfer to an eligible private school. If the parent chooses to transfer their child to a private school, the parent is responsible for transportation.

More information about the Private School Choice and the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program is available at

<http://public.doe.k12.ga.us/External-Affairs-and-Policy/Policy/Pages/Special-Needs-Scholarship-Program-Resources.aspx>

Public School Choice

A parent of a JCSS student with a disability who also had an active IEP during the previous school year may request a transfer to another school within the Jackson County School district. The parent requesting the transfer must contact the Special Education Office of the Jackson County School System and request a Transfer Request Form application.

The application deadline is July 01 for all special education students currently enrolled in a Jackson County School. If at that time, a student is denied a transfer because of lack of space, they may reapply for second semester. The second semester deadline is December 01.

The Transfer Request Form application must be completed and turned in to the Special Education Director. The decision to grant the transfer will be made based on availability of space and availability of appropriate programs.

If a decision is made to approve the transfer, the student is guaranteed a seat at the receiving school until they complete the grades at that school or graduate, while the parent is legally responsible for transportation to the new school.

A parent of a JCSS student with a disability who also had an active IEP during the previous school year may request a transfer to a school in another school system or, where applicable, one of the three State Schools for the Deaf and Blind if there is available space and the system has a program with the services agreed to in the student’s existing IEP. The school system considering a transfer request has the authority to approve or deny a public school transfer request. If the parent chooses this option and the school system accepts the child, then the parent shall be responsible for transportation.

Jackson County School System Special Education Director: Elaine Gunter
Georgia Department of Education: <http://public.doe.k12.ga.us>