



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Office of Strategic Planning and Partnerships
Policy 2026-3

TO: All Interdistrict Magnet Schools (IMS), Public Charter School Operators, Open Choice (OC) Participating Districts, Sheff Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), and Agricultural Science and Technology Education Programs (ASTE)

FROM: Keith M. Norton, Chief Strategic Planning Officer
Office of Strategic Planning and Partnerships

DATE: March 11, 2026

SUBJECT: Single School and Dual Enrollment Policy for Interdistrict Magnet Schools (IMS), Public Charter Schools, Open Choice (OC) Programs, Sheff Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) Schools, and Agricultural Science and Technology Education Programs (ASTE)

The CSDE has adopted the single school enrollment policy and a dual enrollment policy for enrollment in choice programs described in this policy document. These policies are designed to support equitable enrollment and reasoned fiscal considerations in choice opportunities.

Single School Enrollment Policy

IMS, Public Charter Schools, OC Programs, Sheff CTECS, ASTE:

As a general policy, the CSDE prohibits the practice of concurrently enrolling a student in a full-time IMS, public charter school, CTECS, ASTE school, or a school as part of the OC program.

If a student is enrolled concurrently in violation of this single school enrollment policy, the CSDE will exclude the “dually enrolled” student’s State Assigned Student ID (SASIDs) from both operator’s grant payment calculations and make appropriate adjustments for every school year the student is “dually enrolled.”

Dual Enrollment Policy

Part-time IMS and OC Program or ASTE School:

The CSDE permits dual enrollment of OC students in a part-time IMS or ASTE school. Operators of a part-time IMS and ASTE school are eligible to receive the applicable state per pupil grants for students who are dually enrolled in both programs. The CSDE Performance

Office will work with the Office of Strategic Planning and Partnerships (OSPP) to verify students that are dually enrolled in an ASTE school, an OC program and a part-time IMS in the Public School Information System (PSIS) October 1 collection to ensure payment.

Full-time IMS and Special Education Facility, Alternative Services and Early College Enrollment

Students Outplaced in a Special Education Facility or Program:

This policy applies to all students, including students who have been enrolled in an IMS and have been outplaced to a special education facility or program for multiple school years, as well as students newly enrolled in an IMS.

Pursuant to C.G.S. § 10-264i, the IMS is responsible for ensuring that special education services are provided to students attending an IMS on a full-time basis as mandated by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). These services may be provided directly by the IMS or in cooperation with the sending district. If, through the IEP process, a student attending an IMS is outplaced into a special education facility or program outside of the sending district, the IMS may continue to enroll and report the student in PSIS for the duration of the school year. The IMS should withdraw the student if the outplacement in the special education facility continues beyond the current school year. The IMS should also notify the family about the process for reenrollment in the magnet school after completion of the outplacement in the special education facility. Reenrollment in an IMS in the Sheff Region requires the family to apply for placement through the Greater Hartford School Choice Application.

If, through the IEP process, a student attending an IMS is outplaced into a special education facility or program in the sending district, the sending district is educating the student and, therefore, it is inappropriate for the magnet school to charge tuition. The CSDE expects that the IMS will not prorate or charge tuition to the resident district for such students. If the outplacement occurs after tuition has been charged, the tuition should be prorated to reflect the duration of the student's enrollment in the magnet school. Magnet enrollment may continue through the school year in which the outplacement occurred, but the IMS should withdraw the student if the outplacement in the home district continues beyond the current school year. The IMS should also notify the family about the process for reenrollment in the magnet school after completion of the outplacement in the home district. Reenrollment in an IMS in the Sheff Region requires the family to apply for placement through the Greater Hartford School Choice Application.

Expelled Students Receiving Alternative Education Services:

Pursuant to C.G.S. §10-233d(d), when a student is expelled from an IMS, the magnet district must provide an "alternative educational opportunity" for:

- (1) Students under 16 years old who have been expelled for any reason; and

- (2) Students aged 16-18 expelled for the first time who wish to continue their education and comply with the conditions set by the magnet district.

Expelled IMS students that attend an alternative educational program should still be reported by the IMS in PSIS during the duration of the expulsion, even if the student receives academic programming through the sending district. The student may register in the sending district for purposes of the programming, but the IMS may continue to report the student in PSIS.

An expelled student assigned to an alternative educational program should continue to receive transportation services through the IMS's services during the period of the expulsion.

[View the full Guidance Regarding Student Expulsions.](#)

Dual and Concurrent Enrollment Opportunities:

High school students may receive opportunities to take courses for college credit, commonly referred to as dual credit or dual and concurrent enrollment opportunities. This option allows secondary school students to take district approved college level classes in their high school (dual enrollment) or at a college or university (concurrent enrollment) as high school students. In these cases, students should still be reported in PSIS as enrolled at the IMS while attending classes at a college/university.

Operator/District Actions

All IMS, public charter school operators, CTECS, ASTE schools and OC districts must implement and communicate the policies described herein to school leaders and parents/guardians of enrolled students, as well as include information contained in the policies in marketing and recruitment materials (e.g., through school websites, printed publications) to inform future applicants about the applicable requirements to facilitate compliance with the enrollment policies.

CSDE Contact

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KMN:mk

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