

**WAC 392-342-025 Racial imbalance prohibition—Definition and acceptance criteria.** The superintendent of public instruction shall not accept a site unless the applicant district provides assurances that its attendance policies for the proposed or modernized school facility will not create or aggravate racial imbalance within the boundaries of the applicant school district. For the purpose of this chapter, racial imbalance shall be defined as the situation that exists when minority enrollment (as defined by current federal categories) of a school plant facility is as follows:

(1) General rule. As a general rule—except for greater than fifty percent minority school districts—racial imbalance shall be defined as the situation that exists:

(a) When the combined minority enrollment of a school exceeds the district-wide combined minority percentage by twenty percentage points or more; or

(b) When a school's enrollment of a single minority group with a district-wide enrollment of less than thirty percent exceeds fifty percent; or

(c) When a school's enrollment of a single minority group with a district-wide enrollment of thirty percent or more exceeds the minority group's district-wide percentage by twenty percentage points or more.

(2) Greater than fifty percent minority districts. This is a school district with a district-wide combined minority enrollment that exceeds fifty percent. Racial imbalance in a greater than fifty percent minority, nonmultiracial school district shall be defined as existing:

(a) When the combined minority enrollment of a school varies from the district-wide combined minority percentage by more than plus or minus twenty-five percentage points; or

(b) When a school's enrollment of a single minority group with a district-wide enrollment of less than thirty percent exceeds fifty percent; or

(c) When a school's enrollment of a single minority group with a district-wide enrollment of thirty percent or more exceeds the minority group's district-wide percentage by twenty percentage points or more.

(3) Greater than fifty percent minority, multiracial districts. This is a school district with a district-wide combined minority enrollment that exceeds fifty percent and consists of two or more minority group enrollments which are each greater than twenty percent. Racial imbalance in a greater than fifty percent minority, multiracial school district shall be defined as existing:

(a) When the combined minority enrollment of a school varies from the district-wide combined minority percentage by more than plus or minus twenty-five percent percentage points; or

(b) When a school's enrollment of a single minority exceeds the combined district-wide minority percentage.

(4) Exclusions—This policy does not apply to:

(a) Public schools located on American Indian reservations; or

(b) School facilities which are the sole site within a school district for the conduct of a regular or special needs program for students of the age(s) or grade level(s) served at the site; or

(c) Student enrollments in programs established and conducted to address extraordinary educational needs, such as bilingual orientation programs, where the assignment and enrollment of students are based

solely upon their extraordinary educational needs, the enrollment of students in the program is limited to the duration of their extraordinary educational need, and adherence to the policy would defeat the educational purpose of the program.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.525.020. WSR 10-09-008, § 392-342-025, filed 4/8/10, effective 5/9/10; WSR 06-16-032, recodified as § 392-342-025, filed 7/25/06, effective 8/25/06; WSR 94-20-055, § 180-26-025, filed 9/30/94, effective 10/31/94. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.47.830. WSR 84-11-046 (Order 5-84), § 180-26-025, filed 5/17/84; WSR 83-21-065 (Order 10-83), § 180-26-025, filed 10/17/83.]