

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · CROOKSTON

School Enrollment in Crookston: One District, Two Documents, 2026

In the metro settlements the first question was "which district". Here that question does not exist: the city has a single school district, and the district's published document list is two items long.

SHORT ANSWER

Two things make this easier here. First: the city has **a single school district**, Crookston Public Schools (ISD 593), so the address arithmetic of three- and four-district metro settlements does not exist here and you do not have to work out which school by street. Second, and the clearest list in the series: the district's **published new-student document list is two items, the student's immunization records and a birth certificate**, plus an enrollment form and an immunization form. **Nowhere on the published list does a Social Security number appear.** A **parent or legal guardian** completes and signs the forms. On the admission side state statute is equally clear: admission turns on **residence in the district and the child's age**, and the section contains **no immigration-related text**.

The district's own list

ITEM	STATUS
Immunization records	Required
Birth certificate	Required
Enrollment form and immunization form	Signed by a parent or legal guardian
Social Security number	Does not appear on the list

One of those two items is a document you already hold as a newcomer, and the other is easy to obtain in this city: you can get the birth certificate at the Polk County Recorder counter on the same visit, with no trip to the metro. So the enrollment file is a job that can be finished in one day. For other cities in this series we wrote "first find out which district your address falls into"; **here that step does not exist**, and that is a real saving.

OFFICE	DETAILS
School district	Crookston Public Schools (ISD 593), the only public school district in the city
District office	402 Fisher Avenue, Suite 593
Phone	218-281-5313

OFFICE	DETAILS
Birth certificate counter	Polk County Recorder, 612 N Broadway, Room 225, 218-281-3464 , weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Returning students	Online through the Skyward Parent Portal; you can ask the school office for the paper option

- **If you live outside district boundaries** you file a separate open-enrollment form.
- The district runs **a preschool program for four-year-olds**, early childhood family education, **before- and after-school childcare** at the elementary level, and advanced and college-credit course options at the high school. For a household with two working parents, before- and after-school care is a concrete item; **ask about capacity before you move.**
- **Home-schooling families** must file with the district **by October 1** each year, or whenever a school-age child's educational status changes.

The state statute is on your side

- **Admission to a free public school turns on two criteria only:** residence in the district that operates the school, and age. The section contains no immigration-related text.
- **Age thresholds:** for kindergarten, at least five years old on **September 1** of the admission year; for first grade, six on that date or having completed kindergarten.
- **The homeless pupil clause:** a district may not deny free admission merely because it cannot determine that the pupil is a resident. If you have no lease, say so at the enrollment desk.
- **A transferring student may enroll and attend for up to 30 days** while records are submitted, so an incomplete file does not leave your child waiting at the door. Mention that clause when you walk in.
- The age thresholds, the vaccine list and the full text of the exemptions are in [the school section of the state guide](#); this guide does not repeat them.

Immunization and exemptions

- **Immunization is required**, with two exemption routes: a physician's signed statement that the vaccine is **contraindicated for medical reasons** or laboratory confirmation of immunity, **or a notarized statement based on the parent's conscientiously held beliefs**. A copy of the second goes to the state health department.
- **The notarized route does not exist in many states in this series**, so we state it plainly.
- **If a vaccine looks missing the route is not closed:** the statute also addresses cases where **a schedule has been started**, so one appointment can keep things moving.
- Have your immunization record from Türkiye **translated into English before you arrive** and prepare a table showing which vaccine was given on which date; the school nurse will compare it against the state schedule.

LANGUAGE: WE HAVE TO BE HONEST HERE

- **We could not verify which languages the district actually serves or which language supports it offers.** We print no language list, because we did not read one.
- What we do know: among the languages the two large city districts in this state actually list, **Turkish does not appear.** So **do not expect** Turkish support to be waiting here either.
- **The route is to request an interpreter in a less commonly spoken language,** and to do it **at enrollment and in writing.** Repeat the request for the next parent meeting.
- In a small district that request is likely to rest with one person; **note who you spoke to and the date,** because when staff change, following it up falls to you.

- 1 Go to the county counter in the morning** and pick up the birth certificate; applying in person, you receive the certified certificate on the same visit.
- 2 Go on to the district office, 402 Fisher Avenue, Suite 593,** and complete the enrollment form and the immunization form; a parent or legal guardian signs them.
- 3 Take the English translation of your immunization record and the date table with you.**
- 4 Make the interpreter request at enrollment and in writing.**
- 5 Do not wait to start if the immunization record is incomplete.** State statute lets a transferring student attend for up to 30 days while records arrive.
- 6 If you are asked for a Social Security number, show the published list politely** and request the demand in writing; the number does not appear on that list.
- 7 Ask separately about before- and after-school care capacity,** because that item runs outside the enrollment file.

PUT THESE IN THE SAME WEEK: THE LIBRARY CARD AND THE LEGAL KIOSK

- The city's library is the Crookston Public Library branch of Lake Agassiz Regional Library: **110 N. Ash**, phone **218-281-4522**, crookston@larl.org. The system serves **seven counties** and **Polk** is on that list, so the card is **free**.
- **The accepted identification is among the broadest in this series:** as photo identification, a driver's license, a state identification card, **a social services card, a student ID and a tribal ID** are listed. **Nowhere does a Social Security number or an immigration-status requirement appear.**
- If your photo ID lacks the current address, **an address document** is accepted and the list is long: a utility bill, a medical bill, insurance paperwork, **a rental receipt, a lease or a deed**, a vehicle registration, a pay stub, a semester class schedule and **mail from a government agency**.
- **An online application works:** the card number arrives by email within **one to four business days** and a physical card is mailed. **The card is renewed every three years**, so put that in your calendar. **For ages 0 to 17** a parent or guardian signs.
- **And the branch holds a legal kiosk.** It was set up under the statewide Minnesota Legal Kiosk Project and is used to apply for civil legal aid, reach legal resources, **meet an attorney online** and, in some cases, **attend a remote court hearing in privacy**. For a family this is the most concrete local resource on the page; the detail is in our official offices guide.
- The branch also stands in for an office for a newcomer: public computers, printing and wireless printing, faxing, scanning, study and meeting rooms, **wireless hotspots you can borrow**, and curbside delivery.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY FOR CROOKSTON

Have a question about your immigration status?

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