

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · MANDEVILLE

School Enrollment in Mandeville: An Address-Based System 2026

A classic attendance zone system: the address assigns the school. But two hard details hit a family arriving from Türkiye directly: a lease signed with an individual, and a foreign birth certificate.

SHORT ANSWER

This is a classic attendance zone system: schools are assigned by the **attendance zone determined by your home address**, and the parish district runs a **school finder** into which you enter **only your street address, with no city or state**. Enrollment can be done online or **in person at the school the child will attend**. **But there are two hard details**. First: the district accepts as primary proof of residence for a renter only a **lease signed by a realty office, an apartment management company or a mobile home park**, and says "not from an individual." Second: the document list says **State Certified Birth Certificate** and **never mentions a foreign birth certificate**.

The system: a zoned school

- The district's own sentence is that current students do not re-enroll **unless they move to a school in a different attendance zone**. The system is built on the **attendance zone**.
- **Enter only your street address in the school finder**, with no city or state. That is the tool's own instruction.
- Enrollment runs through an **online portal**; the district also offers **in-person enrollment at the school the child will attend**.
- **Even a move inside the parish can change the school**, because the attendance zone is what decides.
- **Being inside or outside the city limits does not change the district**; the school system is **parish-wide**. This is one of the few items the city limits question does not change.

Proof of residence: three scenarios and one obstacle

YOUR SITUATION	PRIMARY DOCUMENT	SECONDARY DOCUMENT
If you own	Property tax bill or exemption document	Gas, electric or water bills for two consecutive months (one within the last 30 days); for a new purchase, letterhead service verification from two separate providers

YOUR SITUATION	PRIMARY DOCUMENT	SECONDARY DOCUMENT
If you rent	A lease signed by a realty office, apartment management company or mobile home park: "not from an individual"	The bills or service verification above
If you live with someone else	A shared residency form from the district's relevant office, notarized , plus a current bill in the homeowner's name, plus a state or federal document mailed to the parent at that address (within 30 days)	A different state or federal document, again within 30 days

- **Photocopies and documents delivered by hand through the interested party are not accepted.**
- **Help lines:** 985-898-3370 and 985-646-4917.

IF YOU RENTED FROM AN INDIVIDUAL

- 1 Ask before you take the house:** is the lease drawn up through a realty office or a management company? That one question can save your enrollment day.
- 2 If you rented from an individual, do not panic:** the district defines a route for the "living with someone else" scenario, requiring a **notarized form** and a **bill in the homeowner's name**. Call the district's relevant office to settle which scenario you are in.
- 3 Open the utility accounts in your own name.** Once the water bill arrives in your name, the secondary document problem solves itself.

Documents requested

- **State Certified Birth Certificate**
- The parent's or guardian's **photo identification**
- **Immunization records**
- **Social Security card:** it appears on the list, but **whether it is mandatory or "bring it if you have it" is not stated on the page**
- Report card and records from the last school, if any
- **Proof of residence** (the table above)
- Custody documents, if any
- **Income verification** may be requested for pre-kindergarten

Foreign birth certificate: three districts, three positions

DISTRICT	WHAT IT SAYS
The district Mandeville belongs to	Says only State Certified Birth Certificate ; never mentions a foreign birth certificate
A neighboring parish's district	States explicitly that a foreign birth certificate is an acceptable document

DISTRICT	WHAT IT SAYS
The metro's central city district	Lists the passport and grants provisional enrollment to a student without documents

For Mandeville the result is this: the district's page neither accepts nor rejects a foreign birth certificate; **it does not address the subject. We do not say "it is not accepted"** and we do not say it is. **What to do:** before enrollment day, call the district's relevant office and ask whether a birth certificate issued in Türkiye with a certified translation is accepted, and **ask for the answer in writing**. On the same call, ask whether the Social Security card is mandatory.

Immigration status is not a barrier to enrollment

That immigration status does not bar public school enrollment rests on the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982), and it applies in every state. **The district that writes this explicitly in its own documents is not this parish's:** the metro's central city district states that documentation of immigration status shall neither be required nor requested and that it may not appear in any record the school produces. **No such sentence was found on the enrollment page of the district Mandeville belongs to. We do not say the protection is absent;** we say **research did not find** a sentence from the district itself. The decision applies everywhere.

Age rules and a placement test

GRADE	RULE
Free pre-kindergarten	Age 4 by September 30 , residence in the school's zone, and meeting an income requirement ; paid seats may exist if space remains
Kindergarten	Age 5 by September 30
First grade	Age 6 by September 30 and proof of full-day kindergarten, or passing an academic readiness screening at enrollment

- A student entering **fifth or ninth grade** from an out-of-state school, an in-state private school or approved home study must take the **English language arts and mathematics** portions of the state placement test.
- **A student arriving with high school credit from a non-approved program** must demonstrate proficiency for the credit to be recognized: a minimum level on the state test, or **at least 60 percent** on the district test. **The opportunity is granted once** and is recorded on the transcript with a separate letter.
- Testing office: **985-898-6481**.
- **What this means:** for a child who finished fourth grade in Türkiye and arrives into fifth, or who is moving into high school, **summer preparation in English and mathematics** feeds straight into a test. **Ask at enrollment when the test is given.**

Vaccination: a very broad exemption in this state

- Immunization records are on the document list.

- **The exemption is unusually broad:** state law accepts a physician's statement of medical grounds **or a written dissent from the student or the parent or guardian**, and it requires the text and citation of that provision to appear in **every notice** sent to families.
- **We print no dose counts:** the state health department's table did not align the same way in two separate extraction methods. **Use the agency's own list for dose counts.**
- **Even so, bring your immunization records from Türkiye and have them translated;** they are requested repeatedly on both the school and health sides.

Language and address changes

The district's enrollment summary brochure is published in **English, Spanish and Vietnamese**. **There is no Turkish**. Submit any request for an interpreter **in writing and before** the enrollment appointment. **If your address changes:** if the assigned school does not change, call the current school and update the records; **if it does change, apply to the new school with current proof of residence**. For the statewide rules, see [our Louisiana guide](#).



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN MANDEVILLE

Have a question about your immigration status?

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