

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · NASHVILLE

School Enrollment in Nashville: One District and the Documents 2026

The county has a single school district and children living in the six separate cities inside it attend the same one. A Social Security number does not appear in the enrollment documents at all.

SHORT ANSWER

Here is the most concrete good news of consolidation: because the charter treats schools as a **county-wide** service, this county has **a single school district**, and **children living in the six separate cities inside the county attend it too**. So you do not have to pick a municipality out of school concerns when you look at a home. The enrollment documents were read on the district's own page and a **Social Security number does not appear at all**. **If the proof of residence is not in your name the road is not closed**; the district has a separate center route for exactly that. **But we write one distinction from the start:** school enrollment and a school scholarship are **not the same door**.

One district, and why that matters

In other cities a reader has to work out which school district an address falls into; suburbs may have created their own districts and the same ZIP code can split across two systems. **That problem does not exist here**. In the charter's own service list, **schools** appear as a service provided across the whole county, and a separate charter article governs the metropolitan board of education. On top of that, because **creating a new city is prohibited**, the **suburb created its own district** situation seen elsewhere **cannot arise in this county**.

Children of families living in Belle Meade, Berry Hill, Forest Hills, Goodlettsville, Oak Hill and Ridgeway attend the same district. In one sentence: when you choose a home, the question is not **which district** but **which school is zoned to this address**. Ask the district that question.

Documents required at enrollment

From the district's own enrollment page, for **kindergarten through twelfth grade**:

DOCUMENT	NOTE
☐ A birth record	In this state a birth certificate can be obtained from any of the 95 county health departments
☐ The state immunization certificate	Required unless a medical or religious exemption is documented
☐ Photo identification for the parent or guardian	Ask in advance which documents are accepted

DOCUMENT	NOTE
☐ Proof of residence	A current lease, a mortgage statement, a utility bill and the like. Districts may not require a specific document
☐ A school physical	Ask the district where to have it done and what the deadline is
☐ Transcripts and report cards	Optional
☐ A completed enrollment packet	Required for in-person enrollment

TWO SENTENCES, AND BOTH ARE IN WRITING

- **First:** a Social Security number **does not appear anywhere** on the district's page; it is neither required nor prohibited there.
- **Second, and this is your handle:** the state education department's own legal questions and answers document states in writing that **federal privacy law prohibits requiring a Social Security number to enroll a child in school.**

Can immigration status be asked about: the state's own written answer

The same document answers the question **may schools or education agencies refuse to enroll undocumented immigrant children** in a single word: **no**. It gives its own reasoning and names the decision: **Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982)**. The same answer says enrollment may not be denied because of the parent's or guardian's **actual or perceived citizenship or immigration status** either, and adds that enrollment practices that **chill or discourage participation in school** on that basis may violate federal civil rights law.

- **On proof of address, districts may not require a specific document** and may accept a variety of documents.
- **Districts should never simply turn a student away due to a missing document.** That is the agency's own sentence.
- **Another state agency's text is even plainer:** if a school asks for additional documentation, it **must immediately state that no documentation will be used in relation to immigration status**, and no family should be sent home to collect additional documentation.

School enrollment and a school scholarship are separate things

We never merge these into one sentence, because merging them makes the guide wrong.

SUBJECT	STATUS
School enrollment	No law conditioning enrollment on immigration status was enacted. The state education department's own answer is no , and it names the constitutional basis
School scholarship	A separate regime. Under the state's education freedom scholarship act, a student who cannot establish lawful presence has the scholarship application denied , and the scholarship counts as a public benefit , which ties the verification and reporting chain to the scholarship application

What that means for you: enrolling your child in school and applying to a scholarship program are **not the same door**. **Talk to your attorney before you apply for a scholarship;** enrollment requires no such step.

If the proof of residence is not in your name

This is a real obstacle for families staying with relatives or whose lease is in someone else's name. **The district offers a separate route:** if you have no proof of address in your name it directs you to an **enrollment center**, and the process runs there.

We also record one detail as it is: no document named something like a **shared residency affidavit** was seen on the district's page. Other counties have a notarized affidavit procedure, but **we do not import it here**. Call and ask: **the lease is not in my name, which route should I use**.

Language: the honest answer

The district's translation menu offers **Amharic, Arabic, Burmese, Kurdish, Nepali, Somali, Spanish, Swahili and Vietnamese**. **Turkish is not on that list**. **But the door is not closed:** the district's family information center writes that its team can answer your questions and **connect you with an interpreter if needed**. **So the sentence we write is this: we do not say Turkish service exists; we say there is a route you can ask for and this is its door**. When you book the enrollment appointment, **make your request for a Turkish interpreter in advance and in writing**.

Five questions to ask the district

- 1 Which school is zoned to this address?
- 2 The lease is not in my name; which center should I use and what should I bring?
- 3 How do I match the immunization certificate with the records I brought from Türkiye?
- 4 Where do I send my request for a Turkish interpreter for the enrollment meeting?
- 5 Where can I get the school physical done and what is the deadline?

A LEGAL NOTE

- **The enrollment door and the scholarship door are separate.** Enrollment requires no status document; a scholarship application carries **a lawful presence requirement and a reporting chain**.
- **The public employer side is a separate item too:** the merged government and the county wide school district are public employers, and for public employers work authorization verification has been **mandatory with no size threshold since July 1, 2026**. If you are thinking of working at a school, apply knowing that.
- **Talk to your attorney before applying for a scholarship or a public benefit.**



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN NASHVILLE

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Nashville and the surrounding area, in Turkish and English.

Free evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669

Office: 321 N Central Expy, Ste 206, McKinney, TX 75070

Attorney responsible for this guide: Asim Clinch, Esq., Clinch Law Firm P.C. Attorney Asim Clinch is a member of the Missouri Bar (No. 76084) and practices U.S. federal immigration law.

Attorney advertising. This guide is general information only. It is not legal advice and is not a substitute for the advice of an attorney. Information compiled from official sources as of October 12, 2026; fees and procedures change, so check the official site before you act. Reading this guide does not create an attorney-client relationship. The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements. Latest version: clinchlaw.com/city-guides/nashville-immigration-attorney