

Latest information on changes to the Brandenburg School Act (BbgSchulG)

Dear parents and guardians,

In the light of current changes, we would like to inform you that the Brandenburg School Act is presently being amended. The amended legal basis comes into force on 1 February 2024 and also affects the procedure for the admission of pupils to a general secondary school in Sec. 53 BbgSchulG. The existence of special reasons for giving priority admission to a pupil to a particular upper secondary school or comprehensive school is now reflected in the legal text in Sec. 53 (6) BbgSchulG. It reads as follows:

"(6) There are special reasons for giving priority admission to a pupil if, in an individual case, it is established that personal, educational or public interests would otherwise be disproportionately affected. Special reasons are given in particular, if

1. after examining the individual case, it is found that the individual requirements of the pupil correspond to a particular extent to the profile of the school in accordance with Sec. 7 (1) and a comparable fostering of the pupil's abilities and inclinations cannot be expected at another school,
2. after examining the individual case, it is found that the pupil's place of residence or usual place of abode is in the area of the school authority responsible for the desired school or that the pupil will move to the area of the school authority responsible for the school before the start of the new school year.
3. if a sibling is already attending the school and it is determined on a case-by-case basis that attendance at another school is unreasonable for the pupil, the sibling or the parents.

In each individual case, parents must provide credible evidence of the existence of special reasons. Academic performance is not considered a special reason."

Point 9b) of the enrolment form for attending a general secondary school has been revised on this basis. Priority admission for special reasons for up to 50% of the places is only possible in upper secondary schools and comprehensive schools and only if the school administration decides to use this option. In grammar schools, special reasons are only applied on the basis of equal aptitude.

If you would like to claim a special reason for your child, please use the most recent enrolment form provided by your child's primary school. The original form is still valid if you do not wish to make a claim for any special reasons.