



## Third Extension FAQ's

Why is the VICC program phasing out?

- Raced-based programs are not intended to operate in perpetuity
- Program was originally designed to have a finite existence

Will new students be able to enroll after 2019?

- Yes ... the following number of new city-to-county students will be permitted to enroll during 2019/20 through 2023/24 with a focus on the placement of siblings:

2019/20	250
2020/21	200
2021/22	175
2022/23	150
2023/24	<u>150</u>
	<u>925</u>

- In addition, siblings of current county-to-city students would be allowed to transfer.

Why does this extension have to be different? Can't you just extend the program the same way you have the last two times?

- This final extension of the race-based program fulfills the originally designed gradual phase out of the program and assures compliance with legal requirements.

Does the "siblings-only" enrollment provision of the new extension effect county students enrolling in magnet schools?

- Yes, the same rule will also apply to county students enrolling in magnet schools.

Will transportation still be provided during the extension?

- Yes ... transportation is status quo ... provided for students attending schools in their zone.

Will the enrollment process be changed?

- No, we will continue to follow the same enrollment procedures we have always followed. Given the limited number of available spaces during the third extension period, our primary focus will be upon the placement of siblings and secondarily upon students who applied in previous years and who were not placed due to lack of space.

When will the program end completely?

- The 2023/24 school year will be the last year for new students (primarily siblings) to enroll in a county school. All students currently enrolled in the program or enrolled during the extension period will be able to continue in their participating county district or magnet school through high school graduation. As a result, in theory there could still be students in the program through 2035/36.

How are you defining sibling?

VICC has historically followed and recently memorialized and adopted the following definitions and standards related to the definition of a sibling:

- A sibling is one of two or more individuals having one or both parents in common.
- Adoptive parents are “parents” for purposes of this policy.
- There are cases where siblings reside in separate homes, but still share one common parent. For siblings who reside in separate homes, that common parent must be listed on the VICC application. Such applicants will be considered on a case-by-case basis taking into account busing zones and other factors.
- A “stepbrother” is one’s stepfather’s or stepmother’s son by a previous marriage/relationship; a “stepsister” is one’s stepfather’s or stepmother’s daughter by a previous marriage/relationship. Stepbrothers and stepsisters do not have a common biological or adoptive parent, but they are “siblings” for purposes of this policy. A child’s “stepfather” or “stepmother” under this policy is a person who is married to the child’s parent but who is not a parent of the child.
- A foster child who is placed in a home with an existing enrolled student is considered a sibling as s/he shares a common parent (or two).

How can you decide to limit new enrollment to siblings-only?

- VICC Board can vote to limit enrollment. Limits/new enrollment parameters are being put in place to (1) continue the gradual phase out of the program and (2) ensure the program is financially healthy enough to serve its students through their high school graduation.

What county districts will still be accepting students?

- At this time we believe all districts currently accepting new students would continue to do so under the terms of the extension. If any choose to opt out we may know that either at or after the November VICC Board meeting.

Does the program end after the third extension? What happens after 2024? Do I get to stay in my current district until I graduate?

- New enrollment in the program will end after the 2023/24 school year.
- All students enrolled in the program at that time will be able to continue in their participating county district through high school graduation.

How will the program be funded during the new extension?

- The program will continue to be funded in the same manner it has been since 1999. Virtually all of VICC's funding to support the transfer program is received from the State of Missouri through its normal public school aid sources. These state aid payments simply follow the students from their district of residence to the program. VICC receives no special or additional revenues so there are no extra costs to Missouri taxpayers. Funds are primarily used to provide transportation service and to pay tuition amounts (see next question) to participating school districts based upon the local districts' costs of education.

How does this change impact students transferring from the Riverview Gardens School District and the Normandy School Collaborative?

- Any change to the VICC program will not impact any of the students transferring from the Riverview Gardens School District and the Normandy School Collaborative under the Missouri law that allows students to transfer out of unaccredited school district. While similar in nature, the two programs, and the state statutes and court rulings that govern them, are completely unrelated.

Are there any plans to continue some type of transfer program after the current race-based program ends?

- The VICC Board may commission a study in the future to transition over time to a more modern program that would potentially include additional districts and revise the student selection process from race to socio-economic status which will achieve the goals of both racial integration and diversity as well as socio-economic diversity. There will be many issues that will have to be identified, discussed and resolved and, as a result, we do not anticipate any such transition occurring in the immediate future---possibly as late as after the final extension (2023/24) but possibly earlier than that if achievable. The implementation of a program with revised student selection process would require the unanimous approval of all VICC districts as well as any new districts included in such program.

Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

- Additional questions should be directed to David Glaser, VICC Chief Executive Officer.