

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

STUDENTS

Attendance

Entrance Age

According to compulsory attendance law, 105 ILCS 5/26-1, “whoever has custody or control of any child between the ages of 6 (on or before September 1) and 17 years shall cause such child to attend some public school in the district wherein the child resides the entire time it is in session during the regular school term, except as provided in Section 10-19.1.” Therefore, guardians may desire to postpone entrance of a child who meets the age qualifications of 5 years on or before September 1. However, once a student is enrolled, the student is subject to truancy laws, even if he/she has not reached age 6.

Parents with a child turning 5 after September 1, but before December 31, may request for their child’s early entrance into kindergarten under the following guidelines:

1. The child must be turning 5 years old on or before December 31st of that school year.
2. The child must participate in kindergarten screening and determined to be ready for kindergarten by school district staff. Academic, physical, and social readiness will be considered. The first opportunity for screening occurs in March, prior to the next school year.
3. If the child is determined to be at least minimally ready for kindergarten from the results of the screening process, school officials will arrange for standardized testing to determine academic readiness. The academic standards for early entrance are very rigorous and difficult to attain. Admittance requires above average performance in a majority of academic areas as well listening, identification, and behavioral skills. The Data Collection Form, **7:50-E1**, will be utilized to record scores.
4. If the child is deemed adequately ready for kindergarten from both the screening and the standardized test results, the child may be enrolled on a space-available basis for a probationary period not to exceed five weeks. If the student is still deemed to be ready for kindergarten at that time, the student will continue to be

enrolled for the remainder of the school year. Otherwise, the student will be dropped from enrollment following the probationary period.

5. Class sizes may prevent a child from enrolling in the school closest to him/her, and enrollment may be delayed to make this determination. If a student is not enrolled in the school closest to him/her, the student may be eligible for transportation.

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