

Book	Policy Manual
Section	For Board Review - Vol. 28, No. 2
Title	Copy of ENTRANCE AGE
Code	po5112
Status	
Adopted	August 20, 2018
Last Revised	May 20, 2019

## 5112 - **ENTRANCE AGE**

The Board shall establish student entrance age requirements which are consistent with Wisconsin Law and sound educational practice and which ensure equitable treatment.

### **A. Kindergarten**

A child is eligible for entrance into four (4) year old kindergarten if s/he attains the age of four (4) on or before September 1st of the year in which s/he applies for entrance and meets the residency requirements.

A child is eligible for five (5) year old kindergarten when s/he attains the age of five (5) on or before September 1st of the year in which s/he applies for entrance and meets the residency requirements. The child may not be placed in an alternative program without the permission of the parent.

### **B. First Grade**

A child must be six (6) years of age on or before September 1st in the year in which s/he enrolls. A student must have completed a five (5) year old kindergarten program or must receive a waiver of this requirement.

Any student who has not completed a five (5) year old kindergarten program, but seeks to enroll in first grade must receive a waiver of the requirement. The following students are eligible to receive a waiver:

1. Any student who has moved to the District from another state or country where completion of a five (5) year old kindergarten program is a prerequisite to enrollment in first grade and that student has received a waiver of the requirement in his/her prior state or country.
2. Any student who has moved to the District from another state or country that does not require the completion of five (5) year old kindergarten prior to enrollment in first grade.
3. Any student who, at the discretion of the building principal, in consultation with the first grade teacher(s) of the District, determines that, notwithstanding that the student has not completed a five (5) year old kindergarten program, the student has demonstrated sufficient aptitude in all core competencies normally required of kindergarten students in the District upon completion of the kindergarten program. The Principal shall perform any required testing to establish the student's academic capabilities and shall prepare a written evaluation that either grants or denies the waiver and provides an explanation as to the decision.

### **C. Initial Entry**

Children entering the District for the first time must comply with State law. Students must have an immunization record on file at the school. Any student who does not have the proper immunization shall be excluded or permitted to remain in school pursuant to Policy 5320.

A child may be exempt from the required immunizations upon written request of the parent of such child stating the objection to examination and/or immunizations on religious grounds, personal conviction, or for medical reasons certified

by a competent medical authority.

#### **D. Verification of Residence**

Verification of a parent's residence shall be required at the time the child registers in a District school. Verification of residence may also be required at any other time at the discretion of the Superintendent.

#### **E. Early Admission**

The District shall prescribe procedures, conditions, and standards for early admission to five (5) year-old kindergarten and first grade. The District does not allow early entrance to four (4) year-old kindergarten.

PROCEDURES FOR EARLY ADMISSION: (LIMITED TO) FIVE (5) YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE

1. Application shall be made by the parent to the Elementary Principal on or before May 1st of the year of entrance. This cutoff date shall not apply for a student who moves to the District during the school year and who has already been admitted for early entrance from the previous school district.
2. An interview with the parent(s)/guardians shall be held by the Elementary Principal to determine the parents' reasons for requesting entrance prior to the legal age. The parent/guardian or a caregiver of the child will assess the student using a self-help/social profile.
3. Following the interview with the parent(s)/guardians, it will be decided by the District whether the student will be assessed with a formal evaluation by the District Standards for early admission to five (5) year-old kindergarten or first grade may not discriminate against students on the basis of disability or handicap. The evaluation shall be at no cost to the parents/guardian(s).
4. Observation of the student in a school-like setting by at least two separate educators (psychologist, gifted and talented coordinator, teacher, administrator, etc.) will take place over a period of days. A school-like setting could be the daycare center or summer school for pre-kindergarten.
5. After the evaluation in (3 & 4) above has been completed, a conference shall be held with the parents to consider the appropriateness of early entrance into Five (5) Year-Old Kindergarten or First Grade.
6. The student will be superior in the full range of abilities in all developmental areas including social, emotional, physical, mental maturity, and pre-academics.
7. The Superintendent has the final authority for deciding whether or not the student is to be admitted to Five (5) Year-Old Kindergarten or First Grade in accordance with conditions and standards. The Superintendent will be informed by staff in District as to the preferred recommendation for the student regarding any early education admission.

#### **F. Older Students**

A person who is a resident of the District and over twenty (20) years of age may enroll providing the Superintendent does not think his/her enrollment will interfere with the education of the other students.

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Legal Wis. Stats 118.14, 118.15, 120.12(25)

Last Modified by Jennifer Hagemann on October 18, 2019