

ADMISSION

The School Board believes that all children should have the opportunity to receive a free appropriate public education. Staff shall encourage parents/guardians to enroll all school-aged children in school.

The Board reserves the right to verify the validity of any affidavit of guardianship and the residency or anticipated residency of any student. These admission policies are not intended to be a barrier to the enrollment and education of homeless children and youth.

The Superintendent or designee shall verify compliance with all entrance requirements established by law or Board policy.

- (cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)*
- (cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)*
- (cf. 5112.6- Education for Homeless Children and Youths)*
- (cf. 5116 - School Attendance Boundaries)*
- (cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)*
- (cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)*
- (cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)*

Note: Pursuant to AS 14.03.070, school age is between six years of age on or before September 1, following the beginning of the school year and under the age of 20. The school year begins on July 1 and ends June 30. Pursuant to AS 14.03.080, the School Board may admit children under school age who meet School Board standards of mental, physical, and emotional capacity necessary to perform satisfactorily in school and may admit children under school age to kindergarten, as provided below. In 2003, the legislature amended the early-entrance statute for the purpose of clarifying that two-year kindergarten programs are not authorized. Districts with early entry into kindergarten must have an educational program prescribing that under school age students advance through the curriculum or grade level by the following school year. This is a programmatic requirement and is not meant to limit individualized student assessment. In 2004, the early entrance statute was again amended to provide school boards with the option of delegating early entrance decisions to the Superintendent or designee. Pursuant to AS 14.03.080, ~~the Board may admit children under school age who meet Board standards of mental physical, and emotional capacity necessary to perform satisfactorily in school;~~ may establish a kindergarten class for children who are five on or before September 1 following the beginning of the school year; must admit children under school age who move into the district and who were previously enrolled in public school in another district or state; and may admit students over school age and charge them tuition.

A child five years of age on or before September 1 may be admitted to kindergarten. A child four years of age before August 15 may be admitted to school when it is in the best interest of the child. ~~The Board may admit~~ authorizes the admission of students under school age who exhibit the ability to perform satisfactorily, including advancement through the curriculum or grade level by the following year. Students under school age who were previously enrolled in public school shall be admitted to school at the level determined by the Superintendent or designee. (AS 14.03.080)

ADMISSION (continued)

Early Entrance Assessment

The Board realizes there are no preschool programs in most of Southeast Island School District’s sites. However, it recognizes an obligation, through Child Find, to provide pre-school services to children with disabilities beginning at age three. Therefore, the board approves pre-school programs at any site within Southeast Island School District. Our schools strive to provide educational experiences for all students who are developmentally ready to enter school. Students enter into our school system at level one in all content areas and progress through our curriculum model as is developmentally appropriate. When parents request early admission for their children, each four year old will be tested using The Brigance Preschool Screen II, which may be administered by a Southeast Island School District Special Education or trained general education teacher.

The Brigance Preschool Screen II was designed for use with children below the developmental level of seven years. The assessment instrument provides the following:

1. Determines the developmental or performance level of the child.
2. Identifies areas of strength and weakness.
3. Serves as an on-going record-keeping system.

The Superintendent or designee is delegated authority to make early-entrance determination. Criteria for children entering the program will follow the guidelines for four-year-old children provided in the Brigance Preschool Screen II. The Brigance Preschool Screen II screens children in the following areas: fine motor and gross motor skills, vocabulary, number concepts, prerequisites of school and school readiness.

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.30.010 *When attendance compulsory*

14.03.020 *School year*

14.03.070 *School age*

14.03.080 *Right to attend school* ~~Free education~~

14.30.045 *Grounds for suspension or denial of admission*

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 06.055 *Immunizations required*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

11432 - 11433 *McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act*