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## 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**

1. A child is eligible for entrance into four (4) year old kindergarten if ~~s/he~~the child attains the age of four (4) on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year in which ~~s/he applies for entrance~~the child is being enrolled and meets the residency requirements.
2. A child is eligible for five (5) year old kindergarten when ~~s/he~~the child attains the age of five (5) on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year in which ~~s/he applies for entrance~~the child is being enrolled 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 1<sup>st</sup> in the school year in which ~~s/he~~the student enrolls. ~~The~~ student must also have completed a kindergarten program or ~~must~~ received a waiver of this requirement.

Any student who has not completed a five (5) year old kindergarten program, but seeks to enroll into 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 ~~the~~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 ~~P~~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.

**NOTE: Items one (1) and two (2) above are required by statute. The law requires that if the principal is to have discretion in first grade enrollment, a provision allowing such discretion must be included in policy. Item three (3) provides principal discretion; however, the District also may draft District specific language that provides discretion for the principal and replace the drafted language in item three (3).**

### C. Appeal of Denial of Waiver

The parents of any student denied a waiver under this section by the ~~building principal~~Principal may appeal that decision to the District Administrator by submitting a written request to the District Administrator within ten (10) calendar days of the decision of the ~~principal~~Principal.

Appropriate school personnel will conduct an evaluation. The building principal will be consulted and, once the evaluation is completed, a plan will be determined and shared with the parents/guardians.

### D. Initial Entry

Children entering the District for the first time must comply with State law. Students must have an immunization record ~~or a properly submitted waiver~~ on file at the school. Any student who does not have the proper immunization ~~records or appropriate waiver within thirty (30) days of enrollment~~ may be excluded or permitted to remain in school pursuant to Policy 5320 - Immunization.

~~Each child who is entitled to admittance into a public school in the District must have a school entry health examination. The school health services plan shall contain provisions to assist students in obtaining health examinations. Such examinations shall be conducted consistent with Policy 5310 - Health Services.~~

Any student, ~~and/or his/her~~the student's parent(s), who enters the District for the first time must disclose prior or pending school expulsions at the time of enrollment.

### E. 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 District Administrator.

### F. Early Admission

The District shall prescribe procedures, conditions, and standards for early admission to four (4) year old kindergarten, five (5) year old kindergarten, and first grade.

### G. Kindergarten Admission

To enter kindergarten a child must be five (5) years-old on or before September 1st in the year the child proposes to enter school. The parents/guardians of any child who will not be five (5) years-old on or before September 1st in the year the child proposes to enter kindergarten, may apply to have their child admitted to kindergarten at the opening of school for that year. The following procedure shall be followed:

1. Parents/guardians must request, in writing, that their child be considered for early entrance into kindergarten. This letter is to be sent to the Superintendent or his/her designee at least ninety (90) days before the opening of school and shall include a statement of the reasons the application is being made. The ninety (90) day requirement may be waived for persons new to the District; however, no early admissions shall be made after the third Friday in September.
2. The child will be required to participate in an Early Entrance Screening.
  - a. The screening will consider emotional, social, physical, cognitive, and readiness skills. A licensed school psychologist will conduct the individual screening. Other school professionals will be consulted when appropriate. This evaluation will be at no cost to parents/guardians.
  - b. After the screening has been completed, a meeting will be held with the parents/guardians to consider the appropriateness of early entrance into kindergarten. The criteria used by the District in making its decision will be whether or not the child is in the superior range in areas of social, emotional, physical, and cognitive readiness.
3. Parents/guardians have the right to appeal the early entrance decision to the Director of Pupil Services.

If a student is approved for early entrance into kindergarten, school personnel and parents/guardians will monitor and review placement after six (6) weeks to ensure the student is appropriately placed.

**H. Older Students**

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

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