



Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Admission of Beginners
Code	201
Status	Active
Legal	1. 24 P.S. 1301 2. 22 PA Code 11.12 3. 22 PA Code 11.41 4. 24 P.S. 1304 5. 24 P.S. 1326 6. 22 PA Code 11.15 7. 24 P.S. 503 8. 22 PA Code 11.14 9. Pol. 203 22 PA Code 4.41 22 PA Code 11.16
Adopted	May 25, 1993
Last Revised	January 21, 2020

Authority

The Board shall establish age requirements for the admission of beginners which are consistent with statute and sound educational practice and which ensure the equitable treatment of all eligible children.[1][2][3]

Guidelines

Beginners

Beginners are children entering the lowest grade of the primary school above the kindergarten level. They shall be admitted to school only during the first two (2) weeks of the annual school term except that a child who is eight (8) years of age may begin school at any time during the school year.[4][5]

A beginner is eligible for admission to the lowest grade of the primary school above the kindergarten level if s/he has attained the age of five (5) years and seven (7) months before the first day of September.[4][6]

The Board shall permit a child of beginner's age to attend the district's first grade and may not require the child to attend kindergarten, pre-first grade, transitional class or other grade or class that is not regular first grade without parental consent. Additionally, students beginning school in a different district are eligible to continue in the same grade when they transfer into Gateway School District provided appropriate documentation is provided by the parent/guardian. When a student assignment is made after the first nine (9) weeks or forty-five (45) school days and in the opinion of the professional staff, after a trial period of fifteen (15) days of school, progress is judged to be unsatisfactory, a parental conference will be held and recommendations made for a more age-appropriate program.

Early Admissions to Kindergarten/First Grade

Criteria for consideration by Review Team consisting of school psychologist, principal, counselor, and kindergarten or first grade teacher as needed.[7]

1. Chronological age of candidate:

Candidate must be:

- Five (5) years of age by December 31 (i.e. DOB Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.) of year of enrollment - Kindergarten.
- Six (6) years of age by December 31 (i.e. DOB Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.) of year of enrollment - First Grade.

2. All request for early admission must be made prior to May 1 of the year of enrollment.

3. Residents who enter the district during the months of May, June or July may request early admission prior to the first day of school, within thirty (30) days of their move-in date.

4. Psychological evaluation of candidate:

- a. Arranged for and obtained at parent's expense.
- b. Administered by a certified school psychologist (not an intern or a psychometrician).
- c. Established Full Scale IQ of 120 or higher.
- d. Attests to above average academic readiness, based on standard scores.

5. Review Team Assessment:

- a. Review of written request for consideration of early entry of child.
- b. Team decision and response provided to parent(s) in writing (attachment).
- c. Monitoring by building level review team members of accepted students at the 9th and 18th week as needed.
- d. The review team reserves the right to withdraw the student if s/he does not perform to the level of expectancy or does not demonstrate ability to profit from the experience.

Kindergarten

A child is eligible for admission to kindergarten if s/he has attained the age of five (5) years before the admission date of entry to kindergarten (September 1).[8]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall require that each child who registers for entrance to school exhibit his/her birth certificate or similar documentation as proof of age and birth date.[9]

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