

## Qualification of Attendance and Placement

### A. Age of Admission

It is a right and responsibility of those who meet the requirements prescribed by law to attend the schools of the district. Every resident of the district who satisfies the minimum entry age requirement and is less than 21 years of age has the right to attend the district's schools until he/she completes high school graduation requirements. Children of age 8 and less than age 18 are required by law to attend a public school, an approved private school or educational center, unless they are receiving approved home-based instruction. Under certain circumstances, children who are at least 16 and less than 18 years of age may be excused from further attendance at school. The superintendent will exercise his/her authority to grant exceptions when he/she determines that the student:

1. Is lawfully and regularly employed, and
2. Has permission of a parent, or
3. Is emancipated pursuant to Chapter 13.64 RCW; or
4. Is subject to one of the other exceptions to compulsory attendance.

A resident student who has been granted an exception retains the right to enroll as a part-time student and will be entitled to take any course, receive any ancillary services and take or receive any combination of courses and ancillary services which are offered by a public school to full-time students.

### B. Entrance Qualifications

To be admitted to a kindergarten program that commences in the fall of the year, a child must be not less than 5 years of age prior to September 1 of that school year.

Recognizing that a variation of readiness for school exists, the district may waive the entrance age requirement for a child whose birthday falls between September 1 and October 31. Students with birthdays from November 1 through December 31 may be considered for early entrance on a highly individual basis when exceptional intellectual ability requires a placement in kindergarten or first grade in order to meet individual needs.

To be admitted to a first grade program that commences in the fall of the year a child must be not less than 6 years of age prior to September 1 of that school year. Any student not otherwise eligible for entry to the first grade who has successfully completed a state-approved, public or private, kindergarten program of 450 or more hours including instruction in the essential academic learning requirements and other subjects that the district determines are appropriate will be permitted entry into the first-grade program. If necessary, the student may be placed in a temporary classroom assignment for the purposes of evaluation prior to making a final determination of the student's appropriate placement. Such determination will be made no later than the 25th calendar day

following the student's first day of attendance.

### **Exemptions**

Special exemptions may be made for younger pupils who appear to be sufficiently advanced to succeed in the educational program. The superintendent will identify screening processes and instruments that will provide reliable estimates of these skills and abilities, develop procedures for implementing this policy and establish fees to cover expenses incurred in the administration of preadmission screening processes. The district will provide a fee waiver or a reduction in fees for low income students whose parents are unable to pay the full cost of preadmission screening.

### **C. Placement of Students on Admission**

The decision of where to place a student seeking admission to the district rests with the principal. Generally, students meeting the age of admission requirements or transferring from a public or approved private school will be placed in kindergarten or first grade, or the grade from which they transferred. The principal will evaluate the educational record and assessments of all other students to determine their appropriate placement. A temporary classroom assignment may be made for no more than 30 calendar days for the purpose of evaluation prior to making the final placement decision.

### **Cross References**

2100 - Educational Opportunities for Military Children

3122 - Student Attendance; Absences, Tardies and Excuses

### **Legal References**

RCW 28A.225.010 Attendance mandatory — Age — Exceptions

RCW 28A.225.020 School's duties upon child's failure to attend school

RCW 28A.225.160 Qualification for admission to district's schools — Fees for preadmission screening

RCW 28A.225.220 Adults, children from other districts, agreements for attending school — Tuition

WAC 392-134-010 Attendance rights of part-time public school students

WAC 392-137 Finance — Nonresident attendance

WAC 392-335 Pupils - Uniform Entry Qualifications

### **Management Resources**

Policy News, April 2006 Entrance to School Policy Changes

Policy News, August 1999 Districts may set K-screening fees

Adoption Date: 04.10.18

Edmonds School District

Classification: Priority

Revised Dates: