

Early Entry into Kindergarten and First Grade

Kindergarten

A student will be admitted into the first grade if his/her sixth birthday occurs on or before September 1, as established by law. In addition, a student whose sixth birthday occurs after that date may be admitted to the first grade if he/she:

1. Is a first grade student transferring from a public school in another district, or from a private school;
2. Completed a successful year in a public kindergarten the previous year and would be continuing his/her formal education.

A student will be admitted to kindergarten if his/her fifth birthday occurs one year earlier than the date established by law for entry into first grade, or is a kindergarten student transferring from a public school in another district.

Early entry into school will be allowed for a student whose fifth/sixth birthday occurs after September 1, but not later than November 15 and whose needs would best be met in the school program based on an analysis by qualified professional staff of his/her:

1. Cognitive development;
2. Social development;
3. Physical development.

The superintendent shall identify screening processes and instruments which will provide a dependable assessment of the preceding criteria.

Parents will be required to pay the cost of the special testing involved.

First Grade

The district shall admit free of charge to the schools of the district any resident person six years of age, if his/her sixth birthday occurs on or before September 1 of the year he/she first enrolls.

A student whose sixth birthday occurs after this date may be admitted to the first grade if he/she:

1. Is a first grade student transferring from a public school in another district, or from a private school.

2. Completed a successful year in a public or approved private kindergarten the previous year and would be continuing his/her formal education.
3. Will be six by November 15 of the first grade year.

If a request is made to enroll a student in first grade who does not meet the requirements identified above, the student will be assigned to kindergarten. An assessment of the student's progress will be made no later than the end of the first six weeks. Based upon the data available, and after a conference with the parents/guardians to discuss the data, the principal will determine whether to maintain the student in kindergarten or accelerate him/her to the first grade. The decision of the principal is final.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 327.006](#)

[ORS 336.095](#)

[ORS 339.115](#)

[ORS 343.395](#)