

**Saint Helens  
School District 502**

Code: **JEBA**  
Adopted: 4/28/98  
Readopted: 4/24/07; 11/23/09  
Orig. Code(s): JEBA

**Early Entrance\*\***

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, if he/she has completed a successful minimum of 20 weeks of instruction as a kindergarten student transferring from a public school in another district. For transferring kindergarten students who have not yet completed a successful minimum of 20 weeks, other Early Entrance guidelines are applicable.

Early entry into school will be allowed for a student whose fifth/sixth birthday occurs after September 1, but not later than October 31 and who is sufficiently advanced to succeed in the educational program based on an analysis by qualified professional staff of his/her:

1. Intellectual functioning;
2. Emotional/social functioning;
3. Adaptive behavior (including but not limited to: perceptual and motor skills, self-help skills and communication skills).

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

Should the district receive a request for early entrance to first grade or kindergarten, the administrative procedure will be followed.

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

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 327.006](#)  
[ORS 336.095](#)

[ORS 339.115](#)  
[ORS 343.395](#)