

QUALIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE AND PLACEMENT

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. 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.

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. 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 30th calendar day following the student's first day of attendance.

Exceptions - Special exemptions may be made for younger pupils who appear to be sufficiently advanced to succeed in the educational program. The superintendent or designee will identify screening processes and instruments that will provide reliable estimates of these skills and abilities and develop procedures for implementing this policy.

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 thirty calendar days for the purpose of evaluation prior to making the final placement decision.

Cross References: 3122 – Excused and Unexcused Absences
 3114 – Part-Time, Home-Based or Off-Campus Students
 2121 – Substance Abuse Program

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
 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

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