

## **STUDENTS**

### Qualifications 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 the resident completes high school graduation requirements.

Children of age eight and less than age 18 are required by law to attend public school, or an approved private school or educational center, unless they are receiving 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 or designee shall exercise the authority to grant exceptions when it is determined that the student:

- A. Is lawfully and regularly employed, and
- B. Has permission of a parent, or
- C. Is emancipated pursuant to [Chapter 13.64 RCW](#); or
- D. 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 shall be entitled to take any course, receive any ancillary services, and take or receive any combination of courses and ancillary services offered by a public school to full-time students.

#### Entrance Qualifications

To be admitted to a regular kindergarten program that commences in the fall of the year, a child must not be less than five 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 not be less than six years 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.

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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.

Placement of Students

The decision of where to place a student seeking admission to the district rests with the school and/or district administration. 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.

The district reserves the right to and may assign students to attend schools or programs other than at their resident attendance area school for certain specific reasons. These reasons include, but are not limited to the following:

1. To meet specific academic needs,
2. To provide appropriate programming for special needs students,
3. To avoid or lessen program disruption,
4. To protect the health and safety of either the assigned student or other students or staff,
5. To establish a plan for re-entry as a result of a suspension or expulsion, and/or,
6. To otherwise meet district or student needs.

It is recognized that these exceptional assignments for certain students are only to be made with good reason. Any student or parent/guardian who disagrees with a district assignment to other than the student's resident attendance area school may appeal the assignment to the superintendent or designee.

Legal References:     RCW [28A.225.010](#) Attendance mandatory – Age – Exceptions.  
                              [28A.225.020](#) School's duties upon child's failure to attend school.

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	<a href="#">28A.225.160</a>	Qualification for admission to district's schools – Fees for preadmission screening.
	<a href="#">28A.225.220</a>	Adults, children from other districts, agreements for attending school – Tuition.
WAC	<a href="#">392-335-010</a>	Uniform entry age for kindergarten.
	<a href="#">392-134-10</a>	Attendance rights of part-time public school students.
	<a href="#">392-137-130</a>	Release of students to nonresident districts.

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