Students

Qualification of Attendance and Placement

A. Age of Admission

It is the 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 22 years of age has the right to attend the district's schools until the student completes high school graduation requirements.

Children of age 8 and less than age 18 are required by law to attend an approved private or public school, or education 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 their authority to grant exceptions when the Superintendent 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

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 August 31 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 August 31 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 that substantially equaled or exceeded the applicable basic education program requirements of RCW 28A.150.220 and WAC 180-16-200 through 180-16-220 will be admitted entry into first grade. 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.

Exemptions

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. Procedures will be provided for implementing this policy and establishing fees to cover expenses incurred in the administration of preadmission screening processes. The district will provide a fee waiver for low-income students that are qualified for free and reduced lunch.

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, and transferring from a public or approved private school will be placed in kindergarten or first-grade, or the grade from which they transferred. The principals will evaluate the educational records and assessment of the student to determine the student's appropriate placement. A temporary classroom assignment may be made for no more than thirty (30) calendar days for the purpose of evaluation prior to making the final placement decision.

Cross References:	Board Policy No.	2100	Educational Opportunities for Students with a Parent in the Military
		2108	Learning Assistance Program
		2140	Comprehensive School Counseling Program
		3114	Part-Time, Home-Based or Off-Campus Students
		3122	Excused and Unexcused Absence

Legal References:	RCW	28A.225.010	Attendance mandatory—Age— Exemptions
	RCW	28A.225.020	School's duties upon juvenile'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
	Chapter	392-137 WAC	Finance – Nonresident attendance
	Chapter	392-335 WAC	Pupils – Uniform Entry Qualifications

Classification: Encouraged

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