

**5112.1/Kindergarten Enrollment  
and Early Entry Waiver  
(2026-2027)**

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
POLICY MANUAL

SECTION: **5000**  
CATEGORY: **Students**  
POLICY CODE: **Kindergarten Enrollment and  
Early Entry Waiver (2026-2027)**

**Kindergarten Enrollment and Early Entry Waiver (2026-2027)**

**I. Purpose**

In accordance with the Connecticut General Assembly’s **March 2026 Emergency Legislation, §§26-27** and **Public Act 23-208**, this policy establishes the age requirements for enrollment in kindergarten and the specific, time-bound “transitional” waiver process available to families for the 2026-2027 academic school year.

The Trumbull Board of Education adopts the following and establishes the following procedures for the 2026-2027 school year.

**II. Eligibility for “Automatic” Enrollment**

To be eligible for kindergarten, a child must have reached the age of five (5) on or before September 1.

**III. Transitional Waiver (2026-27)**

The District recognizes that the shift in the state-mandated cutoff date (from January 1 to September 1) may place a hardship on families. Therefore, for the 2026-2027 school year, the District shall provide a waiver process for children who turn five between September 2, 2026, and December 31, 2026.

**Note:** A waiver is not a guarantee of enrollment; it is a request for an exception based on a determination of developmental readiness. However, students transferring to the District from other Connecticut districts and have been assessed in accordance with state requirements and subsequently granted a waiver for the 2026-2027 school year, shall also be granted a waiver from Trumbull Public Schools for the same academic year.

#### **IV. Waiver Application Requirements**

To apply for a waiver, parents or guardians must complete the following steps:

1. **Written Request:** Complete and submit their written request via the district Google Form “Written Request for Kindergarten & Assessment.” This request must be submitted no later than October 1st, 2026.
  
2. **Mandatory Assessment:** Under state law, once a written request is received, the District shall provide an assessment of the child. The assessment will evaluate:
  - a. Social and emotional maturity
  - b. Communication and language skills
  - c. Physical and cognitive development

#### **V. Determination**

The Principal, in consultation with the certified staff member, shall review the waiver requests and assessment to issue a written decision to the family. The decision of the Principal and the certified staff regarding whether early entry is “developmentally appropriate” is final and not subject to further appeal to the Board of Education.

#### **VI. Sunset of “Transitional” Waiver**

- **Effective Dates:** This policy applies to the 2026-2027 enrollment cycle.
- **Expiration:** The “transitional” waiver option described herein shall expire on June 30, 2027.

#### **Legal References**

Connecticut General Statutes

- 10-15c
- Public Act 23-208 An Act Making Certain Revisions to the Education Statutes
- 2026 Emergency Legislation (SB 298), §§ 26 &27 – Kindergarten Waivers

Adopted:4/7/2026