TRANSITION TO KINDERGARTEN: 2230

Federal Way Public Schools operates a transition to kindergarten program and ensures that the program serves eligible students of all abilities who need additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten and who lack access to other early learning group settings. In Federal Way Public Schools, the transition to kindergarten program is titled Bright Futures Kindergarten.

Federal Way Public Schools considers the best practices pertaining to a transition to kindergarten program as developed in collaboration between the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. The District may blend or co-locate a transition to kindergarten program with other early learning programs.

Eligibility, Recruitment, and Enrollment

The term "screening process and tools" means using one or more instruments or methods of assessing and measuring the ability and need of an individual student.

Children will be eligible to participate in the district's transition to kindergarten program as follows:

1. Based on a screening process and tool as defined above, the District has determined that the child would benefit from additional preparation for kindergarten; and

2. The child's age is at least 4 years old by August 31 of the school year in which they enroll in a transition to kindergarten program.

In determining eligibility and admitting students to a transition to kindergarten program, the District will:

1. Give priority to children most in need of additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten, as demonstrated through a screening process and tool.

2. Give priority to children with the lowest family income, not otherwise participating in another local program.

3. Not exclude or establish a policy to prohibit participation of an eligible child due only to the presence of a disability.

The District is authorized to charge sliding scale fees for enrollment in a transition to kindergarten program, except for students who are eligible for but not yet placed in the early childhood education and assistance program or the head start program, or for children with disabilities entitled to a free appropriate public education in accordance with the special education laws.

All children enrolled in a transition to kindergarten program will be assigned a statewide student identifier.

The District will administer to all children enrolled in a transition to kindergarten program to Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) at the beginning of their enrollment and at least one more time during the school year. Children whose parents excuse them from participating in the WaKIDS do not have to participate.

Adopted under Policy Governance – 10/10/23
Revised – 09/29/26

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Cross References:	Administrative Policy – 3110	Qualification of Attendance, Ages of Entrance and Placement
Legal References:	RCW 28A.300	Superintendent of Public Instruction
	WAC 392-425-010	Transition to Kindergarten – Applicability