

Entrance Age**PRESCHOOL**

In accordance with appropriate state and federal legal requirements, any child who has been identified as disabled, and who is three (3) or four (4) years of age, by August 1 of the current year, shall be eligible for a free and appropriate preschool education and related services.

Children at risk of educational failure who are four (4) by August 1 may enter preschool. All other four (4) year old children shall be served to the extent placements are available.¹

PRIMARY SCHOOL

A child who becomes five (5) by October 1 may enter primary school and may advance through the primary program without regard to age in accordance with KRS 158.030. A child who becomes six (6) by October 1 shall attend public school unless s/he qualifies for an exemption as provided by law.³

The District shall establish guidelines to determine a student's level of academic and social skills when that student is being considered for advancement through the primary program. A student who is at least five (5) years of age, but less than six (6) years of age on or before October 1, may be enrolled in the second level of the primary program in keeping with the process set out in Kentucky Administrative Regulation.⁵

Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the following provisions shall apply:

- A child who becomes five (5) by August 1 may enter primary school and may advance through the primary program without regard to age in accordance with KRS 158.031. A child who becomes six (6) by August 1 shall attend public school unless s/he qualifies for an exemption as provided by law.
- A child who is six (6) years of age, or who may become six (6) years of age by August 1, shall attend public school or qualify for an exemption as provided by KRS 159.030.²

PETITION PROCESS

Parents/guardians may petition the Board to allow their child to enter school earlier than permitted under statutory age requirements. On receipt of a petition, the District shall conduct an evaluation process to help determine a student's readiness to engage in and benefit from early entry to school. The process shall be established in accordance with the following:

- ~~1. The District shall establish guidelines to determine a student's readiness for entry, including the date by which petitions must be submitted to the Central Office.~~
- ~~2. Developmentally appropriate measures, which may include state-approved screening instruments, shall be used to determine a student's level of developmental, academic and social readiness.~~
- ~~3. Based on staff recommendations, the Superintendent shall recommend to the Board whether to grant the request.~~
1. If a child does not meet state entrance age requirements a parent/guardian may complete and submit a Petition for Early Enrollment Form 09.121 AP.21 by March 31 to the Elementary School Principal. The written form shall include the child's age and state the reasons the parent/guardian is requesting early entry to school for their child.

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PETITION PROCESS (CONTINUED)

2. The District shall use the state contracted Brigance Assessment to determine an underage student's readiness for entry into school. The parent/guardian shall be required to complete the Parent Report-Self-help and Social Emotional Scales included in the Brigance Assessment. The parent/guardian shall schedule an appointment with Principal/designee for their child to participate in the Brigance Assessment.
3. The completed Petition for Early Enrollment Form 09.121 AP.21 and the completed Brigance Assessment (both by child and parent/guardian) shall be submitted by the school to the Director of Pupil Personnel. The Petition for Early Enrollment and Brigance Assessment results shall be reviewed by the Early Entrance Committee.
4. The Early Entrance Committee shall submit the Committee decision to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board whether or not to grant the request for Early Enrollment.
5. The parent/guardian shall be notified by the Director of Pupil Personnel by letter within thirty (30) business days the decision whether or not their child has been approved or denied for Early Enrollment based on the Brigance Assessment results.
6. The cutoff score for the Brigance Assessment is 75 for consideration for Early Enrollment.
7. The parent/guardian Self-help and Social Emotional Scales shall indicate an average range for the child's consideration for Early Enrollment.
8. The District reserves the discretion to deny Early Enrollment based on Social-Emotional readiness of the child.

4.9. Considerations may include availability of space and funding.

Any tuition amounts charged to students permitted early entry under this Policy shall be the same as that charged to other tuition paying students who meet statutory age requirements.

Families who are new to the District after the March 31st Petition for Early Enrollment deadline may complete the Early Entrance Process. New to the District documentation must be provided to the Director of Pupil Personnel before the parent/guardian is approved to begin the Early Entrance Process.

PROOF OF AGE

Upon enrollment for the first time in any elementary or secondary school, a student or student's parent shall provide:

- A certified copy of the student's birth certificate, or
- Other reliable proof of the student's identity and age with an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate.⁴

STUDENTS

09.121
(CONTINUED)

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REFERENCES:

- ¹KRS 157.3175; 2016 Budget Bill
- ²KRS 158.030
- ³KRS 157.226; KRS 159.030
- ⁴KRS 158.032; KRS 158.035; KRS 214.034
- ⁵KRS 158.031; 702 KAR 1:160; 702 KAR 7:125
- KRS 158.990; KRS 159.010
- 704 KAR 5:070
- OAG 82-408; OAG 85-55

RELATED POLICIES:

- 08.22
- 09.124
- 09.126 (re requirements/exceptions for students from military families)