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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 is five (5) or who may become five (5) years of age 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 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

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.³ A student who is at least five (5) years of age, but less than six (6) years of age, may be enrolled in the second level of the primary program in keeping with the process set out in Kentucky Administrative Regulation.^{3 & 4}

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.
4. Considerations may include availability of space and funding.

Applications for early enrollment of students who score between 65 and 89 on the BRIGANCE screener will be reviewed by the Director of Instruction, DPP, and Superintendent or designee with a recommendation presented to the Board. Applications of students who score 64 or below on the BRIGANCE screener will not be considered for early enrollment.

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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.²

Entrance Age**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.⁵

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 157.3175

²KRS 158.030

³702 KAR 7:125

⁴KRS 158.031

⁵KRS 158.032; KRS 158.035; KRS 214.034

KRS 158.990; KRS 159.010; KRS 159.030

702 KAR 1:160; 704 KAR 5:070

OAG 82-408; OAG 85-55

P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015), 20 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.

McKinney-Vento Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.

RELATED POLICIES:

08.22

09.124

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