

Book	Policy Manual
Section	Catch Up V17N1 thru V20N2
Title	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
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#### 5112 - ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

The School Board shall establish entrance age requirements for students which are consistent with statute and sound educational practice and which ensure the equitable treatment of all eligible children.

Pursuant to State law, all children who have attained the age of six (6) years or who will have attained the age of six (6) years by February 1st of any school year or who are older than six (6) years of age but who have not attained the age of sixteen (16) years, except as otherwise provided in Florida statute, are required to attend school regularly during the entire school term. Further, all children enrolling in a District school shall meet the immunization requirements set forth in F.S. 1003.22, as well as provide evidence of a physical exam as required by State law.

The superintendent may require evidence of the age of any child who seeks to enroll in the District or who the superintendent believes to be within the limits of compulsory attendance as provided by law; however, the superintendent will not require evidence from any child who meets regular attendance requirements by attending any of the following schools or programs:

1. a parochial, religious, or denominational school;
2. a private school supported in whole or in part by tuition charges or by endowments or gifts;
3. a home education program that meets the requirements of F.S. Chapter 1002; or
4. a private tutoring program that meets the requirements of F.S. Chapter 1002.

#### Pre-Kindergarten

##### A. Head Start

Children who will have attained the age of three (3) to four (4) years on or before September 1st of the school year and whose families meet income eligibility requirements under Federal law are eligible for admission to the Head Start program during that school year.

##### B. Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten

###### 1. School-Year Program

Pursuant to State law, children who will have attained the age of four (4) years on or before September 1st of the school year are eligible for admission to the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten School-Year Program.

###### 2. Summer Program

Pursuant to State law, children who will have attained the age of four (4) years on or before September 1st of the school year are eligible for admission to the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Summer Program.

#### Kindergarten

Children entering kindergarten in the District for the first time must comply with F.S. 1003.21 regarding entry age. A child must be five (5) years old on or before September 1st, in order to meet the Florida age requirement for kindergarten. A child under age six (6) who is enrolled in kindergarten will be considered of compulsory school age.

#### First Grade

Children entering first grade in the District for the first time must comply with F.S. 1003.21. Any child who has attained the age of six (6) years on or before September 1st of the school year and who has been enrolled in a public school or who has attained the age of six (6) years on or before September 1st and has satisfactorily completed the requirements for kindergarten in a non-public school, or who otherwise meets the criteria for admission or transfer in a manner similar to that applicable to other grades, shall progress according to the District's student progression plan.

Students transferring to first grade from a kindergarten program other than the one offered by the District will need written verification of satisfactory completion of kindergarten from the public or non-public school attended and must have attained the age of six (6) years on or before September 1st of the school year in which they seek to transfer. Home education is not an option. Verification forms are available at each elementary school.

#### Initial Entry

- Children entering the District for the first time must comply with F.S. 1003.21 and with the District's *Student Progression Plan*. Students must have an immunization record on file at the school. Any student who does not have the proper immunization shall be temporarily excluded from attendance until compliance has been documented.
- Upon a child's initial entry to a District school, the principal shall require evidence of a physical examination performed within one (1) year prior to the date of entry. An appointment for a physical examination by a county health officer, licensed physician, or chiropractor may be accepted provided the principal is given evidence of the physical examination within one (1) week of such examination. Students transferring into the District from a school within the State of Florida who have completed physical examination form as part of their school record need not be re-examined. Examinations taken out-of-state may be accepted if performed within one (1) year of entry and include documentation and reported on the official forms of the physician.
- A child may be exempt from the required physical examination and/or immunization upon written request of the parent or guardian of such child stating objection to examination and/or immunization on religious grounds or for medical reasons certified by a competent medical authority.
- Pursuant to Board policy, any student who initially enrolls must report school expulsions, juvenile justice actions, ~~and/or~~ arrests and.
- any corresponding referrals to mental health services by the school district that the student previously attended.

#### Verification of Residence

Except as otherwise provided in Policy 5111.01, verification of a parent or guardian's residence shall be required at the time the child registers in a District school. Verification of residence may also be required at any other time at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

A student whose parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the District while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order shall be considered a resident of the District for purposes of enrollment when the order is submitted to the District.

#### Notification of in Loco Parentis

Except as otherwise provided in Policy 5111.01, in cases in which a student is temporarily not residing with his/her parents or legal guardian for a short period of time, the parent or legal guardian of the student shall designate in writing that adult person with whom the student resides who stands in loco parentis to the student in order for him/her to be admitted or continue in school. This statement shall be notarized and

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presented to the principal.

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Legal

F.S. 1003.01, 1003.21, 1003.22, 1003.05, 1003.07  
F.A.C. 6A-1.098, 6A-1.0985