

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Policy Doo.oo

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# School Board Adopted Policy

It is the policy of the Seattle School Board that students who live within the boundaries of the Seattle School District shall be admitted to Seattle Public Schools so long as the student is within the ages permitted by state law. Early entrance exceptions permitted by state law and Board policy are subject to approval of final grade placement by the principal and to procedures outlined in Superintendent Procedure D 02.01 SP.

# Kindergarten

Children who turn five years old on or before August 31 of the school year of enrollment shall be admitted into kindergarten upon enrolling in the school district.

## Early Entrance—Kindergarten

Children who turn five years old between September 1 and October 31 of a school year are eligible for early entrance consideration prior to the beginning of that school year. If approved for early entrance, there is a four-week trial period in kindergarten at the beginning of the school year, after which the final determination for continuation in kindergarten is at the discretion of the building principal.

#### First Grade

Children who turn six years old on or before August 31 of the school year of enrollment shall be admitted into first grade upon enrolling in the school district.

## Early Entrance—First Grade

Children who are not yet six but have successfully completed a public or private kindergarten program comparable to state kindergarten programs shall be admitted to first grade.

## Other Grades

At other grade levels, students are assigned according to the grade attended or completed at the previous school. When a student transfers from a non-graded program such as home school, or has not been enrolled in a public or private school, the student will be assigned to the grade determined by chronological age. The principal of the assigned school will determine the student's appropriate grade level placement.

Students under 21 may remain in school until graduation. Students who turn 21 on or after September 1 will be allowed to attend until the end of the school year or until they graduate, whichever comes first. Students who turn 21 on or before August 31st of any school year will not be permitted to re-enroll in school.

If a student has graduated from a United States high school or equivalent international high school program, Seattle Public Schools is not required to provide further educational services. A student who has completed an *alternative* to a United States high school program such as a General Education Diploma (GED) may be enrolled in a Seattle Public School for the intent of achieving a high school diploma, subject to procedures outlined in Superintendent Procedure D 02.01 SP.

# Mandatory Attendance

Pursuant to state law, children between the ages of 8 and 18 are required to be enrolled in public school, unless subject to one or more exceptions. Allowable exceptions include enrollment in a private school or home-based instruction.

Children under the age of mandatory attendance who are enrolled in public school are subject to the same attendance requirements as those students over age eight, including truancy requirements.

#### Private School Students

Full-time private school students living within the Seattle District boundaries are entitled to attend the public schools of the school district wherein they reside, tuition-free, on a part-time basis, subject to standard assignment rules in effect at the time.

Adopted: January 5, 2011 Revised: January 5, 2011

Cross Reference:

Related Superintendent Procedure:

Previous Policies: Replaces former policies D 00.00 (1984); D 01.00 (1985) and D 02.00 (1985) Legal References: RCW 28A.225.010 (attendance age 8-18); RCW 28A.225.015 (attendance for 6

& 7 year olds); WAC 392-335 Management Resources: