

## Qualification of Attendance and Placement

**A. Age of Admission**

It is a right and responsibility of those who meet the requirements prescribed by law to attend the schools of the district. Every resident of the district who satisfies the minimum entry age requirement has the right to attend the district's schools. Skamania School District offers education through grade 8. Students beyond 8th grade attend a high school of their choice.

**B. Entrance Qualifications**

To be admitted to a kindergarten program that commences in the fall of the year, a child must be not less than 5 years of age prior to September 1 of that school year. To be admitted to a first grade program that commences in the fall of the year a child must be not less than 6 years of age prior to September 1 of that school year. Any student not otherwise eligible for entry to the first grade who has successfully completed a state-approved, public or private, kindergarten program of 450 or more hours including instruction in the essential academic learning requirements and other subjects that the district determines are appropriate will be permitted entry into the first-grade program. If necessary, the student may be placed in a temporary classroom assignment for the purposes of evaluation prior to making a final determination of the student's appropriate placement. Such determination will be made no later than the 30th calendar day following the student's first day of attendance.

**Exemptions**

- C.** Special exemptions may be made for younger pupils. This includes Transitional Kindergarten, which is a program for children not yet age five (4 by August 30) who do not have access to high-quality early learning experiences prior to kindergarten and have been deemed by Skamania School District, through a screening process and/or other instrument(s), to be in need of additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten the following year. It also may include children who appear to be sufficiently advanced to succeed in the educational program. The superintendent will identify screening processes and instruments that will provide reliable estimates of these skills and abilities, develop procedures for implementing this policy and establish fees to cover expenses incurred in the administration of preadmission screening processes. The district will provide a fee waiver or a reduction in fees for low income students whose parents are unable to pay the full cost of preadmission screening.

**D. Placement of Students on Admission**

The decision of where to place a student seeking admission to the district rests with the principal. Generally students meeting the age of admission requirements or transferring from a public or approved private school will be placed in kindergarten or first grade, or the grade from which they transferred. The principal will evaluate the educational record and assessments of all other students to determine their appropriate placement. A temporary classroom assignment may be made for no more than thirty calendar days for the purpose of evaluation prior to making the final placement decision.

**Cross References:**

4220 - Complaints Concerning Staff or Programs  
3122 - Excused and Unexcused Absences  
3114 - Part-Time, Home-Based, or Off-Campus Students  
2140 - Guidance and Counseling  
2121 - Substance Abuse Program  
2108 - Learning Assistance Program  
2100 - Educational Opportunities for Students with a Parent in the Military

Legal References: RCW 28A.225.010 Attendance mandatory — Age — Exceptions  
RCW 28A.225.020 School's duties upon child's failure to attend school  
RCW 28A.225.160 Qualification for admission to district's schools — Fees for preadmission screening  
RCW 28A.225.220 Adults, children from other districts, agreements for attending school — Tuition  
WAC 392-134-010 Attendance rights of part-time public school students  
WAC 392-137 Finance — Nonresident attendance  
WAC 392-335 Pupils - Uniform Entry Qualifications

Management Resources: Policy News, April 2006 Entrance to School Policy Changes  
Policy News, August 1999 Districts may set K-screening fees

Adoption Date: **06.15.20**  
Classification: **Encouraged**  
Revised Dates: **08.99; 04.06; 12.06; 10.07; 12.11**