

QUALIFICATIONS OF ATTENDANCE AND PLACEMENT

1. Age of Admission

It is a right and responsibility for 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 and is less than 21 years of age has the right to attend the district's schools until he/she completes high school graduation requirements. Children of age 8 and less than age 18 are required by law to attend a public school, an approved private school or educational center unless they are receiving approved home-based instruction. Under certain circumstances, children who are at least 16 and less than 18 years of age may be excused from further attendance at school. The superintendent will exercise his/her authority to grant exceptions when he/she determines that the student:

1. Is lawfully and regularly employed, and
2. Has permission of a parent, or,
3. Is emancipated pursuant to Chapter 13.64 RCW; or
4. Is subject to one of the other exceptions to compulsory attendance pursuant to Chapter 28A.225 RCW.

A resident student who has been granted an exception retains the right to enroll as a part-time student and will be entitled to take any course, receive any ancillary services and take or receive any combination of courses and ancillary services which is offered by a public school to full-time students.

2. 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. Special exemptions may be made for younger pupils who appear to be sufficiently advanced to succeed in the educational program and who will be 5 years of age on or before September 30. To enter first grade on an exemption, a child must be 6 on or before September 30 and appear to be sufficiently advanced to succeed in the educational program. The superintendent shall identify screening processes and instruments that shall provide reliable estimates of these skills and abilities.

Screening will be conducted by the District school psychologist. The district will charge a fee of \$100 to partially cover the cost of this assessment should it take place outside the normal school day.

If a child tests at the Above Average Range in six of the following seven areas tested the exception shall be granted. The areas are: 1) acquired knowledge, 2) gross motor skills, 3) fine motor skills, 4) visual skills, 5) auditory association, 6) emotional/social development, and 7) verbal-conceptual skills. The parent shall be notified of the conditional status of the exemption and that it may be withdrawn if, after 1 calendar month, the child performs substantially below the expected level in any of the ability areas.

In the event an exemption is denied, a conditional exemption is withdrawn, or a screening fee waiver is denied, the parent shall be promptly notified of the reasons and of the opportunity to have the decisions reviewed in the manner provided by the district's policy on citizen complaints.

3. Admission of Students Aged Twenty-One or Older

A student aged 21 or older may enroll in a school in the district under the following conditions:

1. There is available space in the school and program which the student will attend;
2. Tuition is prepaid;
3. The student provides his/her own transportation;
4. The student resides in the state of Washington; and
5. In the judgment of the superintendent, no adult education program is available at reasonable costs and the district's program is appropriate to the needs of the student.

4. 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.

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

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