

BOARD POLICY
Entrance Age

Descriptor Term: JBB
Date: XXXXXX XX, 2023

In accordance with Georgia law, every parent, guardian, or other person residing within the state and having control or charge of any child between their sixth and sixteenth birthdays must enroll and send such child or children to a public school, private school, or home study program. All children enrolled for 20 school days or more in the public schools of this state prior to their seventh birthday will become subject to the provisions of the compulsory school attendance law as provided by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-150(c).

All children and youth who meet the following conditions are eligible for enrollment in the appropriate general education programs of the school system and eligible for state funds if appropriated by the General Assembly.

1. All children, including homeless, who have attained the age of five by September 1 shall be eligible for enrollment in the kindergarten program. A birth certificate or other acceptable evidence of age is required as provided by State Board of Education Rule, 160-5-1-.28 and Regulation JBC-R(1), School Admissions.
2. All children, including homeless, who have attained the age of six by September 1 shall be eligible for enrollment in the first grade unless the child has been identified as handicapped or limited- English proficient under the policies and criteria adopted by the State Board. No student will be retained in kindergarten for more than two years.
3. A child who was a legal resident of one or more other states or countries for a period of two years immediately prior to moving to this state and who was legally enrolled in a public kindergarten or first grade or an accredited state or regional kindergarten or first grade will be eligible for enrollment in the general education programs provided such child will attain the age of five for kindergarten or six for first grade December 31 and is otherwise qualified.

Any child who has completed a kindergarten program under the provisions indicated above and who resided in one or more other states or countries for a period of two years immediately prior to moving to this state will be eligible for first grade if such child attains the age of six by December 31 and is otherwise qualified.

4. All youth who have not attained the age of 20 by September 1 are eligible for enrollment in appropriate education programs unless they have received a high school diploma or the equivalent.
5. All youth who are classified as special education students are eligible for enrollment in appropriate education programs through the age of 21 unless they have received a high school or special education diploma or the equivalent, provided they were enrolled during the preceding school year and had approved

Individualized Education Program (IEP) which indicated that a successive year of enrollment was needed.