

Entrance Age Requirements

A child may enter kindergarten if five years old on or before August 31, of the year of enrollment. Younger students who do not meet the district's entrance age requirement for kindergarten may be accepted if transferring from another kindergarten program if the principal or designee determines that placement of the student in kindergarten is appropriate. A child who is four years old on or before the district's start date for kindergarten and has been identified as a highly advanced gifted student in accordance with applicable state law may enroll in kindergarten, if the principal or designee determines that placement of the student in kindergarten is appropriate.

Students enrolling in the first grade may enter if they are six years old on or before August 31 of the year of enrollment. A student who is at least five years old on or before October 1 may be permitted to enroll in first grade if the student attended at least 120 days of kindergarten in another state. A child who is five years old on or before the district's start date for first grade and has been identified as a highly advanced gifted student in accordance with applicable state law may enroll in first grade, if the principal or designee determines that placement of the student in first grade is appropriate.

A legal birth certificate or other acceptable record shall be required for enrollment age certification. The principal or designee will make exceptions to these entrance age requirements in accordance with state law pertaining to the education of military children.

Adopted: **1987**

Reviewed: Policy Manual Updated November 2006 to Reflect CASB Recommendation
By Policy Review Committee June 2010
By Superintendent and BOE February 25, 2013
By Superintendent and Board of Education January 19, 2015
By the Superintendent and Board of Education March 28, 2016

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LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. [22-1-115](#) (*school age*)
C.R.S. [22-20-204](#) (*program plan requirements regarding highly advanced gifted children*)
C.R.S. [22-32-119](#) (*kindergarten*)
C.R.S. [22-54-103](#)(10) (*sets October 1 date for funding*)
C.R.S. 22-54-103 (10.5) (*defines pupil enrollment count day*)
C.R.S. 24-60-3402 (*Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity for Military Children*)
1 CCR [301-8](#), 2220-R-12.00 (*highly advanced gifted children*)

CROSS REFS .: [JEA](#), Compulsory Attendance Ages

NOTE 1: While school boards are allowed to establish the entrance age requirement for the district, state law specifies that a district may count and receive funding only for students enrolled in the first grade who are six years old on or before October 1 of the applicable budget year, who are five years old on or before October 1 and attended at least 120 days of kindergarten in another state, or who are five years old on or before the district's start date and identified as highly advanced gifted students. C.R.S. 22-54-103 (10)(a)(IV)(A) & (B). Similarly, state law specifies that a district may count and receive funding only for kindergarten students who are five years old on or before October 1 of the applicable budget year or for kindergarten students who are four years old on or before the district's start date and identified as highly advanced gifted students. C.R.S. 22-54-103 (10)(a)(IV)(A) & (B).

NOTE 2: The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, C.R.S. 24-60-3402 requires districts to enroll children of military families in kindergarten or first grade, regardless of the child's age if: (1) the child is transferring from another state and was enrolled in kindergarten or first grade in the other state; and (2) the child has a parent(s) who is active military. The Interstate Compact overrides the entrance age requirements of the School Finance Act, C.R.S. 22-54-103(10). Please contact CDE's school finance unit for the audit requirements pertaining to this exception.