

ENTRANCE AGE

1. Four-Year-Old Kindergarten: No pupil may be enrolled in four-year-old kindergarten whose fourth birthday does not occur on or before the first day of September of the school year during which the child registers to enter school. No exceptions will be made to this requirement. A child shall not be retained in four-year-old kindergarten and a child may only attend four-year-old kindergarten for one year unless an individualized education program (IEP) team determines that a child with a disability must remain in four-year-old kindergarten in order to receive the appropriate public education. All IEP determinations that allow for a child to remain in four-year-old kindergarten for more than one year are subject to review by the Director of Special Education.
2. Kindergarten: No pupil may be enrolled in kindergarten whose fifth birthday does not occur on or before the first day of September of the school year during which the child registers to enter school. No exceptions will be made to this requirement. A child may be retained in kindergarten when an individualized education program team determines that a child with a disability must remain in kindergarten in order to receive the appropriate public education. All IEP determinations that allow for a child to remain in kindergarten for more than one year are subject to review by the Director of Special Education.
3. First Grade: No pupil may be enrolled in the first grade whose sixth birthday does not occur on or before the first day of September of the school year during which the child registers to enter school.
4. The following procedure shall be followed for early admission to kindergarten or first grade in accordance with Section 115.28 (8) of the Wisconsin Statutes:
 - A. Application shall be made by the parent to the local school district administrator by May 1 of the preceding school year.
 - B. A personal interview shall be held to determine the parent's reasons for requesting entrance prior to the legal age.
 - C. An evaluation of the child's potential to benefit from early admission to kindergarten or first grade shall be required. The evaluation shall consider emotional stability, social and mental maturity and physical health. The individual evaluation shall be conducted by the student services team in conjunction with other pupil service workers. The evaluation shall be at no cost to parents.
 - D. After the evaluation in C. has been completed, a conference shall be held with the parents to consider the appropriateness of early entrance into kindergarten or first grade.
 - E. For first grade, the following additional conditions and standards must be met:
 1. The child was admitted to and successfully completed kindergarten under S.115.28(8); or
 2. The child successfully completed a program for five-year-old children which the school district deems equivalent to kindergarten; or

3. The child not meeting the conditions of (1) or (2) above, but who as a result of the evaluation prescribed in 3.C, is considered capable of, and whose educational welfare would best be served by placement in first grade.

- F. The school board has the final authority for deciding whether or not the child is to be admitted to kindergarten or first grade.

Adopted:	June 13, 1978
Revised:	September 9, 1980, January 12, 1998, March 10, 2014, March 8, 2021, January 13, 2025

Legal References:
