

HUDSON SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY

JEB Age of Entrance

Updated: February 19, 2024

Related Policies: BAAA

Category: Required

Annual Review

The policy of the Hudson School Board is to admit students to first grade whose sixth birthday occurs on or before September 30, in accordance with RSA 193:1 Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil:

A parent/guardian of any child at least 6 years of age and under 18 years of age shall cause such child to attend the public school to which the child is assigned in the child's resident district. Such a child shall attend full time when such school is in session.

A. Statement of Policy

A pupil may enter kindergarten if the chronological age will be five on or before September 30 of the year of entering school.

A pupil shall be required to enter grade one if the chronological age will be six on or before September 30 of the year of entering school. See RSA 193:1.

A birth certificate must be presented upon registration as proof of the date of birth.

B. Incoming Students Transferring from Another District

Incoming transfer students in grades 2-8, inclusive, will be placed in accordance with the data forwarded by the sending district. Such placement is tentative and subject to reassignment by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

Incoming transfer students in grade 1 will be admitted to grade 1 if their chronological age will be six before December 31 of the year of entering school or if previously enrolled in grade 1 in another community and attending local schools only on a temporary basis (10 months or less). Such placement is tentative and subject to reassignment by the Superintendent.

C. Waivers

Waivers covered by this policy shall only be granted for a three-month probationary period. Before the end of the probationary period, the district will assess whether the waiver/placement is appropriate. If the district determines that the waiver/placement is not appropriate, the student will be subject to reassignment by the Superintendent or his/her designee. For a waiver of early admittance to kindergarten, reassignment shall mean withdrawal from school. Parents requesting a waiver for early admittance to kindergarten must agree in writing or facsimile to withdraw their child if the waiver/placement as determined by the district is not appropriate. Likewise, parents requesting any other waiver under this policy must agree in writing or facsimile to reassignment if the placement as determined by the district is not appropriate. Such agreement to potential reassignment/withdrawal shall be made at the time of application for waiver to age of entrance requirements.

D. Requesting a Waiver

Parents/guardians may request a waiver for delayed entry or early admittance.

Waiver Timeline

1. March 15 - A parent or guardian submits the waiver request form by March 15, prior to the school year in question.
All students applying for a waiver will need to take the appropriate grade-level screener in the spring.
2. May 1 – Screener results with recommendation from the screening team will be delivered to the Superintendent.
3. May 15 – Superintendent or designee will inform parents/guardians in writing of the decision relative to the request.
4. All decisions and appeals will be concluded by June 30.

E. Information Considered

A waiver of the school entrance age policy will be granted in those cases judged to be appropriate in all assessed areas. All reviews relative to waiver requests are confidential.

A parent/guardian who wishes to request a waiver should be aware that considerations may include, but are not limited to, the following information:

1. The school entrance age policy, as stated in Section A above
2. Any hardship other than space or staffing which may result to the School District if the child is granted a waiver to the school entrance age policy
3. Enrollment, class sizes and space
4. Information regarding the child's intellectual abilities
5. Information regarding the child's social and emotional development
6. Information regarding the child's physical abilities
7. Written recommendation(s) of a kindergarten teacher(s), preschool teacher(s), daycare provider(s), or other individuals with specific knowledge of the child's intellectual, social, and physical abilities
8. Information regarding the academic and/or social success of children who are admitted to school at a young age
9. Evidence of whether the child will be harmed if he or she is not granted a waiver, and evidence of what kind of harm may result
10. Any behavioral or developmental issues which the child may face as a result of early admittance to school, and the resources available to help prevent and/or address such issues if they arise
11. Options, other than early admission to school, which are available to the child
12. Issues relating to the credibility of the evidence presented

Legal References

RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil

Approved: April 17, 2017

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Second Reading: March 13, 2023

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First Reading: November 6, 2023

Second Reading: November 20, 2023

Updated: November 20, 2023

First Reading: February 5, 2024

Second Reading: February 19, 2024

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