

**BEND-LA PINE SCHOOLS**

Administrative School District No. 1  
Deschutes County, Oregon

**ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

Name: Guidelines for Entrance and Early Entrance into Kindergarten and 1st Grade

Section: Students

Code: JEBA-AR

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**Standard Age Requirements for Kindergarten and First Grade**

A child entering school for the first time in the fall shall be considered to be of school age if the child's birthday meets the birthday requirements established by Oregon law. Subject to the exceptions for early entry described below, a child entering kindergarten is to be five years old on or before September 1, and a child entering first grade is to be six years old on or before September 1. Students born after September 30 are not eligible for early entry consideration.

**Application for Early Entrance**

A student will be considered for early entrance into kindergarten or first grade if his or her birthday falls after September 1 but no later than September 30 and the parents complete the early entrance procedures set forth in this regulation, including psychological testing and evaluation at the parents' expense, and the principal of the school reviews the assessment results and accepts the student for early entrance according to the criteria set forth in this regulation.

1. The parents shall confer with the school principal or designee regarding the application, testing, and evaluation procedure.
2. The parents shall have their child tested using standardized assessments in the following areas: speech and language development, gross and fine motor development, cognitive and academic skills and socialization development including observations in a school environment.
3. A school psychologist, school evaluator, private psychologist, or other qualified examiner approved by the district shall administer the tests.
4. Parents shall pay for the cost of assessment. District psychologists/evaluators may use district assessment materials in order to keep the cost lower for parents.
5. Parents shall submit their child's testing and assessment results to the school principal or designee for decision. The principal or designee shall determine if early entry shall be granted based on the criteria set forth below.
6. Entry is probationary for the first nine weeks of school. By the end of the first nine weeks the principal will review the student's success and may require the child be withdrawn from school if the child is not progressing satisfactorily in all areas of concern.

## **Criteria for Early Entry into Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

1. Psychologists/evaluators may recommend students for early entry to kindergarten or first grade if the student performs at the 97th percentile nationally in the areas of assessment.
2. Psychologists/evaluators may recommend early entrance for students who have two scores in the areas of Speech & Language and Social – Emotional skills that are in the 97th percentile or above if all other scores are at the 93rd percentile or higher.

### **Kindergarten**

Students who are five years old on or before September 1 may enroll in kindergarten. Recognizing that other states and countries may have different minimum age requirements for school admission, the district will accept out-of-state transfer students in kindergarten who are younger than age five on September 1 if they have legally enrolled in a public school kindergarten through the month of September.

### **First Grade**

Students who are six years old on or before September 1 may enroll in first grade. Recognizing that other states and countries may have different minimum age requirements for school admission, the district will accept out-of-state transfer students in first grade who are younger than age six on September 1 if they have legally enrolled in a public school first grade through the month of September, or if they have completed a full year of public school kindergarten in the prior school year.

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