

POLICY IEA - Early Entry into Kindergarten Program

The Board's mandate is to provide appropriate educational services to children who are 6 years of age as of December 31.

PURPOSE:

To clarify early entry requirements for Kindergarten/ECS program.

ACRONYMS

ECS – Early Childhood Services - Kindergarten

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES

1. Children who are 5 years old on or before December 31 of the school year are eligible to enroll in an ECS program. In instances where a child's birthday falls between December 31 and January 31, early admission could be attained. The procedures for admission are as follows:
 - a) Application for early admission must be made in writing to the Superintendent's office;
 - b) An assessment of the child's readiness for ECS must be completed prior to September 1st;
 - c) Following the assessment, the Superintendent will inform the parents whether early admission has been granted;
 - d) Parents may appeal the decision to the Board.
2. Students with birthdays between December 31 and January 31 who have been attending an ECS program in another jurisdiction will be eligible for enrollment in an ECS program, space permitting.
3. Children with special needs may be eligible for early entry into ECS programs if they meet the criteria outlined in the current year's Funding Manual for School Authorities.
4. Children who will be six years old on or before December 31 of the school year shall be eligible for admittance to the grade one program. In specific instances where a child's birthday falls between December 31 and January 31, the child may be enrolled in grade one if:
 - a) the child has been previously enrolled in a regular grade one program elsewhere; or
 - b) having been granted early entry into an ECS program, has successfully completed the year.

REFERENCES

Cross References:

Policy IFA – Appeals Concerning Student Matters

Legal Reference:

[Education Act](#) - Section 7(1)

[Funding Manual for School Authorities](#)

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Next Review: 2020/2021