

Kindergarten Entry Age Changed for 2017-18 School Year

There is a new cutoff date starting next school year to enroll your child in kindergarten. Beginning with the 2017-18 school year, children must be 5 years old as of August 1 to enroll kindergarten in a Kentucky public school.

When was this change announced?

The law that changed the birthday cutoff date from October 1 to August 1 passed in 2012.

Will students who don't meet the new August 1 cutoff be allowed to start kindergarten?

Your school district can grant a waiver for children to start kindergarten who are not yet 5 years old as of August 1. You will need to contact your local school district office for more information. School districts may test children to see if they are ready before they enroll them.

Can the district charge tuition for early entry students?

Yes, but the amount of tuition cannot exceed the amount of tuition it charges students who are age-eligible to start kindergarten. For example, if student is a non-resident and does not pay tuition, then the district cannot charge tuition for an early entry-student. The district may not charge tuition to any student who is eligible for free/reduced-price meals.

What if my child has been enrolled in kindergarten already in another state?

You should contact the school district office and provide the paperwork to show the prior enrollment in kindergarten. Once the paperwork has been verified, the school will enroll the child in kindergarten.

Where do I go if I have questions?

Questions regarding kindergarten enrollment, early entry waivers and other issues regarding school registration should be directed to your school district office. Additional information is available on the Kentucky Department of Education's website:

<http://bit.ly/EarlyEntranceKindergarten>

