

LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY: 201
SECTION: PUPILS
TITLE: ADMISSION OF BEGINNERS
ADOPTED: JULY 18, 1994
REVISED: JUNE 17, 1996
MARCH 18, 2002
MARCH 16, 2009
NOVEMBER 17, 2014
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201. ADMISSION OF BEGINNERS

Authority

The Board shall establish age requirements for the admission of beginning students which are consistent with law, regulations, and sound educational practice and which ensure the equitable treatment of all eligible children.¹

Guidelines

A. Pre-Kindergarten

The Superintendent or designee will establish criteria for the selection of eligible students for admission to Pre-Kindergarten Program(s).

A child is eligible for admission to the Early Childhood K4 Program if s/he is not less than four (4) years old on or before September 1 of the current school term.

B. Kindergarten

A child is eligible for admission to kindergarten if s/he is not less than five (5) years old on or before September 1 of the current school term.²

A child who is eligible for admission to kindergarten may be admitted up to the end of the last day of the first marking period.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for reviewing admission requests of children who are classified as nonresident.³

¹ 24 P.S. 1301; 22 Pa.Code. 11.12 and 11.41.

² 22 Pa.Code. 11.14.

³ 24 P.S. 1305.

It is expected that a child entering school is independent in taking care of his or her bathroom needs. Special accommodation will be made for exceptional students who have an Individual Education Program (IEP), which specifically addresses this need, or a 504 Plan which reflects a medical condition. Similarly, exceptions will be made in federally funded Early Childhood K4 programs which do not permit exclusions related to personal bathroom needs unless it presents a health issue.

Early Admission to Kindergarten

The Superintendent or designee will establish criteria for early admission to Kindergarten Programs.

The Superintendent or designee will establish procedures for reviewing early admission requests to Kindergarten Programs.

A child is eligible for early admission to kindergarten if s/he will turn five (5) years old between September 2 and October 31 of the current school year.

Prior to the admission of a child to pre-kindergarten, kindergarten or first grade classes, evidence of the age of the child shall be furnished to the District.

Such evidence may be:

1. A legal birth certificate.
2. A baptismal certificate indicating date of birth, together with a sworn notarized statement from parent/guardian as to the accuracy of the certificate.
3. A certified copy of entrance into the United States showing the birth date of the child, together with a sworn notarized statement from parent/guardian.
4. Such other evidence as family Bible record, insurance policy or school record showing date of birth of the child, together with a sworn notarized statement from parent/guardian.

If none of these is available, an affidavit of age sworn by the parent/guardian and accompanied by a certificate of age from a public health officer or public school physician; or, in their absence, a licensed practicing physician in the county.

C. 1st Grade

1st Graders are students entering the lowest grade of the primary school above the kindergarten level. Unless otherwise authorized by the Superintendent or his/her designee, they shall be admitted to school only during the first two (2) weeks of the annual school term, except a child who is eight (8) years of age may begin school at any time during the school year.⁴

A child is eligible for admission to first grade if s/he has attained the age of six (6) years of age on or before the first (1st) day of September, of the current school term.⁵

The Board may admit as a 1st grader a child who is five (5) years old and demonstrates readiness for entry by the first day of the school term, upon the written request of the parent/guardian, recommendation of the school psychologist, and approval of the Superintendent.⁶

The Board is not required to admit as a 1st grader any child whose age is less than the district's established admission age for beginners.⁷

Readmissions

Students who have withdrawn from school may be readmitted on the same basis as a new student enrolling for the first time and will be subject to the same conditions as a new student.⁸

Students expelled from school may be readmitted to classes only if the terms and conditions set forth at the time of the expulsion have been fulfilled.⁹

Admission of Transfer Students

Students transferring from other public schools will generally be admitted to the same grade level and status as in the previous school. Each school principal has the right to place the student in a different grade or level if the available information suggests the need to do so. Students transferring from private schools or home school programs will be placed according to the best

⁴ 24 P.S. 1304-1305.

⁵ 24 P.S. 1304; 22 Pa. Code. 11.15.

⁶ 22 Pa. Code. 11.16.

⁷ 22 Pa. Code. 11.16.

⁸ Pol. 208.

⁹ Pol. 233.

estimate of their progress as it relates to the sequence of grades in the School District of Lebanon.

When it is known that a transfer student was expelled for an offense involving a weapon by another school district, admission to the School District of Lebanon will be permitted only through an alternative assignment through the end of such expulsion period pursuant to the School Code Section 1317.2.¹⁰

Students entering the district from correctional facilities will be placed within the district after review by the Assistant Superintendent or designee.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall require that the parent/guardian of each student who registers for entrance to school shall submit proof of age, residency, and required immunizations.¹¹

¹⁰ 24 P.S. 1317.2

¹¹ Pol. 200 and 203.