

ADMISSION

The Governing Board encourages the enrollment and appropriate placement of all school-aged children in school. The Superintendent or designee shall inform parents/guardians of children entering a district school at any grade level about admission requirements and shall assist them with enrollment procedures.

Before enrolling any child in a district school, the Superintendent or designee shall verify the child's age, residency, immunization, and other applicable eligibility criteria specified in law, the accompanying administrative regulation, or other applicable Board policy or administrative regulation.

The district shall not inquire into or request documentation of a student's social security number or the last four digits of the social security number or the citizenship or immigration status of the student or his/her family members. Any information obtained about a student or parent/guardian's citizenship or immigration status shall not be shared without parent/guardian consent or a lawful judicial order, in accordance with laws pertaining to the confidentiality of student records. (Education Code 234.7, 49076.7)

((cf. 0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

(cf. 5145.13 – Response to Immigration Enforcement)

(cf. 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

However, such information may be collected when required by state or federal law or to comply with requirements for special state or federal programs. In any such situation, the information shall be collected separately from the school enrollment process and the Superintendent or designee shall explain the limited purpose for which the information is collected. Enrollment in a district school shall not be denied on the basis of any such information of the student or his/her parents/guardians obtained by the district, or the student's or parent/guardian's refusal to provide such information to the district.

School registration information shall list all possible means of documenting a child's age for grades k-1 as authorized by Education Code 48002 or otherwise prescribed by the Board. Any alternative document allowed by the district shall be one that all persons can obtain regardless of immigration status, citizenship status, or national origin and shall not reveal information related to citizenship or immigrant status.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the enrollment of a homeless or foster child or a child of a military family is not delayed because of outstanding fees or fines owed to the child's last school or for his/her inability to produce previous academic, medical, or other records normally required for enrollment.

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(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)
(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)
(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)
(cf. 6173.3 – Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

In addition, no child shall be denied enrollment in a district school solely on the basis of his/her arrest, adjudication by a juvenile court, formal or informal supervision by a probation officer, detention in a juvenile facility, enrollment in a juvenile court school, or other contact with the juvenile justice system. (Education Code 48645.5)

(cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)
(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

When enrolling in any district school, including a school in their attendance area, children whose parents/guardians reside within district boundaries shall be subject to the timelines established by the Board for open enrollment. Children whose parents/guardians do not reside within the district or who are not otherwise eligible for enrollment in the district may apply for interdistrict attendance in accordance with the timelines specified in applicable Board policies and administrative regulations.

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)
(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)
(cf. 5118 - Open Enrollment Act Transfers)

The district's enrollment application shall include information about the health care options and enrollment assistance available to families within the district. The district shall not discriminate against any child for not having health care coverage and shall not use any information relating to a child's health care coverage or his/her interest in learning about health care coverage in any manner that would harm the child or his/her family. (Education Code 49452.9)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

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Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

234.7 *Student protections relating to immigration and citizenship status*
46300 *Computation of average daily attendance, inclusion of kindergarten and transitional kindergarten*
46600 *Agreements for admission of students desiring interdistrict attendance*
48000 *Minimum age of admission (kindergarten)*
48002 *Evidence of minimum age required to enter kindergarten or first grade*
48010 *Minimum age of admission (first grade)*
48011 *Admission from kindergarten or other school; minimum age*
48050-48053 *Nonresidents*
48200 *Children between ages of 6 and 18 years (compulsory full-time education)*
48350-48361 *Open Enrollment Act*
48850-48859 *Educational placement of homeless and foster youth*
48645.5 *Enrollment of former juvenile court school students*
49076 *Access to records by persons without written consent or under judicial order*
49076.7 *Student records; data privacy; social security numbers*
49408 *Information of use in emergencies*
49452.9 *Health care coverage options and enrollment assistance*
49700-49704 *Education of children of military families*

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

120325-120380 *Education and child care facility immunization requirements*
121475-121520 *Tuberculosis tests for students*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

200 *Promotion from kindergarten to first grade*
201 *Admission to high school*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17

6000-6075 *School attendance immunization requirements*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 5

552a *Note Refusal to disclose social security number*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

11431-11435 *McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act*

COURT DECISIONS

Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982)

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Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Legal Guidance on Providing All Children Equal Access to Education, Regardless of Immigration Status, February 2017

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Promoting a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, April 2018

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS JOINT PUBLICATIONS

Fact Sheet: Information on the Rights of All Children to Enroll in School

Dear Colleague Letter: School Enrollment Procedures, May 8, 2014

Information on the Rights of All Children to Enroll in School: Questions and Answers for States, School Districts and Parents, May 8, 2014

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Office of the Attorney General: <http://oag.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

U.S. Department of Justice: <https://www.justice.gov>

ADMISSION

Age of Admittance to Kindergarten and First Grade

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall enroll any otherwise eligible child who will have his/her fifth or sixth birthday on or before September 1 of that year into kindergarten or first grade, as applicable. (Education Code 48000, 48010)

Any child who will have his/her fifth birthday from September 2 through December 2 of the school year shall be offered a transitional kindergarten (TK) program in accordance with law and Board policy. (Education Code 48000)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)
(cf. 6170.1 - Transitional Kindergarten)

On a case-by-case basis, a child who will turn five years old in a given school year may be enrolled in kindergarten or TK at any time during that school year with the approval of the child's parent/guardian, provided that: (Education Code 48000)

1. The Superintendent or Designee determines that the admittance is in the best interests of the child.
2. The parent/guardian is given information regarding the advantages and disadvantages and any other explanatory information about the effect of this early admittance.

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

In determining whether a child should be granted early entry to kindergarten, the Superintendent or designee shall consider various factors including the availability of classroom space and any negotiated maximum class size.

(cf. 6151 - Class Size)
(cf. 7111 - Evaluating Existing Buildings)

Documentation of Age/Grade

Prior to the admission of a child to kindergarten or first grade, the parent/guardian shall present proof of the child's age. (Education Code 48002)

Evidence of the child's age may include: (Education Code 48002)

1. A certified copy of a birth certificate or a statement by the local registrar or county recorder certifying the date of birth

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2. A duly attested baptism certificate
3. A passport

When none of the foregoing is obtainable, the parent/guardian may provide any other appropriate means of proving the age of the child. (Education Code 48002)

A student enrolling in a district school at any other grade level shall present records from his/her previous school district documenting his/her age and current grade level.