

# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

No. 201

SECTION: 200 Pupils/Students

TITLE: Admission of Students

ADOPTED: April 27, 1981

REVISED: January 30, 2025

## 201 ADMISSION OF STUDENTS

### **Authority**

The Board of Education (“Board”) shall establish age requirements for the admission of students to first grade and to kindergarten that are consistent with state law and regulations and sound educational practice.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

### **Definitions**

Beginners are students entering the lowest grade of the primary school above the kindergarten level.[\[4\]](#)

Compulsory school age for the School District of Philadelphia shall be six (6) years on or before September 1.[\[5\]](#)

### **Mandatory Procedures**

#### **First Grade**

Beginners shall be admitted to school during the first two (2) weeks of the annual school term and at any time thereafter during the school year.[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)

Beginners shall be admitted to first grade provided the child has attained the compulsory school age of six (6) years on or before September 1.[\[1\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[7\]](#)

Upon written request of the parent/guardian, a child whose chronological age is not less than five (5) years and seven (7) months on September 1, and who has completed a full-day kindergarten program may be admitted to first grade and if approved by the District’s administrative designee on the basis of a developmental standard set by the District.[\[8\]](#)

The District is not required to admit as a beginner any child whose age is less than the District's established admission age for beginners.[\[8\]](#)

#### **Kindergarten**

Children shall be admitted to kindergarten provided the child has attained the age of five (5) years on or before September 1.[\[9\]](#)

A child who has reached the compulsory age of six (6) by September 1, but has not attended a full year of kindergarten may, at the written request of the parent/guardian, attend kindergarten instead of first grade, if space is available.

### Prekindergarten

Children shall be admitted to the District's preschool services programs provided the child has attained the age of three (3) years before September 1.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for establishing administrative procedures for registration that:

1. Require the parent/guardian of each student who registers for entrance to school to submit proof of age, residency, and required immunizations. [11][12]

### **Legal References:**

1. 24 P.S. 1301
2. 22 PA Code 11.12
3. 22 PA Code 11.41
4. 24 P.S. 1304
5. 24 P.S. 2103
6. 24 P.S. 1326
7. 22 PA Code 11.15
8. 22 PA Code 11.16
9. 22 PA Code 11.14
10. Pol. 137
11. Pol. 200
12. Pol. 203

### **Related Information:**

- 24 P.S. 503
- 22 PA Code 4.41
- 22 PA Code 1.13