

FAQs About Kindergarten Entrance

Why did DCSD change the kindergarten entrance date to October 1?

The Douglas County School District Board of Education made the decision to change the kindergarten enrollment date based on the Colorado State Funding law for kindergarten students. The law establishes October 1 as a funding date for entering kindergarten students. The vast majority of school districts in the Denver metro area use the October 1 entrance date for new kindergarten students. The Douglas County School Board voted to do the same in November 2007 and revised policy JEB-Entrance Age. This policy can be viewed on the District website under Board of Education, Administrative Policies, Students.

Can I apply for a waiver for my child who misses the entrance date by just a few days?

There is no waiver process in DCSD for students who do not meet the entrance date for kindergarten. If children are advanced beyond the kindergarten level, once he/she is enrolled the following year, the school may consider using the Acceleration Process to advance a student to the next level.

Who makes the decision that a child cannot enter kindergarten prior to the entrance date?

The decision was voted on by the Douglas County School Board of Education in November, 2007 after recommendations made by the District Policy Council and is upheld by building principals and Directors of Schools.

Can I enroll my child in first grade if they are 6 by October 1 and did not attend kindergarten?

According to policy, a parent may make that choice, however, it is not recommended. Children would miss the foundation of learning in reading and math that prepares them for success in first grade. Students entering first grade in Douglas County School District are expected to be reading at a level 3 reading level. Without the pre-literacy and literacy skills, a student may begin school at a disadvantage.