

Entrance, Placement, and Transfer

Age

The trustees will enroll a child in kindergarten or first grade whose fifth (5th) birthday occurs on or before the tenth (10th) day of September of the school year in which the child is to enter school. Parents may request a waiver of the age requirement. All waivers are granted in the sole discretion of the Superintendent. No pupil may be enrolled in the District if that pupil has reached his or her 19th birthday on or before September 10th in the school year in which the child registers to enter school. A waiver of the age limitation must be reviewed and approved by the Board. The trustees may also admit an individual who has graduated from high school but is not yet 19 years of age even though no special circumstances exist for waiver of the age provision or a student who is not yet 19 years of age and experienced educational disruption and was awarded a diploma as a result and seeks access to reasonable curriculum designed to advance postsecondary success.

School Entrance

1. The District requires that a student's parents, legal guardian, or legal custodian present proof of identity of the child to the school within forty (40) days of enrollment, as well as proof of age and proof of residence in the District. Students who are not residents of the District may apply for admission pursuant to Policy 3141. Homeless students, students in foster care, and students of military families shall be admitted pursuant to state and federal law, and Board Policy.
2. To be admitted to District schools, in accordance with the Montana Immunization Law, a child must have been immunized against varicella, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, rubella, mumps, and measles in the manner and with immunizing agents approved by the department. Immunizations may not be required if a child qualifies for conditional attendance or an exemption is filed as provided by Montana law.

Placement

The District goal is to place students at levels and in settings that will increase the probability of student success. Developmental testing, together with other relevant criteria, including but not limited to health, maturity, emotional stability, and developmental disabilities, may be considered in the placement of all students. Final disposition of all placement decisions rests with the principal, subject to review by the Superintendent or the Board.

Children of Relocated Military Families

The Board shall assign and admit a child whose parent or guardian is being relocated to Montana under military orders to a school in the district and allow the child to preliminarily enroll in classes and apply for programs offered by the District prior to arrival and establishing residency. The student may attend classes during preliminary enrollment and may receive offsite instruction if not present in the District.

Transfer

Elementary students shall be placed at their current grade level on a probationary basis for a period of two (2) weeks. Thereafter, should doubt arise as to initial grade and level placement of a student, school personnel will conduct an educational assessment to determine appropriate grade and level placement.

High school students shall be placed according to the number of credits earned in their previous accredited school districts, subject to Montana Accreditation Rules and Standards and local alternate procedures for earning credit.

Cross Reference: Board Policy 3125
 Board Policy 3127
 Board Policy 3130

Legal Reference:	§ 20-5-101, MCA	Admittance of child to school
	§ 20-5-403, MCA	Immunization required – release and acceptance of immunization records
	§ 20-5-404, MCA	Conditional attendance
	§ 20-5-405, MCA	Medical or religious exemption
	§ 20-5-406, MCA	Immunization record
	§ 44-2-511, MCA	School enrollment procedure
	10.55.601, et seq., ARM	Accreditation Standards: Procedures
		House Bill 246 Omnibus K-12
		Education Legislation

Policy History:

Adopted on:

Reviewed on:

Revised on: 11 July 2016,
 08 November 2021