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Conditions for Kindergarten Exemption

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	Conditions for Kindergarten Exemption
Alabama	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Alaska	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Arizona	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.
Arkansas	A child who will be 6 on or before October 1 who has not completed a state-accredited kindergarten program "shall be evaluated by the district and may be placed in the 1st grade if the results of the evaluation justify placement in the 1st grade and the child's parent agrees with placement in the 1st grade. Otherwise, the child shall be placed in kindergarten." (Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-201)
California	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Colorado	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.
Connecticut	"The parent or person having control of a child 5 years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is 6 years of age...by personally appearing at the school district office and signing an option form." (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-184)
Delaware	Parents may request an evaluation of a child's readiness for kindergarten attendance "and may request a delay of one year in that attendance." However, admission to 1st grade will depend on an evaluation of the child's readiness for attendance. (Del. Code Ann. tit. 14 § 2702)
District of Columbia	Not specified in statute
Florida	Not specified in statute
Georgia	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.

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Hawaii	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Idaho	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Illinois	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Indiana	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Iowa	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Kansas	Kindergarten is not mandatory in this state.
Kentucky	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.
Louisiana	Children must attend kindergarten before attending 1st grade unless they have satisfactorily passed an academic screening administered by the city or parish school system. (La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 17:151.3)
Maine	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Maryland	<p>A child who is 5 years old may be exempted from mandatory school attendance for one year if the child's parent or guardian files a written request with the local school system asking that the child's attendance be delayed due to the child's level of maturity. A child may be exempted from attending kindergarten if a parent or guardian of the child files a written request with the local school system and verifies that the child is enrolled full-time in a licensed child care center; full-time in a registered family child care home; or part-time in a Head Start five-year-old program. (Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-301(a)(2), (f))</p> <p>A child may be exempted from attending a public or nonpublic kindergarten program if "the child is enrolled in an alternative program as specified in [state regulations] or is receiving home instruction as provided in [state regulations]." (Md. Regs. Code tit. 13A., § 08.01.01)</p>
Massachusetts	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Michigan	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.
Minnesota	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Mississippi	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.
Missouri	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.

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Montana	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.
Nebraska	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Nevada	The parents of a 6-year-old child may elect for the child not to attend kindergarten or 1st grade during that year if they file a waiver with the board of trustees of the appropriate school district. If parents choose this option, the child must pass a developmental assessment before being admitted to 1st grade the following year. (Nev. Rev. Stat. § 392.040)
New Hampshire	Not specified in statute
New Jersey	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.
New Mexico	With consent of the parent, a child may be excused from compulsory attendance by the superintendent of schools of the school district in which the child is a resident and the child is under 8 years of age. (N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-12-2)
New York	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state
North Carolina	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
North Dakota	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Ohio	Students must complete kindergarten in order to attend 1st grade. This requirement may be waived upon request of a parent in the case of a child who is at least 6-years-old by September 30 and who demonstrates the social, emotional and cognitive skills necessary for 1st grade. (Oh. Rev. Code Ann. § 3321.012 [C] and[D])
Oklahoma	A child who is 5 years old may be excused from kindergarten attendance for one year if a parent or guardian notifies the superintendent of the district by certified mail prior to enrollment (Okla Stat. Ann. tit.. 70 § 10-105)
Oregon	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.
Pennsylvania	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Puerto Rico	Not specified in statute
Rhode Island	Not specified in statute

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South Carolina	A parent may elect for their child not to attend kindergarten if the parent "signs a written document making the election with the governing body of the school district." (S.C. Code Ann. § 59-65-10)
South Dakota	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Tennessee	"No child shall be eligible to enter 1st grade...without having attended an approved kindergarten program." (Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-201)
Texas	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state. (Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 42.003)
Utah	Kindergarten attendance is not required in this state.
Vermont	Not specified in statute
Virgin Islands	Not specified in statute
Virginia	Any child who will not have reached his 6th birthday on or before September 30 whose parent notifies the appropriate school board that he does not wish the child to attend school until the following year because the child "in the opinion of the parent or guardian, is not mentally, physically or emotionally prepared to attend school, may delay the child's attendance for one year". (Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-254)
Washington	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
West Virginia	"Prior to entrance into the 1st grade...each child must have either (1) successfully completed such publicly or privately supported, state-approved kindergarten program or Montessori kindergarten program, or (2) successfully completed an entrance test of basic readiness skills approved by the county in which the school is located: provided, that such test be administered in lieu of kindergarten attendance only under extraordinary circumstances to be determined by the board." (W.Va. Code Ann. § 18-8-1a)
Wisconsin	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.
Wyoming	Kindergarten attendance is not mandatory in this state.

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