



StateNotes

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Kindergarten Entrance Age

December 2010

	Kindergarten Entrance Age
Alabama	5 on or before September 1 (Ala. Code § 16-28-40)
Alaska	5 before August 15 (Alaska Stat. § 14.03.080)
Arizona	5 before September 1 (Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 15-821)
Arkansas	2009-2010 school year: 5 on or before September 1 2010-2011 school year: 5 on or before August 15 Thereafter: 5 on or before August 1 (Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-207)
California	5 on or before November 1st for children entering school in 2012. The cutoff moves to September 1st in 2014. (Cal. Educ. Code § 48000)
Colorado	A [local] board of education may establish and maintain kindergarten in connection with schools of its district for the instruction of children one year prior to the year in which such children would be eligible for admission to the first grade. (Colo. Rev. Stat. § 22-32-119)
Connecticut	5 on or before January 1 (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-15c)
Delaware	5 on or before August 31 (Del. Code Ann. tit. 14 § 2702)
District of Columbia	5 on or before December 31 (D.C. Code Ann. § 38-202)
Florida	5 on or before September 1 (Fla. Stat. ch. 232.01)
Georgia	5 by September 1 (Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-150)

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Hawaii	5 on or before August 1 The entrance age for junior kindergarten is 5 after August 1 and before January 1. (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302A-411)
Idaho	5 on or before September 1 (Idaho Code § 33-201)
Illinois	5 on or before September 1 (105 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/10-20.12)
Indiana	5 on or before August 1. (Ind. Code § 20-33-2-7)
Iowa	5 on or before September 15 (Iowa Code § 282.3)
Kansas	5 on or before August 31 (Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-1107(c))
Kentucky	5 by October 1 (Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 158.030)
Louisiana	5 on or before September 30 (La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 17:151.3, 17:222)
Maine	5 on or before October 15 (Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A § 5201)
Maryland	5 by September 1 (Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-301)
Massachusetts	Local education agency option
Michigan	5 on or before December 1 If the school district has semiannual promotions, a child may enroll in kindergarten for the 2nd semester if he is at least 5 on March 1 of the school year. (Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.1147)
Minnesota	At least 5 on September 1 (Minn. Stat. § 120A.20)
Mississippi	5 on or before September 1 (Mississippi Kindergarten Guidelines)
Missouri	5 before August 1 (Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.051) The law is different for metropolitan school districts. "All metropolitan school districts...may establish and enforce a regulation which requires that a child shall have attained the age of five for purposes of kindergarten and summer school prior to a kindergarten school term...on or before any date between August first and October first of that year." (Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.054)

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Montana	5 on or before September 10 (Mont Code Ann.§ 20-7-117)
Nebraska	Beginning with the 2012-13 school year, children are eligible for kindergarten if they are 5 years old on or before July 31. Children who turn 5 between August 1 and October 15 may be eligible if they perform adequately on a school assessment which determines if a child is capable of kindergarten-level work. (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-214)
Nevada	5 on or before September 30 (Nev. Rev. Stat. § 392.040)
New Hampshire	Not specified in statute
New Jersey	A district may admit to kindergarten "any child over the age of 4 and under the age of 5 and shall admit...any child over the age of 5 and under the age of 6 years who is a resident of the district." (N.J. Stat. Ann. §18A:44-2)
New Mexico	5 before September 1. (N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-13-3)
New York	Local education agency option (N.Y. Educ.§ 1712)
North Carolina	5 on or before August 31 (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-364)
North Dakota	5 before August 1 (N.D. Cent. Code § 15.1-06-01)
Ohio	Districts may choose to set the cut-off date for September 30 or August 1. (Oh. Rev. Code Ann. § 3321.01)
Oklahoma	5 on or before September 1 (Okla. Stat. Ann. tit.70 § 18-108)
Oregon	5 on or before September 1 (Or. Rev. Stat. § 336.092)
Pennsylvania	Local education agency option. (Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. 24 P.S. § 5-503)
Puerto Rico	5 when school starts (currently August 31) (This is based on practice and is not specified in statute.)
Rhode Island	5 on or before December 31 (until 1/1/04) 5 on or before September 1 (after 1/1/04) (R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-2-27)

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South Carolina	5 on or before September 1 (S.C. Code Ann. § 59-63-20)
South Dakota	5 on or before September 1 (S.D. Codified Laws § 13-28-2)
Tennessee	5 on or before September 30. (Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-201)
Texas	5 on or before September 1. (Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 29-151)
Utah	5 on or before September 2 (Utah Admin. Code § 53A-3-402)
Vermont	5 on or before January 1. Local education agencies may choose to set the kindergarten entrance date between August 31 and January 1. (Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 16 § 1073)
Virgin Islands	5 by December 31 (V.I. Code Ann.17 § 82)
Virginia	5 on or before September 30 (Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-199)
Washington	5 as of midnight August 31. (Wash. Admin. Code § 180-39-010)
West Virginia	5 on or before September 1. (W. Va. Code Ann. § 18-5-18)
Wisconsin	5 on or before September 1. (Wis. Stat. Ann. § 118.14)
Wyoming	5 on or before September 15. (Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-4-302)

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