

STUDENT AGE REQUIREMENTS

Prekindergarten

Children who will have attained the age of four on or before September 1 of the school year shall be eligible for admission to the Georgia Pre-kindergarten Program during that school year. Children are eligible for admission on a first come first served basis in targeted school attendance areas.

Kindergarten

Children who will have attained the age of five years on or before September 1 of the school year shall be eligible for admission to public kindergarten during that school year. Children who were legal residents of one or more other states for a period of two years immediately prior to moving to Georgia and who were legally enrolled in a public or state/regional accredited kindergarten shall be eligible for enrollment in the general or special education programs provided such child will attain the age of five for kindergarten by December 31 and are otherwise qualified.

First Grade

Children who have attained the age of six years on or before September 1 of the school year shall be eligible for first grade if otherwise qualified. Children who were legal residents of one or more other states for a period of two years immediately prior to moving to Georgia and who were legally enrolled in a public kindergarten or first grade, or a kindergarten or first grade accredited by a state or regional association, shall be eligible for enrollment in the appropriate general or special education programs if such children will attain the age of six for first grade by December 31 and are otherwise qualified.

Secondary Program

Students are eligible to maintain enrollment in the regular secondary program unless they attain the age of 20 on or before September 1 or they have received high school diplomas or the equivalent.

Special Education

Early Enrollment - Children who have attained the age of three years but are not yet eligible for kindergarten and who meet criteria for one or more of the disability categories as defined in Chapter 160-4-7 of the Georgia Special Education Rules are considered eligible for preschool special education programs and related services. These disability categories are autism, deaf/blind, emotional and behavioral disorder, hearing impairment, intellectual disability (mild, moderate, severe, or profound), orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, severe emotional and behavioral disorder, significant developmental delay, specific learning disability, speech-language impairment, traumatic brain injury, and/or visual impairment.

Maximum-Age Enrollment - Special Education students are eligible to maintain enrollment in appropriate education programs until they receive high school or special education diplomas or the equivalents, or through the end of the semester during which they reach their twenty-second birthday.

Enrollment Eligibility

~~In accordance with Georgia law, every parent, guardian, or other person residing within the City of Atlanta and having control or charge of any child between his/her sixth and 16th birthdays shall enroll and send such child or children to a public school, private school, or a home study program. All children enrolled for 20 school days or more in the public schools of this state prior to their sixth birthday shall become subject to the provisions of the compulsory school attendance law.~~

~~I. Enrollment of Students in Kindergarten Through Grade Six~~

~~All children and youth who meet the following conditions are eligible for enrollment in the appropriate general education programs of the Atlanta Public Schools.~~

~~All children who have attained the age of five by September 1 shall be eligible for enrollment in the kindergarten program.~~

~~A. All children who have attained the age of six by September 1 shall be eligible for enrollment in the first grade. Beginning in school year 1990-91, each local school must assess each student's readiness for first grade. The assessment shall include data obtained from multiple sources, including, but not limited to, a State Board-adopted readiness instrument with accompanying State Board-approved score ranges and teacher evaluation of the student's mastery of essential curriculum objectives as recorded on a State Board-adopted systematic checklist. Individualized education programs (IEPs) shall establish standards for promotion to, or enrollment in, first grade for handicapped students.~~

~~B. A child who was a legal resident of one or more states for a period of two years immediately prior to moving to this state and who was legally enrolled in a public or state/regional accredited kindergarten or first grade shall be eligible for enrollment in the general education programs if such child will attain the age of five for kindergarten or six for first grade by December 31 and is otherwise qualified.~~

~~C. Any child who has completed a kindergarten program under the provisions of the preceding paragraph and who resided in one or more states for a period of two years immediately prior to moving to this state shall be eligible for first grade if such child attains the age of six by December 31 and is otherwise qualified.~~

~~D. Children entering kindergarten or any grade must present the following documents:~~

- ~~1. Certificate of birth.~~
- ~~2. Certificate of immunization for diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus.~~

~~II. Conditional Enrollment~~

~~A. All regular education students who have not attained the age of 20 by September 1 are eligible for conditional and permanent enrollment in appropriate~~

~~education programs, unless they have received a high school diploma or its equivalent. Students who have not dropped out of school for one quarter or more and who have not attained the age of 21 by September 1 are eligible for conditional and permanent enrollment, provided they have not received a high school diploma or its equivalent.~~

~~B. Any student applying for admission to a grade higher than sixth grade shall be enrolled on a conditional basis, pending submission of the documentation identified in Section I above, and review of such by the school administration.~~

~~C. In accordance with O.C.G.A. §20-2-670, any student applying for admission to a grade higher than the sixth grade shall, as a prerequisite to admission, present a certified copy of his or her academic record and disciplinary record from the school previously attended. In lieu of providing such documentation, the student and the parent or legal guardian shall execute a document authorizing the school last attended to release the disciplinary and academic records to the APS.~~

~~D. The student or parent or legal guardian shall also disclose whether the student has ever been adjudicated guilty of the commission of a designated felony, as identified below, and if so, the date of such adjudication, the offense committed, the jurisdiction in which such adjudication was made, and the sentence imposed.~~

The following is a list of designated felonies:

- ~~1. Aggravated battery~~
- ~~2. Aggravated sexual battery~~
- ~~3. Aggravated child molestation~~
- ~~4. Aggravated sodomy~~
- ~~5. Armed robbery~~
- ~~6. Attempted murder or attempted kidnapping (13 years or older)~~
- ~~7. Battery (school employee)~~
- ~~8. Carrying an explosive, firearm, or knife at a public gathering~~
- ~~9. Escaped after being found guilty of a designated felony~~
- ~~10. Hijacking a motor vehicle (13 years or older)~~
- ~~11. Illegal acts including hoax and conspiracy relating to destructive devices, explosives, or detonators~~
- ~~12. Kidnapping (13 years or older)~~
- ~~13. Murder~~
- ~~14. Possession, manufacture, transport, sale, distribution, or intent to distribute an explosive device~~
- ~~15. Possession of a pistol or a revolver~~
- ~~16. Racketeering~~
- ~~17. Rape~~
- ~~18. Robbery~~
- ~~19. Second degree arson (13 years or older)~~
- ~~20. Second or subsequent conviction of any crime related to vehicle theft~~
- ~~21. Third offense of any act that if committed by an adult would be a felony~~
- ~~22. Trafficking in cocaine, illegal drugs, marijuana, or methamphetamine~~
- ~~23. Voluntary manslaughter.~~

~~E. The Superintendent (or his/her designee) is authorized to decline to approve the permanent enrollment of any student seeking to transfer to the APS who (1) fails to provide the required documentation; or (2) has been convicted of a designated felony; or (3) is subject to pending disciplinary action in another school system or is subject to disciplinary action that would warrant imposition of long-term suspension or expulsion within the APS.~~

~~F. All records in connection with a student's enrollment shall be subject to the privacy requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Board policy JR.~~

~~III. Special Education Students~~

~~Special Education students are eligible for conditional and permanent enrollment in appropriate education programs through age 21 unless they have received a high school or special education diploma or the equivalent, provided they were enrolled during the preceding school year and had an approved Individualized Education Program (IEP) that indicated that a successive year of enrollment was needed.~~

~~IV. Non-Resident Students~~

~~Non-resident students will be admitted in accordance with the Georgia Board of Education policy JBCB and the Atlanta Board of Education policy JBCBA.~~

~~V. Students will not be excluded from enrollment in the regular daytime programs of the APS on the basis of race, gender, national origin, marital status, parental status, or pregnancy.~~

~~Compulsory Attendance at Alternative Schools~~

~~The provisions of the State's mandatory attendance law shall apply to a child between his or her sixth and sixteenth birthdays who has been assigned to attend an alternative public school program established by the Board. This provision shall apply regardless of whether such child has been suspended or expelled from another public school by that local board of education or its delegate, and to the parent, guardian, or other person residing in this state who has control or charge of such child.~~