

SECTION J: STUDENTS

ENTRANCE AGE REQUIREMENTS

JEB

The Portsmouth School Department provides a full day kindergarten program that fulfills the district's curriculum goals and objectives and requirements in Rhode Island Law.

Admission requirements into kindergarten are as follows:

- 1.1 Every child who has attained or will have attained five years of age on or before **September 1** of any school year shall be eligible to attend kindergarten during all the days that kindergartens are in session during said school year. (R.I. Law 16-2-27).
- 1.2 All children who attain the age requirements on or before **September 1** may be enrolled at any time during the kindergarten year.
- 1.3 A child regularly enrolled in a kindergarten program whose measured age is developmentally appropriate (First Semester - 6, Second Semester - 6 1/2), who specifically would profit from entry into grade one because of social or academic achievement, may be transferred with parental permission, into the regular grade one program upon the recommendation of the Building Principal and approval of the Superintendent.
- 1.4 All children registered for kindergarten must have a birth certificate or other evidence of the child's birth date and health immunization records as required by the State Department of Health provided at the time of enrollment.
- 1.5 Consideration for early admission into kindergarten -

A child who will celebrate his/her fifth (5th) birthday on or before October 1st of the year of desired admittance may be placed in kindergarten when **all** of the following criteria are met:

- a) The child's parent(s) or guardian(s) has, on or before July 1st of the year of desired enrollment, notified the Superintendent of Schools in writing of the desire for his/her child to be considered for early admission to kindergarten; and
- b) The child has been enrolled in a public pre-school or a center- based pre-school program for at least one (1) year; and
- c) The parent(s) or guardian(s) submits record of a physical, vision and hearing assessment completed within six (6) months of the request for early admission. These assessments may be recorded as part of the physical or may be conducted separately; and

- d) The child's parent(s)/ guardian(s) agrees to submit his or her child to an appropriate evaluation of academic and social maturity performed by the Portsmouth School Department, the results of which indicate that the child has a good chance for success in early kindergarten admission; and
- e) The Portsmouth School Department has sufficient kindergarten classroom space available, *which availability shall be on a first come first serve basis*, in which to place the child without causing the need for additional staffing.

REF: R.I. General Laws, Title 16, 16-2-27 (Eligibility for attendance-kindergarten);
16-2-28.2 (Kindergarten multiple sessions)

Policy Revised: 4/11/06; 10/25/11; 8/7/18

Portsmouth School Department
Portsmouth, Rhode Island