

# Target Population

## SCHOOL ADMISSIONS - Board Policy

### Student Admission

The Board of Education shall provide free public education to all students who are residents of the school district and who are between the ages of five (5) and 21 years and who otherwise qualify for admission under Missouri law unless otherwise required by federal law. Federal law also requires the district to provide services to resident students qualifying for special education services between the ages of three (3) and 21. Any senior qualifying for graduation at the end of the school semester and attaining age 21 during the course of the semester may complete that particular semester tuition free.

Persons seeking admission to the district and its instructional programs must satisfactorily meet all residency, academic, age, immunization, discipline and other eligibility prerequisites as established by Board policy and state or federal law. Students enrolling in kindergarten or first grade must provide proof of a comprehensive vision examination by January 1 of the first year in the district, in accordance with law. In the event that a parent or legal guardian of a student objects to the student's participation in the eye screening program, the student shall be excused upon receipt by the appropriate school administrator of a written request. Students who are homeless will be admitted in accordance with Board policy and law.

Students who apply for admission to the district schools on the basis of prior accredited schooling outside of the district shall be placed initially in the grade level they have reached. Subsequently, the principal shall determine whether the grade placement is appropriate for the individual. Students who apply for admission to the district schools on the basis of prior unaccredited schooling shall be admitted in accordance with Board policy.

### Entrance Age

In accordance with law, a student is eligible for admission to attend the Columbia School District, and is eligible for admission to summer school the summer prior to entering kindergarten, if the student:

1. Reaches the age of five (5) before August 1 of the school year in which he or she plans to enroll.
2. Has attended school, or the summer school prior to a kindergarten school term, in the St. Louis School District or the Kansas City School District, regardless of the age of the student.
3. Is a child in the household of an active duty member of the military, including some veterans who are deceased or injured as defined by law, who has successfully completed an accredited pre-kindergarten program or has attended an accredited kindergarten in another state, regardless of the age of the student.

# Target Population

A student eligible to attend who has previously attended a kindergarten program or otherwise demonstrates to the satisfaction of the district that he or she is socially and academically ready to progress may be placed in a class, grade or program that would best meet the student's educational needs, after consultation with the student's parent/guardian. Likewise, a student who demonstrates that he or she is not socially or academically ready to enter kindergarten or the grade in which he or she would otherwise be placed may be placed in a preschool or other appropriate class or program offered by the district, after consultation with the student's parent/guardian.

Students who are entering kindergarten or first grade are encouraged to preregister in the spring prior to the fall semester in which they are to begin attendance. Students entering the schools in the school district will be required to present a birth certificate or other acceptable proof of age if necessary to determine whether the student is eligible to attend school.

## Requests for Student Records

Within two (2) business days of enrolling a student, the school official enrolling the student shall request those records required by district policy for student transfer, including discipline records, from all schools previously attended by the student within the last 12 months.

Within 48 hours of enrolling a nonresident student placed in the district pursuant to §§ 210.481-.536, RSMo., via foster homes, residential care facilities or child-placing agencies, the school official enrolling the student shall request those records required by district policy for student transfer, including discipline records, from all schools and facilities previously attended by the student; the Department of Social Services; the Department of Mental Health; the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and any entity involved with the placement of the student within the last 24 months.

The district will accept hand-carried or unofficial records for the purpose of enrolling a student transferring from another state who is in the household of an active duty member of the military, including some veterans who are deceased or injured as defined by law, but will request official records in accordance with this policy.

## Foster Children

The district designates the Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education as the liaison for foster care children. The liaison will provide advisory assistance regarding all aspects of the enrollment, placement, transfer and withdrawal of children in foster care.

## Statement of Prior Suspension, Expulsion or Criminal Offense

The Board of Education requires the parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of a child of school age to provide upon enrollment a signed statement indicating whether the student has been suspended or expelled from a public or private school in this state or any other state for an offense in violation of Board policies. In addition, the person enrolling the student must affirm that the student has not been convicted of or charged with an act listed in the "Admission Restriction" section of this policy. This

# Target Population

registration document shall be maintained as a part of the student's scholastic record.

## Students Suspended or Expelled from Another District

Without the superintendent's or designee's permission, no student may enroll in a school in the district during a suspension or expulsion from another in-state or out-of-state school district, including a private, charter or parochial school or school district, if it is determined upon attempt to enroll that the student's conduct would have resulted in a suspension or expulsion in this district. The parent/guardian or student may request a conference with the superintendent or designee to consider whether the conduct of the student would have resulted in a suspension or expulsion in this district. The superintendent or designee may make such suspension or expulsion from another district effective if it is determined that such conduct would have resulted in a suspension or expulsion in this district. If it is determined that such conduct would not have resulted in a suspension or expulsion in this district, the superintendent or designee shall not make such suspension or expulsion from another school or district effective. The superintendent or designee will consider whether the student has received the due process required by law before making any decision.

A remedial conference will be held in accordance with Board policy prior to enrollment of any student following a suspension or expulsion from another school for an act of school violence as defined in § 160.261.2, RSMo. The remedial conference will be held regardless of whether such act was committed at a public or private school in this state, provided that such act shall have resulted in the suspension or expulsion of such student in the case of a private school.

## Admission Restriction

In accordance with § 167.171, RSMo., no student may be readmitted or enrolled to a regular program of instruction in the school district who has been convicted of or charged with an act that if committed by an adult would be one (1) of the following:

1. First degree murder under § 565.020, RSMo.
2. Second degree murder under § 565.021, RSMo.
3. First degree assault under § 565.050, RSMo.
4. Forcible rape under § 566.030, RSMo.
5. Forcible sodomy under § 566.060, RSMo.
6. Statutory rape under § 566.032, RSMo.
7. Statutory sodomy under § 566.062, RSMo.
8. Robbery in the first degree under § 569.020, RSMo.
9. Distribution of drugs to a minor under § 195.212, RSMo.
10. Arson in the first degree under § 569.040, RSMo.
11. Kidnapping, when classified as a class A felony under § 565.110, RSMo.

Nothing in this section shall prohibit the readmittance or enrollment of any student if a charge has been dismissed or when a student has been acquitted of any of the above acts. This section does not apply to a student with a disability, as identified under state

# Target Population

eligibility criteria, who is convicted as a result of an action related to the student's disability. If the district maintains an alternative education program, and the district determines that the placement is appropriate, a student subject to these admissions restrictions may be admitted to such an alternative education program.

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