

Procedure Qualification of Attendance and Placement

Entrance Qualifications for Kindergarten Program

Parents requesting an exemption shall provide to the district the results of an assessment using the instruments and processes approved by the superintendent and conducted by or under supervision of a licensed or certified psychologist. If the assessment is conducted by district staff a fee not to exceed \$75 may be charged except that such fee may be reduced or waived for persons whose families, by reason of their low income, would have difficulty in paying the entire amount of such fees. For purposes of this waiver or reduction, the USDA Child Nutrition Program guidelines shall be used. The district reserves the right to reassess the child at its own cost before granting an exemption.

If a child exceeds the norm in each ability area, the exemption shall be granted. The superintendent may grant conditional exemptions to children who perform at or near the norm in most or all of the areas of ability. The parent shall be notified of the conditional status of the exemption and that it may be withdrawn if, after 2 months, the child performs substantially below the expected level in any of the ability areas.

For children within a few days of the cut-off: at the Principal's discretion an informal assessment with school staff may be conducted and the child placed in the advanced grade on a 30 day trial. The principal can seek further, more in-depth assessment, as per policy and at parent expense (unless free and reduced) if needed during the trial period. At the end of the trial period, the principal shall make a final determination of admittance, based upon input from staff and any other assessments conducted during the trial period.

In the event an exemption is denied, a conditional exemption is withdrawn, or a screening fee waiver is denied, the parent shall be promptly notified of the reasons and of the opportunity to have the decisions reviewed in the manner provided by the district's policy on citizen complaints.

As a minimum, eligibility for the exemption from the age requirement will be based upon an analysis of the child's physical, health and motor development; (2) social and emotional development; (3) approaches toward learning; (4) language, literacy and communication; and (5) cognition and general knowledge. Where feasible, assessment devices will be used that will permit students who are to be considered for exemption to be compared to the level of performance that would be expected of children with a chronological age of 5 years for kindergarten and 6 years for first grade in each of the areas of ability.

Admission of Students Aged Twenty-One or Older

The student will petition the superintendent for admission.

The petition will identify the student's name, age, address and grade level or program of study.

If approved, the petition will specify the tuition fee to be paid, will be signed by the student and the superintendent and will constitute the written agreement required by law. It will be retained as a public document and made available to the state Superintendent of Public Instruction upon request.

The tuition fee will be calculated in the same way the state Superintendent of Public Instruction determines the cost of educating a student in the district, except that a disabled student who turns twenty-one during the school year will only pay that amount of money deemed as "excess cost."

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Lopez Island School District
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