

Is My Child Required to Attend Kindergarten? Parent Guide #1

In the state of Michigan, enrollment into kindergarten is not required, but it is strongly recommended because kindergarten continues the groundwork for school success. Children are required by law to be enrolled in a public or a nonpublic school by age six.

Your child does not have to take an entry test for kindergarten. If your child meets the age requirement, he or she is eligible to attend kindergarten in Michigan's public schools.

► Beginning in 2013, a child who is five years old on or before November 1 is able to enroll in kindergarten.*

► In 2014, a child who is five years old on or before October 1 may enroll in kindergarten.*

► In 2015 and beyond, a child who is five years old on or before September 1 may enroll in Kindergarten.*

If your child enters public school at age six without having completed kindergarten, he or she may be placed in the first program of study, and that is kindergarten.

Parent Guides #12 and #13 provide information about what is taught in kindergarten.

The kindergarten entry age requirement does not apply to nonpublic schools. Nonpublic schools may set their own enrollment policies and may choose different age cut off dates than public or charter schools. Please contact your local nonpublic school for a copy of their enrollment policies.

****Please see Parent Guide #4 for information about an early entry option for kindergarten enrollment.***