

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

The local school system shall provide for and offer in every school having a first grade or in a kindergarten center a full-day kindergarten program in accordance with standards set in Bulletin #741.

All school systems shall provide kindergarten programs for all eligible students of appropriate age. The placement of students shall be clearly communicated to parents by the school. Beginning with the 1991-92 school year, every child, as a prerequisite to enrollment in any first grade of a public school, shall meet one of the following criteria:

- have attended a full-day public or private kindergarten for a full academic year of
- have satisfactorily passed academic readiness screening administered by the school system at the time of enrollment for first grade.

The age at which a child may enter kindergarten of any public school at the beginning of the public school session shall be five (5) years of age on or before September 30 of the calendar year beginning with the 1996-97 school session.

The kindergarten shall be informal in nature with teacher-directed and student-initiated activities and it shall be planned to meet the developmental needs of young students.

REF.: Bulletin #741, State Department of Education (1977)

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