

POLICY	BOARD OF EDUCATION OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND
ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS	SECTION 430
430.1 Age Requirements for Enrollment 430.2 Attendance Areas 430.3 Residence Exceptions 430.4 Transportation of an Out-of-State Student 430.5 Attendance is Essential / Legitimate Reasons for Absence	Amended: 7/12/06

430.1 Age Requirements for Enrollment

It is an expectation that every student enrolled will remain a student until graduating or officially transferring from Frederick County Public Schools. Maryland law requires every child between five (5) and sixteen (16) years of age residing in the State to attend public school regularly during the entire period of each school year, unless it can be shown that the child is elsewhere receiving regular, thorough instruction in the studies usually taught in public schools to children of the same age or the child satisfies an applicable exemption.

A. Prekindergarten

Children enrolling in prekindergarten shall be 4 years old or older on September 1 of the school year in which the child applies for entrance.

B. Kindergarten

1. Children enrolling in kindergarten shall be 5 years old or older on September 1 of the school year in which the child applies for entrance.
2. Parents/guardians may request an exception for early entrance to kindergarten for any child born up to 45 days after the regular cut-off date of September.

The intent of early entrance to kindergarten is to accommodate those students who show accelerated development both socially and academically.

3. Children who receive a one-year waiver to delay attending kindergarten will be required to enter kindergarten the following school year.

C. First Grade

1. For the 2006-07 school year, a child admitted to the first grade shall be 6 years old or older on September 30, 2006.

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2. Beginning with the 2007-08 school year and each school year thereafter, a child admitted to the first grade shall be 6 years old or older on September 1 of the school year in which the child applies for entrance.
3. In order to enroll in first grade, a child must have completed an accredited kindergarten program.

D. Age of 21

Students under 21 years of age prior to the first day of school of that year may be legally enrolled for the current school year.

430.2 Attendance Areas

Students shall attend the school of the attendance area in which they reside and in accordance with procedures outlined in regulation.

430.3 Residence Exceptions

A student may be transferred to a school other than the one in the attendance area in which the student resides in accordance with procedures outlined in regulation.

430.4 Transportation of an Out-of-State Student

If an out-of-state student participates in the transportation program, an additional charge will be levied according to the transportation cost per student.

430.5 Attendance is Essential / Legitimate Reasons for Absence

Attendance is essential to obtaining all that school has to offer. Therefore, the board expects all students to attend every school day. Obviously, the board realizes that there are some legitimate reasons, like illness, which will cause a student to be absent.

The board further realizes that occasionally parents will need to take a trip with their children during school. Therefore, students who take a trip with their parents will be excused no more than twice during a year for a maximum of five days.

In this effort to promote good attendance, any student who has more than five unexcused absences in any grading period will automatically fail that course for that grading period.