

ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS TO CLASSES—FIVE-YEAR-OLDS

Maine law permits children who are at least five years old on October 15 of the school year to enroll in school. The intent is that these students begin their school careers in Kindergarten at this age.

However, it is recognized that exceptions to this initial placement may be justified under limited circumstances. In such rare cases, enrolling five-year-old students may be placed in first grade at the discretion of school officials in accordance with the following:

- A. Social and emotional maturity should have been demonstrated such as to predict success in grade one;
- B. The decision of placement lies with the Principal, appealable to the Superintendent whose decision shall be final;
- C. The right must be reserved to the school to administer testing as appropriate to making a proper determination of placement;
- D. Any such placement is to be conditioned upon demonstrated success and reviewed at appropriate intervals;
- E. A student who was enrolled in a public kindergarten in another state and was promoted to first grade may enroll in first grade; and
- F. All exceptional placements are to be reported to the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall promulgate regulations/procedures to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 5201

Cross Reference: IKE - Promotion, and Retention of Students
JFAA - Admission of Resident Students
JFAB – Admission of Non-Resident Students

Adopted: February 10, 2003

Reviewed: June 11, 2007

Reviewed: June 14, 2010

Reviewed: Nov. 12, 2013

Reviewed: Nov. 14, 2016

Reviewed: May 13, 2019

Reviewed: February 13, 2023