

ENTRANCE AGE

The Arlington Public Schools ("APS") believe a strict cutoff date for the start of Kindergarten and First Grade benefit the educational and social/emotional needs of the student throughout his or her K-12 years. Considerable discussion and research, such as the *Early Childhood Longitudinal Study*, among the findings were that in reading, mathematics, and general knowledge, older kindergarteners outperform younger kindergartners

rachel@admitster.com sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education has been conducted on this issue of school readiness. For this reason at this time the APS will not entertain petitions to accelerate the start date for a student based on age.

The School Committee has the authority, within the limits of the law and State Board of Education regulation, to set the entrance ages for children admitted to kindergarten and grade one. In order to be admitted to kindergarten in the public schools, a child must attain the age of five by August 31 of the year in which he/she will enter. To enter grade one, a child must be six years old by August 31.

CROSS REFS: JEA, Compulsory Attendance Dates
 JF, School Admissions

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