

# Board of Education Las Cruces Public Schools

## POLICY JEB

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Related Entries: JFA, JFAB, JFAB-RB, JHD-RA  
 Responsible Office: ~~Chief Academic Officer~~ [Deputy Superintendent for Instruction](#)

### Age of Enrollment/Qualified Student

#### I. PURPOSE

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring all schools in Las Cruces Public Schools comply with the state laws governing the age of enrollment for students and that all students meet state statutory requirements for enrollment.

#### II. GUIDELINES

##### A. "Qualified student" means a public-school student who:

1. Has not graduated from high school;
2. Is regularly enrolled in one-half or more of the minimum course requirements approved by the New Mexico Public Education Department for public school students; and
3. In terms of age and other criteria:
  - a. is at least five years of age prior to 12:01 a.m. on September 1 of the school year;
  - b. is at least three years of age at any time during the school year and is receiving special education services pursuant to rules of the New Mexico Public Education Department;
  - c. except as provided in Subparagraph (d) of this paragraph, has not reached the student's twenty-second birthday on the first day of the school year; or
  - d. has reached the student's twenty-second birthday on the first day of the 2019-2020 school year, is counted in the school district's MEM on the third reporting date of the 2018-2019 school year, has been continuously enrolled in the same public school since that reporting date and is still enrolled in that school.

B. Kindergarten: Children admitted to the kindergarten program in the Las Cruces Public Schools ~~must be at least five years old prior to 12:01 a.m. on September 1 of the year of enrollment~~ have attained their fifth birthday prior to September 1 of the school year.

C. First Grade: Children admitted to a first-grade program in the public schools must be at least six years old prior to 12:01 a.m. on September 1 of the year of enrollment, or

1. ~~beginning with the 2006-07 school year~~, Children that will be six years of age after 12:00 a.m. on September 1 of the year of enrollment, may enroll in first grade if one of the following criteria is met:
  - a. successful completion of a year of accredited public or private kindergarten; or
  - b. transfer from an accredited public or private school first grade program.

D. The Superintendent shall promulgate a regulation for the enforcement of this policy.

- ~~A. Pre kindergarten: Children receiving special education services pursuant to state regulations, may be admitted to a pre-kindergarten program in the public schools, and must be at least three years of age at any time during the school year in which they enroll.~~

**III. REVIEW**

This policy shall be reviewed in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

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*Approved, Board of Education President*

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*Date*

**Legal Ref:** 22-8-2 and 22-13-3 NMSA 1978

**History:** Formerly Policy 301, Revised 9.16.20