



MDDE Recommends

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT and ALTERNATIVE KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS

The sections of the *Revised School Code* that address this issue are contained in the Michigan Compiled Law under MCL 380.1147 and 388.1606.

Enrollment Age

Michigan law entitles a resident child who is at least five years of age on or before December 1 to enroll in kindergarten [MCL 380.1147]. For the district to be eligible to count the pupil in membership and receive state aid, the pupil must meet this age requirement [MCL 388.1606(4)].

Districts are not required to enroll a child in kindergarten until the child is five years of age on or before December 1 of the school year of enrollment. If a district did agree to enroll a four-year old, the district would not be able to claim the child for state school aid purposes.

Alternative Kindergarten Programs

The Michigan Attorney General ruled in an opinion cited as 1987 OAG 6467 that when a child is qualified by residence and age to attend kindergarten, the school district is obligated to accept the child's enrollment in kindergarten despite any recommendation of school district personnel that the child attend an alternative developmental kindergarten program.