

# Kindergarten Waiver Information

2025

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A recently enacted Michigan law amended the Revised School Code (MCL 380.1147), which changed the minimum age requirement for a child enrolling in kindergarten. Previously, a student had to be five years old on or before December 1<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for enrollment to kindergarten. New legislation changed the “cut-off” date: **Children must be five(5) years old on or before September 1<sup>st</sup>.**

## Parent Waiver Option

If the child is not eligible for enrollment per the guidelines specified above and will be five years old on or before December 1<sup>st</sup>, the child’s parent or legal guardian can apply for a waiver to enroll their student in school. Waiver deadlines and other information are as follows:

- If the child resides in the school district, the waiver must be submitted to the school district no later than **June 1st** before the beginning of the school year.
- If the child becomes a resident of the school district after June 1<sup>st</sup>, the waiver must be submitted to the school district no later than **August 1<sup>st</sup>** before the beginning of the school year.
- When in receipt of a waiver, districts can make recommendations to the child’s parent or legal guardian, as to the child’s readiness for school, and whether or not the child should be enrolled early.
- Regardless of a district’s recommendation, the parent or legal guardian retains the sole discretion to enroll their child.

Once received, your child may be scheduled for an assessment for Kindergarten Readiness and you will receive notification on the approval status of your child’s waiver.

**Questions?** Call the Battle Creek Public Schools Office of Early Learning 965-9480

# Battle Creek Public Schools

## Kindergarten Waiver Request for 2025-26 School Year

According to Michigan Law, if a child residing in Battle Creek Public Schools is not five (5) years of age by September 1, 2025 but will be five (5) years of age not later than December 1, 2025, the parent or legal guardian of that child may enroll the child in kindergarten for the 2025-26 school year if the parent or legal guardian notifies the school district in writing **not later than June 30, 2025**, that he or she intends to enroll the child in Kindergarten. If a child becomes a resident of the Battle Creek Public Schools after June 1, the child's parent or legal guardian may enroll the child in kindergarten for that school year if the parent or legal guardian submits this written notification not later than August 1, 2025 under this subsection.

A school district that receives this written notification may make a recommendation to the parent or legal guardian as to whether the child is not ready to enroll in kindergarten due to the child's age or other factors. Regardless of the district recommendation, the parent or legal guardian retains the sole discretion to determine whether or not to enroll the child in kindergarten if the student is five years of age not later than December 1, 2025.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School Requested: \_\_\_\_\_ Preschool Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Verification of Age:  Birth Certificate  Government Record  Hospital Record  
(Check one)  Court Record  Citizenship Paper  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Specify)*

**Evidence of School Readiness** *(parent to list specific examples - i.e. attended GSRP, recognizes letters and numbers, can write their name, counting, etc.):*

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian's Printed Name* *Parent/Guardian's Signature* *Date*

*Parent Phone number* \_\_\_\_\_ *Parent E-mail:* \_\_\_\_\_

### Battle Creek Public Schools Recommendation

**Kindergarten Assessment Completed:** Yes  No

- The Office of Early Learning agrees with the recommendation of the parents to enroll in Kindergarten.
- The Office of Early Learning recommends Kindergarten begins in September 2026 for the following reasons:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*School Administrator's Signature* *Date*