

East Point Academy – Policy
Focus Area – Students
Policy STU 101 – Student Entrance Age

Issued: December 14, 2017

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for the appropriate age for students entering school.

Kindergarten

Students may enroll in kindergarten if they meet one of these criteria:

- They will attain the age of 5 on or before September 1st of the school year.
- They substantially began attending a public school kindergarten program in another state which has a different attendance age requirement

A parent/guardian whose child will attain the age of 5 on or before September 1st of the school year may waive kindergarten attendance for his/her child. Parents/guardians who wish to waive kindergarten attendance must sign a waiver form with their designated home school district (not East Point Academy). The signed waiver will be retained and placed in each child's permanent record when he/she enters school.

At the time of registration, every child entering kindergarten will be required to present a valid birth certificate showing that he/she will be 5 years of age on or before September 1 of the current school year, or has already substantially initiated a public school kindergarten program in another state that has a different attendance age requirement.

Since the kindergarten program is designed for children 5 years of age, those who are 6 years old on or before September 1 of the current school year will not be permitted to enroll in the kindergarten program, as these children will be eligible to enroll in first grade. An exception to this policy will be considered upon the receipt of a written request from the parents/legal guardians of the student to enroll in kindergarten. Such a request will be referred to the School Guidance Counselor and Instructional Team for review and recommendation. Additionally, the student will be evaluated by a kindergarten teacher and after all information has been reviewed a recommendation concerning appropriate placement for the student will be made to the Head of School for approval or disapproval.

Children turning 4 years of age on or before September 1 of the current school year will be eligible to apply for the EPA 4-year-old pre-kindergarten program.

First grade

Students may enroll in the first grade if they meet one of these criteria:

- They will attain the age of 6 on or before September 1 of the school year
- They substantially began a first grade program in another state that has a different attendance requirement.
- They have successfully completed a public school kindergarten program for one full school year.

Prior to entering first grade, every child new to the EPA will be required to present a valid birth certificate showing that he/she will be 6 years of age on or before September 1st of the current school year. A request for exception to this requirement should be sent in writing to the Head of School.

A first grade student who transfers during the school year from another state where a different regulation exists may be accepted provided legal residence has been changed to South Carolina and the school administration determines that he/she has attended a public school kindergarten program for one full school year.

This policy supersedes all previous EPA policies concerning the Student Entrance Age.