

1 The [Transylvania County Board of Education](#) (the “board”) requires all students to meet the
2 eligibility requirements for school admission established by the state and the board, including
3 age. Any parent or guardian who is unclear whether a child meets the age requirements is
4 encouraged to contact the superintendent’s office or the elementary school that the child is likely
5 to attend.

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7 **A. ENTITLEMENT TO INITIAL ENTRY**
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9 A child who is presented for enrollment at any time during the first 120 days of a school
10 year will be considered eligible for initial entry in any of the following circumstances.

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12 1. The child reaches or reached the age of five on or before August 31 of that school
13 year.
- 14
15 2. The child resided in another state and was attending school during that school
16 year in accordance with that state’s laws or rules prior to moving to North
17 Carolina. (The child does not need to reach the age of five on or before August
18 31 in this circumstance.)
- 19
20 3. The child did not reach the age of five on or before August 31 of that school year
21 but would be eligible to attend school during that school year in another state in
22 accordance with the laws or rules of that state, and if all of the following apply:
 - 23
24 a. the child’s parent is a legal resident of North Carolina who is an active
25 member of the uniformed services assigned to a permanent duty station in
26 another state;
 - 27
28 b. the child’s parent is the sole legal custodian of the child;
 - 29
30 c. the child’s parent is deployed for duty away from the permanent duty
31 station; and
 - 32
33 d. the child resides with an adult who is a domiciliary of a local school
34 administrative unit in North Carolina as a result of the parent’s
35 deployment away from the permanent duty station.

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37 **B. DISCRETIONARY ENROLLMENTS**
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39 The board may allow a child to be enrolled in either of the following circumstances.

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41 1. The child is presented for enrollment after the first 120 days of a school year and
42 meets one of the circumstances specified above for entitlement to initial entry.
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44 2. The child reached the age of four on or before April 16; the child is presented for
45 enrollment no later than the end of the first month of the school year; and the
46 principal of the school finds, based on information submitted by the child's parent
47 or guardian, that the child is gifted and has the maturity to justify admission to
48 school. The board regards admission of a four-year-old child to be an
49 extraordinary measure that should not to be used merely because the child is
50 developmentally advanced. In making such a determination, the principal shall
51 follow guidelines established by the State Board of Education.
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53 C. GRADE LEVEL OF INITIAL ENTRY

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55 The initial point of entry will be the kindergarten level. After initial entry, a principal
56 may move the child to the first grade if the principal determines that by reason of
57 maturity, the child may be served more appropriately in the first grade.
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59 D. EVIDENCE OF AGE

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61 When a child is presented for admission for the first time, the principal shall require the
62 parent or guardian of the child to furnish a certified copy of the child's birth certificate or
63 other competent and verifiable evidence of the child's date of birth. Such evidence may
64 include, but is not limited to: (1) a certified copy of any medical record of the child's
65 birth issued by the treating physician or the hospital in which the child was born; or (2) a
66 certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a church, mosque, temple, or other religious
67 institution that maintains birth records of its members.
68

69 A birth certificate or other satisfactory proof of age issued by a foreign country or
70 institution will be accepted and treated in the same manner as comparable documents
71 issued in the United States. School officials shall use such documents only for the
72 purpose of establishing the age of the child and not to inquire about the citizenship or
73 immigration status of the child, parent, or guardian.
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75 For a student who is in foster care or considered homeless, the inability to provide
76 documentation must not prevent immediate enrollment of the student. School officials,
77 or in the case of a homeless student, the homeless liaison, shall immediately contact the
78 last school the student attended to obtain relevant enrollment records or other information
79 needed for enrollment. These officials shall work with the student, the parent or
80 guardian, school personnel, and other agencies as necessary to obtain enrollment
81 information in a timely manner.
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83 Legal References: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 6311(g)(1)(E);
84 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431 *et seq.*; G.S. 115C-288, -364;
85 130A-109; 16 N.C.A.C. 6E.0105; State Board of Education Policy GCS-J-001
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87 Cross References: Homeless Students (policy 4125)

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89 Adopted:
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