

# The Brooklyn Public Schools

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## Brooklyn Public Schools Protocol for CT New Entry Age for Kindergarten

**New Guidance:** in PA 23-208 the legislature established September 1 as the new cutoff birthdate for children seeking admission to kindergarten beginning in 2024-25. All kindergarten aged children must turn five *before* September 1st the year they enroll in kindergarten. [Link to the CSDE Guidance](#)

**Exceptions:** The only exception may be made if a parent requests a waiver to have their child assessed if they are underage. The assessment will determine the developmental appropriateness of the child for kindergarten.

**Waiver:** By March 15th, parents of children who turn five between September 1st and December 31st must request in writing and make their child available to be assessed by the school district. The time and date of the assessment will be at the school during the month of April. Timeslots will be limited and based on the number of requests.

**Assessment:** The assessment has been developed by Brooklyn Public School educators and is intended to predict the readiness level of students who are underage and whose parents are requesting early entrance into kindergarten. The assessment has been adapted from the [Kindergarten Entrance Inventory](#), review of [Connecticut's Documentation & Observation for Teaching System \(CT DOTs\)](#) which is based on the [Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards \(CT ELDS\)](#) and will be administered in small group settings. The principal will also engage the parents in a short questionnaire. Students who score a Performance Level rating of 3: *Students at this level consistently demonstrate the skills in the specified domain and require minimal instructional support*, will be given a waiver to enroll as an underaged kindergarten student. The assessment will measure language, numeracy, creativity, motor and personal/social skills. When available, children will be assessed in their Brooklyn preschool setting. Those students not enrolled in a community or school preschool program will need to be made available for the assessment when assigned by the school. This assessment will take minimally 45 minutes to complete.

**Notice to Families:** Families will be provided with notification of their child's performance and an approval or denial of the early age enrollment into kindergarten. All decisions are final and there will be no appeal process.

### Other Information:

Students with disabilities who are underage and require special education can request a waiver. Underaged students with an IEP will be permitted to enter kindergarten if they receive a waiver or if the PPT determines the child should be entered into kindergarten in order to receive educational benefit from the IEP.

Students who miss the waiver deadline will not be considered for underage enrollment into kindergarten and will be required to wait until they meet the State's required entry age.

**Mission:** The Brooklyn Schools will foster a drive for learning within each student to reach his/her greatest potential. To achieve this mission, the school will continually improve its educational programs and services to meet this community's expectations for a quality education for all.