

# Transitional Kindergarten FAQs

*(Frequently asked questions regarding California state law related to changes in entry birth dates for kindergarten.)*

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1. **What is the Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010?**

Senate Bill (SB) 1381, The Kindergarten Readiness Act, amended California Education Code to change the required birthday for admission to kindergarten and first grade and established a transitional kindergarten program beginning in the 2012–2013 school year. (Section 46300, 48000, and 48010)

2. **What is the minimum age for admittance to kindergarten in California?**

A child shall be admitted to a kindergarten maintained by the school district at the beginning of a school year, or at a later time in the same year if the child will have his or her fifth birthday on or before one of the following dates (EC 48000[a]):

For the 2012–13 school year the date is November 1

For the 2013–14 school year the date is October 1

For the 2014–15 school year and each school year thereafter the date is September 1.

3. **What is the Transitional Kindergarten Program?**

Transitional Kindergarten is the first of a two-year kindergarten program for students whose 5<sup>th</sup> birthday falls after the legal entry birth date and before December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The current Poway Extended Primary Program (PEPP) meets these requirements and is being renamed the Transitional Kindergarten Program. As we have in the past, we will continue to allow children whose 5<sup>th</sup> birthday is between June 1 and December 2 to enroll in Transitional Kindergarten.

4. **Will all school sites have a Transitional Kindergarten Program?**

Not all school sites will necessarily have a Transitional Kindergarten class in the 2012-13 school year, due to enrollment numbers. Transitional Kindergarten classes will be located at schools around the District with students from nearby schools filling a class. Students in Transitional Kindergarten will return to their home school for kindergarten (the second year), if their school does not have a Transitional Kindergarten class on site. Transitional Kindergarten will continue after 2014.

5. **Must children attend transitional kindergarten or kindergarten?**

There is no requirement to attend kindergarten (EC Section 48200).

6. **Can students who are age eligible for kindergarten attend transitional kindergarten?**

In PUSD, yes, if a child's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday is between June 1 and December 2 and as available seats in Transitional Kindergarten allow after required students are placed in the program. The Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010 does not change the established procedures of early admittance for students who do not meet the age eligibility requirement (EC 48000[b]).