

<u>Policy Name: Early Admission to Government Schools</u>	
<u>Policy Code:</u>	
<u>Produced in:</u>	February 2011
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<u>Cross References</u>	
Education Law (1999 Revision)	

INTRODUCTION:

This policy defines the Ministry's expectations for the requirements for early admission to Government schools.

All students legally resident of the Cayman Islands from the age of 4 Years 9 Months through the age of 16 must be registered and in attendance at school. However, the Education Council ("The Council") shall have discretionary powers to vary the age limits relating to a particular child under the Education Law (1999 Revision) if the Council is of the opinion that such limit shall disfavor the child.

It is the intention of the Ministry to ensure consistent, effective provision and practice which are rigorously and regularly monitored and evaluated in order to raise students' standards of achievement across the education system.

Aims:

This policy aims to specify the Ministry's expectations for the requirements for early admission to Government schools.

Policy statement

In regards to requests for early admissions to school for children otherwise entitled to attend Government school in the Cayman Islands, the application process shall require the steps below:

Following the written petition from a parent or an appeal of a decision by a Registration, Attendance and Truancy Officer (RATSO), the Chief Education Officer (CEO) may direct the Senior School Improvement Officer for Special Education Needs to have a psychological assessment completed for the child.

In a case where early admission to government schools is considered appropriate, a child must meet the following criteria:

1. Intellectual potential which exceeds two standard deviations (I.Q. = 130) above the mean for same- age peers.
2. Evidence of prevailing social or emotional factors which would argue for early admission.

The CEO, having contacted the Council and the Ministry will consider the results of the psychological assessment and make the final determination for early admission.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Ministry of Education will

- Develop educational policy

The Education Standards and Assessment Unit will

- Evaluate the effectiveness of policy implementation within school

The Department of Education Services will

- Receive and process applications for early admissions
- Provide services to evaluate the students and offer appropriate recommendations
- Organize conferences to review each case for early admission
- Process and respond to each application within an appropriate time frame