

Students

Admission/Placement/Withdrawal

Admission

District schools shall be open to all children five years of age and over who reach age five on or before the first day of September of any school year. Each such child shall have, and shall be so advised by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to participate in the program and activities of the school system without discrimination on account of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Students who are classified as homeless under federal law, and therefore do not have a fixed residence, will be admitted pursuant to federal law and district policy. There is an expectation that children will be toilet-trained prior to entry into school. For children who have not completed their toilet-training at the time of registration, a planned approach will be developed collaboratively with the child's family which will support successful completion of toilet-training prior to entry into school. No child not yet toilet-trained at the time of registration shall be discriminated against due to their toilet-training status.

The parent or person having control of a child five years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is six years of age. The parent or person having control of a child six years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is seven years of age.

The parent or person shall exercise such option by personally appearing at the school district office and signing an option form. The district shall provide the parent or person with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system.

According to Connecticut General Statute 10-76d (b2), special education will be provided for children who have attained the age of three and who have been identified as being in need of special education, and whose educational potential will be irreparably diminished without special education. If a special education student is being considered for an exception, the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) will make a recommendation to the administrator in charge of special education.

Each child entering the district schools for the first time must present, at a minimum, proof of residency in the Town of Thomaston, Connecticut, a birth certificate or other legal evidence of birth data, as well as proof of a recent physical examination and required immunizations. If the parents or guardians of any children are unable to pay for such immunizations, the expense of such immunizations shall, on the recommendation of the Board, be paid by the town. Proof of domicile shall also be requested.

Any child entering or returning to the district from placement in a juvenile detention school, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School, or any other residential placement, shall have the educational records of such child provided to the Superintendent of Schools by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Judicial Department. Such information will be shared with the Director of Pupil-Personnel Services and the Principal of the school to which the student is assigned. The Principal shall disclose such information to the staff who teach or care for the child.

Students

Admission/Placement/Withdrawal

Placement - Preschool Three Program

The Preschool Three Program shall be open to all children who reach age three on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment. Children who reach age four or older on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment do not qualify for the Preschool Three Program. All residency and registration requirements must be met prior to enrollment.

There is an expectation that children who reach age three will be toilet-trained prior to entry into school. For children who have not completed their toilet-training at the time of the Preschool Three Program registration, a planned approach will be developed collaboratively with the child's family which will support successful completion of toilet-training prior to entry into the Preschool Three Program. No child not yet toilet-trained at the time of the Preschool Three Program registration shall be discriminated against due to their toilet-training status.

Annually, if seats are available in the Preschool Three Program, the District shall enroll all applicants who reach age three on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment who have met all residency and registration requirements by the first day of February of the prior school year. Applicants who reach age four on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment shall not be considered for the Preschool Three Program.

Annually, if more qualified applicants exist than the number of seats available in the Preschool Three Program, a Preschool Three Program public lottery will be held no later than the fifteenth day of February of the prior school year to determine which applicants shall be enrolled in the Preschool Three Program for the subsequent school year. Applicants not selected for enrollment through the Preschool Three Program public lottery shall be placed on the Preschool Three Program Waitlist for the school year of intended enrollment in the order drawn during the Preschool Three Program public lottery. The Preschool Three Program Waitlist shall apply to only the named school year.

Placement - Preschool Four Program

The Preschool Four Program shall be open to all children who reach age four on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment. Children who reach age five or older on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment do not qualify for the Preschool Four Program. All residency and registration requirements must be met prior to enrollment.

There is an expectation that children who reach age four will be toilet-trained prior to entry into school. For children who have not completed their toilet-training at the time of the Preschool Four Program registration, a planned approach will be developed collaboratively with the child's family which will support successful completion of toilet-training prior to entry into the Preschool Four Program. No child not yet toilet-trained at the time of the Preschool Four Program registration shall be discriminated against due to their toilet-training status.

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Admission/Placement/Withdrawal

Placement - Preschool Four Program (continued)

Annually, if seats are available in the Preschool Four Program, the District shall enroll all applicants who reach age four on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment who have met all residency and registration requirements by the first day of February of the prior school year. Applicants who reach age four on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment shall not be considered for the Preschool Four Program.

Annually, if more qualified applicants exist than the number of seats available in the Preschool Four Program, a Preschool Four Program public lottery will be held no later than the fifteenth day of February of the prior school year to determine which applicants shall be enrolled in the Preschool Four Program for the subsequent school year. Applicants not selected for enrollment through the Preschool Four Program public lottery shall be placed on the Preschool Four Program Waitlist for the school year of intended enrollment in the order drawn during the Preschool Four Program public lottery. The Preschool Four Program Waitlist shall apply to only the named school year.

Placement – Kindergarten

Kindergarten shall be open to all children who reach age five on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment. Children who reach age five or older on or before the first day of September of the school year of intended enrollment do not qualify for the Preschool Four Program. All residency and registration requirements must be met prior to enrollment.

There is an expectation that children who reach age five will be toilet-trained prior to entry into school. For children who have not completed their toilet-training at the time of Kindergarten registration, a planned approach will be developed collaboratively with the child's family which will support successful completion of toilet-training prior to entry into Kindergarten. No child not yet toilet-trained at the time of Kindergarten registration shall be discriminated against due to their toilet-training status.

Placement – General

Children who apply for initial admission to the district's schools by transfer from nonpublic schools or from schools outside the district will be placed at the grade they would have reached elsewhere pending observation and evaluation by classroom teachers, guidance personnel, and the school Principal. After such observations and evaluations have been completed, the Principal will determine the final grade placement of the children.

Children who have attained the age of nineteen or older may be placed in an alternative school program or other suitable educational program if they cannot acquire a sufficient number of credits for graduation by age twenty-one.

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Withdrawal - General

In the best interest of the student being withdrawn from Thomaston Public Schools, written notification of withdrawal shall be provided to Thomaston Public Schools by the student's parent/guardian no later than ten (10) school days before the withdrawal date.

Withdrawal – High School

The parent or person having control of a child sixteen or seventeen years of age may consent to such child's withdrawal from school. The parent or person having control of a child seventeen years of age shall exercise this option by personally appearing at the school district office to sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an attestation from a guidance counselor or school administrator of the school that the district has provided the parent or person with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community.

Children who have attained the age of seventeen and who have terminated enrollment in the district's schools with parental permission as described previously and subsequently seeks readmission may be denied readmission for up to ninety school days from the date of such termination, unless such child seeks readmission to a district school not later than ten days after such termination. In such case the child will be provided school accommodations not later than three days after the requested readmission.

(cf. 0521 - Nondiscrimination)
(cf. 5112 - Ages of Attendance)
(cf. 5118.1 - Homeless Students)
(cf. 5141 - Student Health Services)
(cf. 6171 - Special Education)
(cf. 6146 - Graduation Requirements)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-15 Towns to maintain schools
10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited. School attendance by five-year olds, as amended by PA 97-247
10-76a - 10-76g re special education
10-184 Duties of parents (re mandatory schooling for children ages five to sixteen, inclusive) - as amended by PA 98-243, PA 00-157 and PA 09-6 (September Special Session)
10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board. Readmission, as amended.

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- Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes (continued)
- 10-220h Transfer of student records, as amended.
 - P.A. 11-115 An Act Concerning Juvenile Reentry and Education P.A. 23-208, Section 1 An Act Making Certain Revisions to the Education Statutes
 - 10-233a - 10-233f Inclusive; re: suspend, expel, removal of pupils 10-233c
 - Suspension of pupils
 - 10-233d Expulsion of pupils
 - 10-233k Notification of school officials of potentially dangerous students. (as amended by PA 01-176)
 - 10-261 Definitions
- State Board of Education Regulations
- 10-76a-1 General definitions (c) (d) (q) (t)
 - 10-76d-7 Admission of student requiring special education (referral) 10-204a Required immunizations (as amended by PA 98-243) McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq. *Plyler vs. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OPTION TO EXEMPT ATTENDANCE OF CHILD FIVE OR SIX YEARS OF AGE FROM SCHOOL

Pursuant to Section 10-184 of the Connecticut General Statutes

I, _____, of _____,
Name of Parent, Guardian or Other **Parent/Guardian Address**

the parent, guardian or other person charged with the care of the following minor child

_____, of _____ who was
Name of Child **Child Address**

born on _____ do hereby choose not to send my child to public
Date

school during the _____.
School Year

Furthermore, before signing this form, a representative of the Thomaston school district met with me and provided me with information concerning the educational opportunities and school accommodations available in the school system.

ACKNOWLEDGED BY:

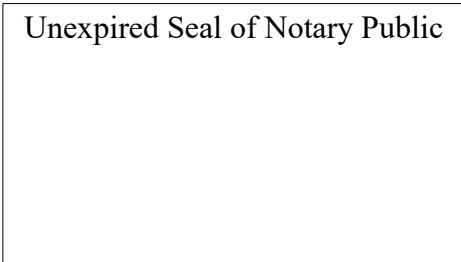
Signature of Parent, Guardian or Other

Date

NOTARIZED BY:

Signature and Printed Name of Notary Public

Date



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OPTION TO EXEMPT ATTENDANCE OF CHILD SEVENTEEN YEARS OF AGE FROM SCHOOL

Pursuant to Section 10-184 of the Connecticut General Statutes

I, _____, of _____,
Name of Parent, Guardian or Other **Parent/Guardian Address**

the parent, guardian or other person charged with the care of the following minor child

_____, of _____ who was
Name of Child **Child Address**

born on _____ do hereby elect to withdraw my child from public

school. Furthermore, before signing this form, a representative of the Thomaston school district met with me and provided me with information concerning the educational opportunities and school accommodations available in the school system.

ACKNOWLEDGED BY:

Signature of Parent, Guardian or Other

Date

NOTARIZED BY:

Signature and Printed Name of Notary Public

Date

Unexpired Seal of Notary Public