

State K-3 Policies

Does the state require the district to offer kindergarten and if so, full or half day? What exemptions exist for districts to offer kindergarten?

September 2020

At least 39 states plus the District of Columbia require districts to offer kindergarten either full or half day. At least 17 states plus the District of Columbia require full-day kindergarten, and 19 states require half-day kindergarten. Four states articulate that districts can offer full- or half-day kindergarten at the discretion of the board.

The following information was gathered from state statutes and regulations only.

To view other data points, click [here](#).

STATE ▲	DOES THE STATE REQUIRE THE DISTRICT TO OFFER KINDERGARTEN AND IF SO, FULL OR HALF DAY? WHAT EXEMPTIONS EXIST FOR DISTRICTS TO OFFER KINDERGARTEN?	CITATION
Alabama	Yes - Full	Admin Code: 290-5-1-01
Alaska	No	
Arizona	Yes - Half	Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-703
Arkansas	Yes - Full	Code Ark. R. 005.15.2-11.0

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California	Yes - Half	Cal. Educ. Code § 46117
Colorado	Yes - Full	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-32-119.5
Connecticut	Yes - Half	Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-15
Delaware	Yes - Full	Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 1049
District of Columbia	Yes - Full	D.C. Code Ann. § 38-2807
Florida	Not specified in statute or regulations.	
Georgia	Yes - Half	Ga. Code Ann., § 20-2-151
Hawaii	Yes - Full	Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 302A-411
Idaho	No	Idaho Code Ann. § 33.208
Illinois	Yes - Half or Full	105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/10-20.19a
Indiana	Yes - Half or Full	105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/10-20.19a
Iowa	Yes - Half	Iowa Code Ann. § 280.3
Kansas	Yes - Half	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-3216

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Kentucky	Yes - Half	Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 158.100 Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann § 157.320
Louisiana	Yes - Full	La. Stat. Ann. § 17:151.3 28 La. Admin. Code Pt LXXIX, 115
Maine	Yes - Half	Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 1001 Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 1258
Maryland	Yes - Full	Md. Code Ann., Educ. §7-101 (e)(1) Md. Code Regs. 13A.08.01.02
Massachusetts	Yes - Half	603 Mass. Code Regs. 8.01 et. seq
Michigan	No	
Minnesota	No	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 124D.02
Mississippi	Yes - Full	Miss. Code. Ann. § 37-21-6
Missouri	Yes - Half	Mo. Ann. Stat. § 160.051 Mo. Ann. Stat. § 160.041
Montana	Yes - Half or Full	Mont. Code Ann. § 20-7-117

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Nebraska	Yes - Half	Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 388.060 Nev. Admin. Code 387.131
Nevada	Yes - Half	Nev. Admin. Code 387.131
New Hampshire	No	N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 198:48-a
New Jersey	No.	N.J. Admin. Code §18A:44-2
New Mexico	Yes - Half	N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-13-3
New York	No	N.Y. Educ. Law § 1712
North Carolina	Yes - Full	N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 115C-47 N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 115C-84.2
North Dakota	Yes - Half	N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 15.1-22-01 N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 15.1-22-02
Ohio	Yes - Half	Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3321.05 Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.48
Oklahoma	Yes - Full	Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 18-108

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Oregon	Yes - Half	Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 336.095
Pennsylvania	No	24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 5-503
Rhode Island	Yes - Full	16 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-99-3
South Carolina	Yes - Full	S.C. Code Ann. § 59-35-10
South Dakota	Yes - Half	S.D. Codified Laws § 13-26-2 S.D. Codified Laws § 13-26-1
Tennessee	Yes - Full	Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-201
Texas	Yes - Half or Full (at the option of a school district's board of trustees)	Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 29.151 Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 29.152
Utah	Yes - Half	Utah Code Ann. § 53G-7-203 Utah Admin. Code r. R277-419-4 Utah Code Ann. § 53F-2-102
Vermont	Yes - Half	Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 16, § 821 Vermont State Board of Education Manual of Rules and Practices

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Virginia	Yes - Full	Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-199 8 Va. Admin. Code 20-131-150
Washington	Yes - Full	Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.150.315
West Virginia	Yes - Full	W. Va. Code Ann. § 18-5-18
Wisconsin	Yes - Half	Wis. Stat. Ann. § 121.02
Wyoming	Yes - Half: school districts must establish and maintain relationships with a district that offers one full-day kindergarten.	Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-3-110