

Enrollment in an elementary school

Do you have a child who is of school age? Then this starts its educational path in an elementary school.

Competent Department

- [Die Senatorin für Kinder und Bildung | Referat 24 - Schulbetrieb, Schulentwicklung, Beratung und Aufsicht –Allgemeinbildende Schulen–](#)

Basic information

In Bremen, elementary school comprises grades 1 to 4.

There is compulsory schooling for your child. In Bremen, your child is usually enrolled in school when he or she turns 6 by June 30 of a given year.

Children who turn 6 between July 1 and September 30 of the year can also register their child for school enrollment within the registration period (grace period child).

The parent or guardian will first receive a school enrollment notification from the Department. They must then register their child at the appropriate elementary school.

Assignment to the enrollment school is based on the catchment district established for each elementary school by the Bremen City Council.

An exception is the Kinderschule Bremen, which can be freely selected.

Admission to an elementary school with a special foreign language program is possible; this can be applied for.

Requirements

Children who turn 6 by June 30 of a given year will be required to attend school on August 1 of that year. Children who are required to attend school can only be deferred for 1 year for "significant health reasons". The decision is made by the subject supervisor on the basis of a school medical report.

Children who turn 6 years old in the period from July 1 to September 30 of a year can become school-age upon application. The parent or guardian must submit this application

within the enrollment period. A school doctor's recommendation will be used to determine if this is good for the child. It may be decided that the child will be deferred for another 1 year.

Children who turn 6 years old in the period from October 1 of one year to January 31 of the following year can also apply for compulsory school attendance. A school doctor's report is used to determine whether this is good for the child. It is checked whether the child will not be overtaxed in terms of his or her linguistic, cognitive and social abilities by the lessons and the rest of school life.

Procedure

The legal guardians receive a school enrollment notification from the authority. Compulsory school attendance begins for all children who turn 6 by 6/30 of the year.

Children who turn 6 between 7/1 and 9/30 of the year may also register the child for school enrollment within the registration period (grace period child). The registration of karenzeit children is binding.

All children must be registered at the appropriate elementary school. The assignment to the registration school is based on the respective catchment area determined for each elementary school by the City of Bremen.

If your child is to be enrolled at a public elementary school other than the enrollment school, you must submit a justified informal application to your enrollment school during the enrollment period.

If your child has a recognized special educational need, please inform the school at the time of registration.

If you register your child at a private elementary school, you must still register at the public elementary school responsible for you. If your child is enrolled at a private elementary school and you do not need a school place at a public elementary school, please submit a waiver. You can obtain a corresponding form from the private elementary school.

Legal bases

- [Verordnung über die Aufnahme von Schülerinnen und Schülern in öffentliche allgemeinbildende Schulen](#)
- [Bremisches Schulverwaltungsgesetz \(BremSchVwG\)](#)
- [Richtlinien über die Aufnahmekapazitäten der allgemeinbildenden Schulen der Primarstufe und der Sekundarstufe I in der Stadtgemeinde Bremen](#)
- [Bremisches Schulgesetz \(BremSchulG\)](#)

What deadlines must be paid attention to?

2 weeks Applications can be submitted within the application deadline. The exact application deadlines are communicated each year with the school enrollment notification. They are usually after the fall vacations.

For the 2025/2026 school year, the fixed application period is 04.11. - 15.11.2024.

How long does it take to process

12 weeks 11-12 weeks after the registration deadline