Grade Placement Criteria 2027-28

The following guidelines outline the birth date ranges used for grade placement at the Orange County Academy of Sciences and Arts (OCASA).

Confirm Grade Placement

Before submitting an application, please review the Grade Placement Chart to ensure your child is enrolling in the appropriate grade. Grade-level placement for new students is determined strictly by birthdate per California requirements.

Age Requirements

OCASA follows California Education Code (Sections 48000 & 48010) for TK and Kindergarten eligibility. Proof of age is required. Early admission is not permitted.

Kindergarten Eligibility

Children are eligible for kindergarten if they turn 5 years old on or before September 1, 2027.

Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Eligibility

Children are eligible for TK if they turn 4 years old on or before September 1, 2027.

Grade Placement & Promotion

Students who were enrolled in a public school during the prior school year will be placed in the next sequential grade level. Voluntary grade retention or advancement based on parent preference is not permitted.

Students entering from a private school, or those who have not previously attended the California public school system, will be placed according to age-based grade placement guidelines as shown in the chart below.

Grade Placement Chart – 2027–28 School Year

Range of Birthdates	Grade Level
Born on/after 9/02/23	Not Eligible
9/02/22 - 9/01/23	Transitional Kindergarten
9/02/21 - 9/01/22	Kindergarten
9/02/20 - 9/01/21	1st Grade
9/02/19 - 9/01/20	2nd Grade
9/02/18 - 9/01/19	3rd Grade
9/02/17 - 9/01/18	4th Grade
9/02/16 - 9/01/17	5th Grade
9/02/15 - 9/01/16	6th Grade
9/02/14 - 9/01/15	7th Grade
9/02/13 - 9/01/14	8th Grade

FAQ

My child turns 5 on September 2. Can they start Kindergarten?
Children must be 5 on or before September 1, 2027.

Can I choose TK instead of Kindergarten (or vice versa)?
Placement is based strictly on birthdate ranges; families cannot choose outside the state-defined requirements.

I would like my child to repeat Kindergarten. Can we hold them back?
Grade retention or advancement based solely on parent preference is not permitted. See OCASA's promotion and retention policy for further details.

We recently moved from another country. Can we place our child in a lower grade?
Students must enroll in the grade that corresponds to their age.