



**EARLY ENTRANCE TO FIRST GRADE
IN SPRING LAKE PARK SCHOOLS**



SLP
BLAINE | FRIDLEY
SPRING LAKE PARK
SPRING LAKE PARK SCHOOLS

Step 1:

Parents complete the early entrance application form and questionnaire.

Step 2:

Members of the Early Entrance to First Grade team (Coordinator for Gifted Services, a Gifted/Talented Specialist, a kindergarten and first grade teacher, a school psychologist, the enrollment coordinator, and an elementary school principal) will review the application materials upon arrival.

Step 3:

A representative from the Early Entrance to First Grade team will contact the parent/ guardian with the date and time of their child's observation and assessment. During this step, the child will:

- Participate in a kindergarten and first grade classroom experience
- Complete a brief measure of cognitive ability

Children who score at the 90th percentile or higher on the brief measure of cognitive ability and demonstrate socialization and behavioral skills more advanced than typical for his or her age based on parent report, preschool/child care teacher report, and teacher observations during the early childhood classroom experience, will be recommended for Step 4.

A representative from the Early Entrance to First Grade team will notify the parents/guardians by letter within 7-10 days if the child:

- is recommended to proceed to further evaluation
- is not recommended for Early Entrance to First Grade

Step 4:

If the child is recommended to proceed, a representative from the Early Entrance to First Grade team will provide the information regarding a comprehensive cognitive and social/emotional evaluation by a school psychologist. A \$150 fee is charged to cover the costs of the early entrance evaluation. The cost of the assessment is the responsibility of the parent/guardian. If financial assistance is needed, additional paperwork may be required. If cognitive testing has been completed by an independent psychologist, results must be submitted directly to the Early Entrance to First Grade team.

Children who score at the 90th percentile or higher on a norm-referenced, individual measure of cognitive ability, and who demonstrate socialization and behavior skills more advanced than typical for his or her age, based on reports of a normative behavior rating scale, may be recommended for Early Entrance to First Grade on a probationary status.

The determination for eligibility for early entrance to first grade is made by a consensus decision of the assessment team, based on the criteria outlined above. This determination is considered final. Results and the final determination will be shared with parents through a written assessment report.

A representative from the Early Entrance to First Grade team will notify the parents/guardians by letter within 7-10 days if the child:

- May enter first grade early on probationary admission
- Will not be admitted for Early Entrance to First Grade but may enroll in kindergarten.

Step 5:

Parents/guardians may enroll accepted Early Entrance to First Grade students. Accepted Early Entrance students will be enrolled on a probationary status until December 1. Parents/guardians may choose to withdraw their child at any point from the Early Entrance to First Grade process or probationary period.

Probationary Admission

Early Entrance to First Grade is probationary until December 1. By this date, the child's school will notify parents/guardians if the child should continue in first grade, or modify enrollment to kindergarten for the remainder of the year.

Probationary admission means that the school staff will closely be monitoring your child to ensure that first grade is the right social, emotional, and cognitive fit for your child. If it is decided that first grade is not the appropriate setting at this time, your child will change grade level placement from first grade to kindergarten. Because of this probationary period, we recommend that you keep open communication with your child's teacher.

Return the application to:

District Services Center
Attn: Early Entrance
1415 81st Avenue NE
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432

Questions? Contact the District Services Center at 763-600-5000.

Continue to application





APPLICATION FOR EARLY ENTRANCE

Application deadline: February 28

Child's Name _____
First Middle Last

Child's Birthdate _____ Male Female

Child's Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Current School/Preschool and Address: _____

Parent/Guardian 1 Information

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone Number 1 _____

Phone Number 2 _____

Is Parent/Guardian 1 living with child? Yes No

Parent/Guardian 2 Information

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone Number 1 _____

Phone Number 2 _____

Is Parent/Guardian 1 living with child? Yes No

Sibling Information (list the oldest first)

Name _____ Male Female Birthdate _____

Name _____ Male Female Birthdate _____

Name _____ Male Female Birthdate _____

Name _____ Male Female Birthdate _____

Early Childhood Screening

Location where your child's Early Childhood Screening was completed: _____

Date of screening: _____ Parent/guardian initials: _____

I have attached copy of the results of my child's Early Childhood Screening.

Continue to questionnaire





EARLY ENTRANCE TO GRADE 1 PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

SPRING LAKE PARK SCHOOLS

Please complete the following questions and return this form along with the application

Child's Name: _____

Please list reasons why you believe your child should be permitted early admission

Has your child attended any type of school? If so, please comment on his/her experiences.

What responsibilities does your child have around the home?

What are your child's favorite play activities with other children?

Does your child receive 504 or special education services? If yes, please describe.

EARLY ENTRANCE TO GRADE 1 PROCESS

I understand that if my child does not meet the criteria for any of the steps (observation, evaluation, and assessment) of the Early Entrance to First Grade process, he/she will not be authorized to continue in the Early Entrance process.

Parent/Guardian initials: _____

I understand that, due to the time and resources required for the Early Entrance to First Grade process, all decisions regarding my child's eligibility are final.

Parent/Guardian initials: _____

I understand that entering first grade early (prior to age 6, and without previously attending kindergarten), means probationary admission through the end of the first trimester. I will be notified by the school if the needs of my child would be better met by entering school as a kindergarten student.

Parent/Guardian initials: _____

Return the all forms to:

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Spring Lake Park, MN 55432

***Questions? Contact the District Services Center
at 763-600-5000.***