



LITCHFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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"A Stronger Mind for a Stronger Future"

Litchfield Elementary School District Early Entrance Kindergarten - Frequently Asked Questions

What age does my child need to be in order to be considered for Early Entrance into Kindergarten?

The standard age for entry into Kindergarten is five years old on or before August 31st of the current school year. Children who reach the age of five between September 1 and December 31 of the school year are eligible for early entrance if they meet the district requirements.

Are children from out-of-district eligible for Early Kindergarten Entrance?

No, you must live within the LESD district boundaries for your child to be considered for Early Entrance Kindergarten. This applies to employees of the district, also. You must continue to live in the district for the entire school year.

When are Early Kindergarten Entrance applications available for each school year?

The applications will be made available in the spring before the school year begins. Normally, they are posted on the website on April 1st.

Where can I get an Early Kindergarten Entrance application?

The applications will be available to download on our LESD website, and paper applications will be available at the District Office only. (website: home page – Family and Community – Parent Resources – Kindergarten Information – Early Kindergarten Enrollment Information)

How is it determined if my child can attend Early Kindergarten?

Your application for your child must be turned in by the due date on the application. Each child will be assessed by one of our teachers to determine their maturity level and readiness for learning. If District Officials determine that Early Kindergarten is in the best interest of the child, they will be accepted into a Kindergarten class.

How will I be notified about my child's evaluation time?

Most of our communications with you will be by email. Please put the email address where you can best be reached on the application form.

When will the assessment take place for my child, and how long is it?

The assessment normally takes place in mid-June. The exact dates will be listed on the Early Kindergarten Entrance application each year. The assessment takes about 30 minutes. Parents cannot be in the room with the child for the assessment.

What will my child's assessment be like?

Your child will be assessed by a LESD teacher. They will be assessed in fine motor, cognitive, and social skills. For most of the evaluation, your child will be alone with the teacher. We try to also include time for your child to interact with another child who is being evaluated for a short period of time to see how they interact with other children.

How and When will I be notified if my child qualifies for Early Kindergarten?

Most of our communications with you will be by email. Please put the email address where you can best be reached on the application form.

You will be notified sometime in early July. We will tell you a more specific time when you come for your child's evaluation.

If my child is not accepted into Early Entrance Kindergarten, what can I do?

The decision of the District Officials is final. You can request to know what skills your child needs to work on in preparation for Kindergarten in the following school year. If you opt to enroll your child in Kindergarten in another school and then want to return to our district, they will be placed in a Kindergarten classroom to be evaluated. School officials will then determine during the first few weeks if they are ready to be moved to first grade.

When and how do I enroll my child?

When you are told that your child has qualified for Early Kindergarten, you still must enroll your child. You must enroll your child at the district office. Please check the Student Registration page on our website for office hours.

<https://www.lesd79.org/departments/student-registration>

What documents will I need for enrollment?

Please visit our website. Under Departments – Student Registration. Here you will find all the information you need to enroll your child. Again, you cannot enroll your child until they have been approved for Early Kindergarten Admittance.

<https://www.lesd79.org/departments/student-registration>

Where do I go to enroll my child?

All student enrollment takes place at our district office, located at
272 E. Sagebrush Street
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

(We are just south of the Litchfield Elementary School.)

If my child is accepted in Early Kindergarten, will they attend the school in my attendance area?

Every effort is made to have the Early Kindergarten students attend their home schools. However, due to Kindergarten class sizes, Early Kindergarten students may have to attend another school in the district for their Kindergarten year only.

Why would my child have to attend a school other than their home school?

The district is committed to maintaining reasonable class sizes. Children who are old enough to attend Kindergarten by August 31st have priority. You will be told which school we recommend your child goes to, but we will work with you to place them at another school of your choice, if possible. We provide the opportunity for Early Kindergarten Entrance as a service to our community. We are not required to enroll children at this age. They will attend all other grades at their home school.

If my child has to attend a school that is not in my attendance area, do I need to fill out an Open Enrollment application?

No, the registration office will be told what school to enroll your child in.

Can my Early Entrance Kindergartener ride the school bus?

If your child is able to attend their home school, he/she can ride the bus. This is subject to the same rules as all children who live in your school boundaries.

If your child is assigned to another school, you will need to provide transportation.

Can I apply for Open Enrollment if I want my child to go to a school in the district other than my home school?

The process for attending another school is different for Early Kindergarten students. If you want your child to attend a school other than your home school, please contact the person who has been communicating with you through email about Early Kindergarten registration. This person will check and see if there are open spaces at the school you are requesting. If so, this will be taken care of internally, and Student Registration will be informed what school you are enrolling in.

If my child qualifies for Early Kindergarten enrollment, can he/she be evaluated for the Traditional Academy?

As of the 2021-2022 school year, there is no longer Traditional Academy for Kindergarten students.