

421.2 - EARLY ADMISSION TO 4 OR 5-YEAR OLD KINDERGARTEN

Early Admission into Four-Year-Old Kindergarten

No child will be admitted in four-year old Kindergarten unless the child is four years old on or before September 1st in the year he/she proposes to enter school.

Early Admission into Five-Year-Old Kindergarten

Early admission to five-year-old Kindergarten shall be according to the following guidelines:

1. A written request must be made by the parent or guardian to the Elementary Principal on or before April 1st of the preceding school year.
2. A personal interview with the Elementary Principal and parent/guardian will be held to determine the reason for requesting entrance prior to the legal age. This conversation will include a discussion of the early entrance criteria, as detailed below.
3. The Elementary Principal shall form a placement team that will see that an investigation is made of the child's readiness in terms of emotional stability, social adjustment, mental maturity, and physical health and development. An individual screening shall be conducted by a licensed School Psychologist in conjunction with other certified professional staff as needed. This evaluation will be at no cost to the parent or guardian.

A child is eligible to enroll in five-year-old Kindergarten if he/she is five years old on or before September 1 of the year in which he/she proposes to enter school. DPI suggests the following student qualities to be addressed: intellectual, physical development, and social/emotional maturity level. Children under the above referenced age (those turning five years old after September 1 or the year in which he/she proposes to enter school) may be admitted to five-year-old Kindergarten if they are able to demonstrate exceptional levels of Kindergarten readiness by meeting the following district criteria:

- a. Intellectual Functioning: Student must score at or above the 90th percentile in overall intellectual functioning.
 - b. Communication: Student must score at or above the 90th percentile in both Expressive and Receptive Language skill areas.
 - c. Social/Emotional Functioning: Student must have an overall emotional/behavioral score at or above the 90th percentile.
 - d. School Readiness: Student must score at or above the 75th percentile on a standardized school readiness assessment referencing Kindergarten skills.
4. A conference will be held with the parents/guardians, Elementary Principal, and School Psychologist after the evaluation has been completed to consider the appropriateness of early entrance to five-year-old Kindergarten.

5. A letter summarizing the recommendation will be mailed to the parent/guardian following the conference.

6. If a request for admission is denied, the child's parent/guardian may appeal the decision to the District Administrator. The decision of the District Administrator shall be final.

ACT 41 Legislative changes to Kindergarten attendance: Except as provided under par. (d), unless the child is excused under sub. (3), any person have under his or her control a child who in enrolled in five-year old Kindergarten shall cause the child to attend school regularly, religious holidays excepted, during the full period and hours that Kindergarten is in session at the public or private school in which the child in enrolled until the end of the school term.

Adopted: January 16, 2013

Revised: September 10, 2025