

Early Entrance to Kindergarten

2026-2027 Application Guide



Osseo Area
Schools

Application Deadline

April 15, 2026

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If you have any questions about applying for Early Entrance to Kindergarten, please contact the Enrollment Center:

Address: 7051 Brooklyn Blvd.
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

Phone: (763) 585-7350

Email: enrollmentcenter@district279.org

Si necesita ayuda en español para llenar esta forma, por favor llame al siguiente número de teléfono: 763-585-7350.

Yog koj xav tau kev pab los yog muaj lus nug txog daim ntawv no, thov hu rau tus xov tooj: 763-585-7350.



APPLICATION: HOW TO APPLY

1. CONFIRM ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for enrollment into Kindergarten, Minnesota Department of Education requires a child be age 5 on or before September 1.

Children who will turn age 5 between September 2nd and November 1st of the school year desired are eligible to apply for Early Entrance to Kindergarten.

2. SCHEDULE EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

Early Childhood Screening must be complete prior to applying for Early Entrance to Kindergarten. Please see Page 8 for details.

Children who attend Head Start or Early Childhood Special Education programs may not need to be screened. For more information call (763) 391-8777.

3. APPLICATION DEADLINE - APRIL 15, 2026

The Early Entrance to Kindergarten Application must be received at the Enrollment Center by **3:30pm on APRIL 15, 2026**.

4. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What if I missed the April 15th application deadline?

If you missed the April 15, 2026 deadline, Early Entrance to Kindergarten is no longer an option.

What if my child was accepted for Early Entrance to Kindergarten in another school district?

Each school district's Early Entrance to Kindergarten process is significantly different. Therefore, all Early Entrance to Kindergarten applications for Osseo Area Schools must be received by 3:30pm on April 15, 2026.



APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 15, 2026 by 3:30 pm
APPLICATION REQUIREMENT: Attach Early Childhood Screening results

A STUDENT

1. Legal Name:

EXACTLY AS IT APPEARS
ON BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR
OTHER LEGAL DOCUMENT

Last (family)

First

Middle

Jr., III, etc.

2. Preferred First Name:

3. Gender: Male Female

4. Birth Date:

STUDENT MUST BE AGE 5
BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2
AND NOVEMBER 1

Month

Day

Year

B SIBLINGS

5. List all of the student's siblings:

Sibling Name				Gender		Birth Date		
Last (family)	First	Middle Initial	Jr., III, etc.	Male	Female	Month	Day	Year
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/	/	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/	/	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/	/	
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/	/	

C EARLY ENTRANCE PREPARATION

6. Please list your child's experience with groups of other children away from his/her parent/guardian, such as ECFE, preschool, daycare, etc.:

Name of Program or Provider	Phone Number		Dates of Attendance			to	Birth Date		
	Area Code	-	Month	Day	Year		Month	Day	Year
	()	-	/	/		/	/		
	()	-	/	/		/	/		
	()	-	/	/		/	/		
	()	-	/	/		/	/		

7. How do you think it would benefit your child to start school a year early?

8. In what ways does your child demonstrate above average intellectual and social readiness for school?

9. How does your child feel about school?

2026-2027 EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN APPLICATION (CONTINUED)

D STUDENT

9. **Legal Name** (EXACTLY AS IT APPEARS ON BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR OTHER LEGAL DOCUMENT)

Legal Name				Gender		Birth Date		
Last (family)	First	Middle Initial	Jr., III, etc.	Male	Female	Month	Day	Year
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	/	/	

E EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

Early Childhood Screening must have been completed prior to applying for Early Entrance to Kindergarten.

Early Childhood Screening is required by the Minnesota Department of Education for Kindergarten admission and is a careful check of your child's health, well being, and development. The results of the screening will help identify needs that may require special attention before your child enters school.

You child's Early Childhood Screening may be completed by:

- > The ISD 279 Screening Office. Call (763) 391-8777, Monday-Friday, September through May, to schedule an appointment. *There is no cost for your child to be screened by District 279.*
- > Your family physician, if a standardized development test is used. Check with your doctor's office to see if their screening meets the state's requirement.

Children who attend Head Start or Early Childhood Special Education programs may not need to be screened. Call (763) 391-8777 for more information.

10. Provide the date and location where your child's Early Childhood Screening was completed:

Location	Date of Screening
Name of School District, Physician/Clinic, Head Start, or Early Childhood Special Education Program	Month Day Year
	/ /

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

Initials of Parent/Legal Guardian:

F ASSESSMENT AND PROBATIONARY ADMISSION

12. I understand that if my child does not meet the criteria for any of the two steps (Observation and Evaluation) of the Early Entrance to Kindergarten assessment, he/she will not be authorized to continue in the Early Entrance to Kindergarten process.

Initials of Parent/Legal Guardian:

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

Initials of Parent/Legal Guardian:

14. I understand that entering Kindergarten early as a four-year-old 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 Kindergartner the following year.

Initials of Parent/Legal Guardian:

G PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

15. Parent/ Guardian Name:

Last (family)	First	M.I.

16. Address:

Number and Street	Apt.	City	State	Zip Code

16. Email:

17. Telephone: -

Primary	Alternate
() -	() -
Area Code	Area Code

18. I hereby give consent for the assessment of my child. The school district has my permission to contact any of the Early Entrance preparation programs or providers listed. I certify the information given above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: Date: / /

Mail, Email or Deliver to:

ISD 279 - Osseo Area Schools
 Enrollment Center
 7051 Brooklyn Boulevard
 Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

Hours:
 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Email:
enrollmentcenter@district279.org



PROCESS: AFTER YOU APPLY

The process of qualifying for the Early Entrance to Kindergarten program consists of three steps:

1. Appointment with Enrollment Center staff
2. Observation
3. Evaluation/Cognitive Assessment

Step 1:



Appointment with Enrollment Center Staff (April)

The parent/legal guardian will have a scheduled appointment with an Enrollment Center staff member to complete the ASQ:SE-2 Information Summary. After the summary is reviewed, an observation will be scheduled for the simulated Kindergarten experience.

Observation May 2026

An observation team composed of administrators, Kindergarten and early childhood teachers will conduct an initial review of your child in a simulated Kindergarten environment looking for social and emotional maturity, self-regulation, language skills, and fine motor skills.

The Enrollment Center will notify the parent/legal guardian with the date and time of the observation. Attendance is required.

Step 2:



Observation Results (Late May/Early June)

The Enrollment Center will notify the parent/legal guardian via letter whether the child:

- Is recommended to proceed to the Evaluation/Cognitive Assessment process; or
- Is not recommended for Early Entrance to Kindergarten

Step 3:



Evaluation/Cognitive Assessment

(Must be completed by 6/22/2026; and the Psychologist's results to the Enrollment Center by 7/10/2026)

If your child is recommended to proceed to the Evaluation/Cognitive Assessment process, the Enrollment Center will provide you with information about the next step.

- The parent/legal guardian has sole responsibility to pay for and schedule the child's assessment.
- The minimum IQ requirement is 125.

Cognitive results must be submitted directly to the Enrollment Center by the organization.

Evaluation Results

(Mailed by 7/24/2026)

The Enrollment Center will notify the parent/legal guardian via letter if the child:

- Is approved to enroll into Kindergarten early on a probationary admission; or
- Did not meet all the necessary requirements for Early Entrance to Kindergarten.

If the child is recommended for probationary admission, the Enrollment Center will provide the parent/legal guardian with the information needed to enroll into Kindergarten. For questions on open enrolling your child, see page 7, "Can I Choose The School That My Child Attends?"



PROBATIONARY ADMISSION

Early Entrance to Kindergarten enrollment is probationary until the end of the first trimester.

The child's school will notify the parent/legal guardian by the end of the first trimester if the child is recommended to:

- Continue in Kindergarten; or
- Withdraw for the remainder of the school year and return for Kindergarten the following fall.

About Probationary Admission

Probationary admission means that school staff will be monitoring your child to ensure that Kindergarten is appropriate to his/her learning, social-emotional, and developmental needs.

It will be important to attend school conferences, maintain communication with the classroom teacher, and have a back-up plan in the event that Kindergarten is not appropriate for your child at this time.

Please remember...

If your child meets all requirements you will make the final decision to enroll your child through Early Entrance to Kindergarten on a probationary basis. You may choose to withdraw your child at any time during the Early Entrance to Kindergarten process.



Frequently Asked Questions

Can I choose the school that my child attends?

Parents/legal guardians applying for Early Entrance to Kindergarten for their child may apply through school choice for their child to attend a school outside of their attendance area school or resident district after the child has been approved for Early Entrance to Kindergarten. Since the Early Entrance process is not finalized until the summer before the desired school year, the number of kindergarten spaces available through the school choice option, including magnet schools, are typically very limited.

Are there any school-age care options?

Our Community Education Department offers the Kidstop Program. This program offers before and after school care for students attending grades K-5. The Kidstop Program is also available on most non-school days.

Kidstop, provides a supportive, fun, school-age enriching experience. Every aspect of what they do has your child in mind. Choice-based programming allows your child to make decisions about how they want to spend their time while in our program, which can help develop leadership and relationship skills as well as confidence. Hours of operation are 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Community Education Department also offers a Pre-K program, the Four Star Express Program. This is a full day, Kindergarten readiness program that also offers before and after school care. This program is offered at most elementary schools with limited spots available. Hours of operation are 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For more information about Kidstop or Four Star Express, please visit our web site at www.kidstop279.org or www.fourstarexpress279.org. If you have any additional questions, you can email them to CEcares@district279.org or call 763-585-7281.

Early Childhood Screening

Screening is a FREE service for all children.

All Minnesota children need to be screened prior to enrolling in kindergarten. The ideal time for screening is between the ages of 3 and 4. Your child's screening results are based on their age at the time of screening. At screening, parents learn about their child's growth and development and can ask questions if they have concerns.

Early Childhood Screening is a FREE check of your child's:

Vision ■ Hearing ■ Height ■ Weight ■ Development

Screening helps identify children who may benefit from resources to help their development.

Screening appointments can be scheduled online at osseo.ce.eleyo.com.

To schedule a screening appointment by phone, call 763-391-8777.

En Español, Lus Hmoob, Bằng Tiếng Việt: 855-938-0586

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What should I bring to my child's Early Childhood Screening appointment?

Your child's immunization record

2. What happens during an Early Childhood Screening?

Early Childhood Screening checks your child's health and development. Screening in school districts is usually done by a teacher or a nurse. Screening includes a review of height, weight, vision, hearing, speech, social and emotional progress and overall development. Results from the developmental screen are based on your child's age at the time of screening

3. What if my child does not speak English?

Ask for an interpreter when you call for an appointment or schedule an appointment online. When a child is learning two languages, it is better to screen in the language most often heard and spoken in the home.

4. What happens if the screener finds a concern during the screening?

There are a few options if the screener doing the screening finds an area of concern in your child's development. You and the screener may decide to refer your child for an evaluation by the school district or medical clinic. The screener may also recommend an early childhood experience for your child or give you community resources.

5. My child is registered for preschool. When should I schedule an Early Childhood Screening?

If you are registering your 3 year old child, schedule an appointment when your child is 3 1/2. If you are registering your 4-year old child, schedule an appointment now at osseo.ce.eleyo.com or by calling 763-391-8777. En Español, Lus Hmoob, Bằng Tiếng Việt: 855-938-0586.

6. Where are Screening appointments held?

Arbor View Early Childhood Center
Brooklyn Park Library
Willow Lane Early Childhood Center

Questions?

Enrollment Center
7051 Brooklyn Blvd
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

Hours: 7:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

(763) 585-7350
enrollmentcenter@district279.org
www.district279.org



School Board Policy



Procedure 549



Our mission is to inspire and prepare each and every scholar with the confidence, courage and competence to achieve their dreams; contribute to community; and engage in a lifetime of learning