

EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN

State law establishes minimum age requirements for admission to kindergarten and sets forth requirements for a standardized testing program to evaluate those students deemed ready by parents for early admission.

Children who will be the proper age for entrance to kindergarten or first grade by the first day of January of the school year for which admission is requested are evaluated upon the request of the child's parent or legal guardian.

Children who will not yet be the proper age for entrance to kindergarten or first grade by the first day of January of the school year for which admission is requested are also evaluated for possible early admittance if referred by an educator within the District or a preschool educator, a pediatrician, or a psychologist who knows the child. The child must be referred by the first day of instruction for the academic school year for early entrance. The building principal may also request evaluation at his/her discretion.

When a request for early entrance to kindergarten is received, the building principal/designee interviews the parent(s) and child and arranges for testing. Testing criteria are established as follows.

1. The child should score at least two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measure on an appropriate individual intelligence test.
2. The child should score in the 95th percentile on an appropriate individual achievement test.
3. The child's visual-motor maturity level should be between 14 and 16 months above his/her chronological age as determined by an appropriate measure of visual-motor development.
4. The child should possess and demonstrate social and emotional characteristics that permit conformity with the pattern of behavior commonly expected of children in kindergarten.
5. Admission of the child is recommended by both the school psychologist and building principal.

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October 17, 2012
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LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3321.01
3324.01 et seq.
OAC 3301-51-15

CROSS REFS.: IGBB, Programs for Gifted and Talented Students

IKEB, Acceleration
JEB, Entrance Age (Mandatory Kindergarten)