



Will County School District 92

Early Entrance

Will County School District 92 follows the Illinois law, which specifies that a child must be five years old on or before September 1st of their kindergarten year or six years old on or before September 1st of their first-grade year to be age-eligible for enrollment (105 ILCS 5/10-20.12).

WCSD 92 recognizes that there may be exceptional circumstances where children not yet five years old demonstrate the ability to succeed in kindergarten or six years old to succeed in first grade. The district provides an opportunity for early entrance into kindergarten and first grade under the provisions of the Accelerated Placement Act. Early entrance will be considered for intellectually advanced children whose potential and skills are within the superior range compared to their peers.

An early entrance can significantly impact a child's academic and social-emotional performance; therefore, entering school early should be carefully considered. Aside from academic readiness, other factors should be considered, such as:

- physical maturation and social-emotional development compared to their peers in elementary, junior high, and high school years.
- societal milestones, such as driving and starting college.
- participation in extracurricular activities and sports with older students.

Parents should consider all of these factors when determining whether early entrance is best for their child.

If you believe your child qualifies to enter kindergarten early, please contact Megan Urban, Principal, at Walsh School. She can be reached at murban@d92.org or 815.838.7858.

Kindergarten Early Entrance Requirements

Early placement for kindergarten will be considered if all of the following criteria have been met:

- An application for early entrance review is submitted by the parent/guardian.
- The child's fifth birthday falls between September 2 and September 30 of the academic school year, in which the kindergarten placement is requested.
- The parent/guardian provides proof of residency.
- A child must have attended a preschool taught by a licensed early childhood teacher.
- Both parent and current preschool teacher complete questionnaires. Parent signature gives District 92 staff permission to observe your child in their preschool setting and conference with the preschool teacher.
- A screening process will take place at a District 92 school in June 2026. The screening will include an observation and/or assessment of the following:
 - Social interaction
 - Emotional regulation/Behavior
 - Attention and engagement
 - Gross/fine motor skills
 - Speech and Language
 - Reading and Math skills
- The parent/guardian agrees that a probationary period of eight weeks (mid-October) will occur for the early entrance kindergarten student. The school will review the child's progress to determine whether the child will continue the kindergarten year. The team reserves the right to discontinue the child's placement at any time during the probationary period.
- District registration will be required upon acceptance to early kindergarten.

At any point during the screening process, the District 92 team reserves the right to discontinue the evaluation if they deem that the child will not qualify for early entrance. Decisions regarding eligibility for early entrance to kindergarten will be emailed within two weeks of the screening. All decisions will be final.

Timeline

March 1 - The application window for early entrance consideration begins

May 1 - Parent application is due

May 1 - Proof of Residency Documents

May/June - Screening Process

Application for Kindergarten Early Entrance

DUE DATE: May 1, 2026

PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST EMAIL, MAIL, OR DROP OFF THE COMPLETED DOCUMENTS IN A SEALED ENVELOPE DIRECTLY TO:

Attention: Early Entrance, at Walsh School District, 514 N. MacGregor Road, Lockport, IL 60441, or via email to cruff@d92.org.

Please complete the following information on behalf of a child who is being considered for early entrance into kindergarten in District 92. WCSD 92 recognizes that there may be exceptional circumstances where children not yet five years old demonstrate the ability to succeed in kindergarten; therefore, the district provides an opportunity for early entrance into kindergarten. When considering a request for early entrance, it is important to keep in mind that the screening process helps predict academic success; however, it is impossible to predict the long-term effects on the child’s future, including academic and social-emotional performance, participation in sports, and extracurricular activities, relationships with peers, etc.

We encourage families to consider all long-term effects before deciding if early entrance is the best option for their child.

School year: _____

Child’s Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Siblings attending District 92:

Name	School	Grade

Name of Preschool: _____

Address of Preschool: _____

Phone: _____ Child's Teacher(s): _____

Teacher's email address: _____

Student's Preschool Experience (please list all of your child's preschool experiences)

Dates of Attendance	Days per Week	# Hours per Week

Parent/Guardian Checklist

In the space provided, please indicate your child's abilities using the following rating scale:

1 - Frequently, 2 - Sometimes, 3 - Never

Physical Well-Being and Motor Development

- _____ Performs self-help tasks independently (dressing, zipping, and tying)
- _____ Uses eye/hand coordination to perform fine motor tasks (drawing, writing, cutting)
- _____ Uses balance and control to perform large motor tasks (walking, jumping, skipping)
- _____ Is completely independent with toileting and wiping

Personal and Social Development

- _____ Shows eagerness to learn (is curious, likes to investigate)
- _____ Follows rules and routines (cleans up at playtime)
- _____ Handles change and transitions
- _____ Interacts easily with one or more children

Language and Literacy

- _____ Listens for meaning in stories, discussions, and conversations
- _____ Speaks clearly to share ideas and thoughts
- _____ Is able to listen to and retell a simple story

- _____ Can identify some high-frequency words
- _____ Uses letters and words to write a sentence
- _____ Can make predictions about a story
- _____ Is able to sit and listen to a 10-minute story

Mathematical Thinking

- _____ Recognizes numbers up to 30
- _____ Can manipulate numbers to add and subtract
- _____ Can count orally to 50
- _____ Can identify a circle, square, triangle, rectangle, and hexagon
- _____ Can classify objects into categories (e.g., sorting objects by shape, size, or color)
- _____ Identifies, describes, and compares properties of objects
- _____ Describes characteristics of basic needs of living things (food, water, shelter)

Please answer the questions below.

1. Why do you believe your child should be considered for early entrance to kindergarten?

2. What responsibilities does your child have at home? What do you do when your child does not follow through?

3. How long does your child maintain interest in an activity or game in a given time?

4. How does your child respond when they try something but cannot do it?

5. How does your child interact with other children?

6. What experiences has your child had that required separating from you?

My signature on this application indicates that the Early Admissions evaluation procedures and criteria have been fully explained to me by District 92 personnel. Based on the results of the administered assessments, District 92 personnel will determine if my child meets the criteria for early admission into kindergarten. The final decision will be shared with the parents/guardians and building principal no later than two weeks from the date of your child's screening.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this completed application no later than May 1, 2026 to:

Walsh School
Attn: Claire Ruff, Psychologist
514 N. MacGregor Road
Lockport, IL 60441

Completed forms can also be emailed to cruff@d92.org.

Preschool Teacher Recommendation

DUE DATE: May 5, 2026

TEACHERS MUST EMAIL OR FAX THE COMPLETED DOCUMENTS DIRECTLY TO:

Fax Number: (815)838-3346, Attn: Claire Ruff, Early Entrance

Email: cruff@d92.org

Please complete the following form for the child listed below who is under consideration for early entrance to kindergarten in Will County School District 92. WCSD 92 recognizes that there may be exceptional circumstances where children who are not yet five years old demonstrate the ability to succeed in kindergarten; therefore, the district provides an opportunity for early entrance into kindergarten. When considering a request for early entrance, it is important to keep in mind that the screening process helps predict academic success; however, it is impossible to predict the long-term effects on the child's future, including academic and social-emotional performance, participation in sports, and extracurricular activities, relationships with peers, etc. An early entrance can significantly impact a child's academic and social-emotional performance; therefore, entering school early should be carefully considered.

School year: _____

Child's Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Name of Preschool: _____

Address of Preschool: _____

Phone: _____ Child's Teacher: _____

Teacher's email address: _____

Does the current preschool teacher hold an Early Childhood/Elementary License? Yes No

State that license is held: _____ License #: _____

Name of person completing this recommendation form: _____

Preschool Director's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Signature of Preschool Director Verifying State License # (if applicable):

Student's Preschool Experience

Dates of Attendance	Days per Week	# Hours per Week

Preschool Teacher Questionnaire

This checklist will help in determining this child's readiness for our kindergarten program. Please read each statement and indicate the child's abilities as listed below by checking the appropriate column.	Frequently	Sometimes	Never
Social Development			
Interacts easily with one or more children			
Shows empathy towards peers			
Displays self-control			
Has an adequate attention span			
Follows rules and routines			
Demonstrates self-control in class			
Responds positively to redirection			
Seeks help when needed			

Respects the property of others			
Physical Development			
Uses balance and control to perform large motor tasks (walking, jumping, and skipping)			
Able to perform fine motor tasks (drawing, writing, cutting)			
Independently performs self-help tasks (dressing, zipping, tying)			
Is completely independent with toileting and wiping			
Academic Readiness			
Counts 10 objects			
Counts to 50			
Identifies written numbers to 30			
Writes numbers 0 - 10			
Speaks in sentences			
Has advanced vocabulary, expresses self clearly and fluently			
Recognizes own name			
Identifies all 26 capital letters in the alphabet			
Identifies all 26 lowercase letters in the alphabet			
Identifies all 26 sounds of the alphabet			
Can write own name			
Uses letters and words to write a sentence			
Shows interest in stories/books			
Listens for meaning in stories, discussions, and conversations			

After listening to a story, can retell the beginning, middle, and end			
Skill Development			
Is attentive			
Listens in a group			
Contributes to group discussions			
Works cooperatively			
Demonstrates ability to focus on one task			
Follows rules and routines			
Completes tasks independently			
Transitions easily			
Responds positively to constructive criticism			
Willingness to try new activities			
Enjoys new challenges Is a self-starter			
Exhibits problem-solving abilities			
Exhibits an appropriate sense of humor			
Has a great deal of curiosity			

Please answer the questions below.

Do you recommend this child to be enrolled in kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year? Yes ____ No ____
Why do you feel this child should be considered for early entrance into kindergarten?

What challenges do you believe this child will face if admitted into kindergarten for early entrance?

May we contact you for any further information that we need? Yes ____ No ____

I understand that the information provided on this questionnaire will be used to assist Will County School District 92 in determining if early entrance into kindergarten is in this child's best interest for the 2024-2025 school year.

Signature _____

Please fax this completed questionnaire to (815) 838-3346, Attn: Claire Ruff.

This completed form can also be scanned and emailed for review to cruff@d92.org.