

Early Entrance of Resident Students

Early Entrance is an option offered by Dallas School District for students entering kindergarten, who are intellectually and/or academically advanced. Generally these children will score at or above the 95th percentile on a nationally normed cognitive battery and have solid preschool experience. Great caution is exercised in allowing children to begin school earlier than their age peers, as this practice may compromise a child's success later in their academic career.

Parents/legal guardians may request Early Entrance if their child will be five years of age on or before November 1. The following procedures shall be used to determine if a child is eligible for early entrance to Kindergarten:

Application:

1. Information and application forms are available at the Dallas School District Office located at 111 SW Ash Street, Dallas, Oregon 97338.
2. The complete application packet will be available June 15th and shall be submitted to the District Office before August 1 with no exceptions.

Eligibility Process:

1. A pre-screening committee will assess the application provided by the parents/guardian to determine if the child meets the criteria for further testing. Members of the committee may include a: kindergarten teacher, building principal, building TAG Coordinator and the District TAG administrator.
2. A representative of the District will present the recommendations of the pre-screening committee to parents. There are two possible outcomes.
 - a. The student did not demonstrate the needed readiness skills and is not eligible for early entrance into kindergarten, or
 - b. The student did demonstrate required readiness skills and is eligible for individual testing.
3. If the criteria is met for individual testing an appointment will be scheduled. A non-refundable fee of \$100 made payable to Dallas School District will be required at the time of testing.

4. If the individual testing fee presents a hardship the parent/legal guardian may write a letter to the Superintendent requesting the fee be waived or reduced in whole or in part. The Superintendent will review the Early Entrance application and the recommendation of the pre-screening committee. There must be compelling evidence of the child's superior academic readiness, language development, physical and social maturity to eliminate the individual testing process.
5. Formal testing will include cognitive, social and physical development and school readiness.
6. Parents will meet with the examiner and a school team consisting of a teacher, building administrator and the District TAG administrator to review test results and determine eligibility.
7. If the child qualifies for early entry, the kindergarten teacher shall conduct a parent conference at the end of six weeks of school to review the progress. If the child is not making satisfactory progress in school, the teacher may make a recommendation for the child to withdraw from kindergarten.

Timeline:

1. Applications are received between June 15 and August 1.
2. Parents/legal guardians will receive the recommendations of the pre-screening committee before August 10. An appointment will be set for further assessments if needed.
3. Early Screening Committee will meet with parents no later than seven (7) days prior to the first day of school to determine eligibility.