

Early Entrance**

Philosophy

Administrators and teachers of the district believe that a student being considered for early admission into kindergarten or first grade must demonstrate exceptional ability in several readiness skills using age norms. The prognosis for a student who is allowed to enroll in kindergarten or first grade, and whose birthday falls after the lawful entrance age, should be one of a successful student, who will be well above the average in the grade being requested.

Entrance Requirements

Children whose parents or legal guardians are residents of the district are eligible to attend classes in the district's schools pursuant to state law and Board policies.

An official birth certificate or other valid proof of age shall be required for all students entering kindergarten or entering school for the first time in the first grade.

A child entering school for the first time in the fall shall be considered of school age if the child's birthday meets the birthday requirements established by Oregon Revised Statutes. A child is to be five years old on or before September 1 to enter kindergarten and six years old on or before September 1 to enter the first grade, except that:

1. Parents of a child born between September 1 and September 30 may apply for early entry into school following the child's successful completion of assessment. Students born after September 30 are not eligible for early entry consideration.
 - a. Early entry requests will be accepted between April 15 and August 15 for the academic year.
 - b. The parents shall submit results of standardized assessment in the following areas:
 - (1) Speech and language development
 - (2) Gross and fine motor development
 - (3) Cognitive skills
 - (4) Academic skills
 - (5) Social/emotional development, including observations in a school environment
2. Standardized assessments shall be administered by a qualified examiner, approved by the school district. Qualified examiners should contact the Jefferson County ESD for the approved Evaluation Packet.
3. All costs incurred as the results of the assessments are the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s).

Criteria for Early Entry Admission

1. The following criteria will be used to determine early entry eligibility:

Developmental Area	Percentile
Speech and Language	97 percentile or above
Social and Emotional	97 percentile or above
Gross and Fine Motor	93 percentile or above
Cognitive Skills	93 percentile or above
Academic Skills	93 percentile or above

2. Assessment results shall be submitted to the principal for early entry consideration. The principal shall submit a recommendation to accept or deny early entry based on the criteria listed above.
3. Parents may appeal the superintendent’s decision for early entry to the Board. The decision of the Board shall be final.
4. Students who transfer from other public school districts in other states where the entrance age is lower may be considered for entry in this district in like grade placement. Students transferring from private or home schooling will meet the age requirements above.
5. Early Entry is probationary for the first nine weeks of school. By the end of the first nine weeks the principal will review the student’s success and may require the child be withdrawn from school if the child is not progressing satisfactorily.