

Early Entry into Kindergarten and First Grade

Kindergarten

In order to qualify for early entry, the following criteria must be met:

1. The child must be five years old as of midnight on November 15 to apply for the evaluation procedure and consideration for early kindergarten enrollment.
2. Application for early entry must be made no later than May 15 so scheduling, administration, and interpretation of the evaluation results can be completed prior to June 30.
3. In the principal's and school psychologist's professional judgment, the child must not be placed under undue stress or in a possible failure situation based upon testing and observation of the child during the evaluation process.
4. The child must be physically mature, as judged by the professional staff, to compete adequately with children from one and a half to thirteen and a half months older; the same applies to the child's ability to cope with age delay in the areas of emotional and social readiness.
5. The child must achieve a score on all standardized measures which indicates functioning at the five year old level or above. On the intellectual functioning measure, the child must achieve a score at or above the 75th percentile. The school psychologist or other qualified professional staff will present all of the testing data, as well as the observation data, to the principal with a recommendation. The principal will make the final decision on early kindergarten entrance based upon the available information.

A child who is granted early entry into kindergarten shall have his/her progress monitored for the first six to nine weeks. Continuation or discontinuation in the kindergarten program shall depend upon the child's performance and adjustment during this period of time. The decision relative to continuation or discontinuation is the responsibility of the principal. The parent will be required to sign a form stating that they have been informed of this regulation and that they agree to it.

Parents will be assessed a non-refundable fee, payable in advance, for all costs associated with the evaluation for early entry into kindergarten. The Superintendent will establish the applicable rate prior to May 1 each year.

Parents should be advised that this evaluation is a service and not a legal requirement of the District. They should also be advised, before paying a fee, that their child must pass a battery of tests with scores in the 75th percentile in the all areas tested.

First Grade

If a request for early admission to the first grade is received by the district, the following guidelines will be used:

1. A child attaining age six on or before September 1 qualifies for first grade. Students who are not age six may be considered for early entry;
2. The Request for Early First-Grade Entrance form must be filled out by a parent. The completion of these forms and receipt of formal evaluation results will activate the early entry committee. Members of that committee are: first-grade teachers, the speech and language therapist, building principals and the director of special services;
3. The parents will be made aware that it is their responsibility to secure testing by a school psychologist or diagnostian approved by the director of special services.

Four areas that must be tested include:

- a. Cognitive development;
- b. Affective development;
- c. Physical development; and
- d. Grade level readiness skills.

Test scores should be in the top quartile for entering first grade.

4. All information must be received by the director of special services on or before August 1;
5. The early entry committee will review the test information and the parent interview forms. If a student is to be considered for early entrance, the student will also be required to participate in a one-day screening/observation conducted by the district by the end of the third week of August;
6. The screening committee will make recommendations to the principal, and parents will be notified by the end of the fourth week in August;
7. The decision of the principal shall be final.

REQUEST FOR EARLY ENTRANCE

Date: _____

Child: _____

I request that my child be reviewed for early admission to the first grade.

I will have _____ evaluated at my expense in the following areas:

1. Cognitive development;
2. Affective development;
3. Physical development;
4. Grade level readiness skills.

I understand the test scores must equal or surpass the norms for 75% of five-year olds entering kindergarten or 75% of six-year olds entering first grade in all areas of assessment by August 15. I will receive written information from the district concerning my request within three weeks of test completion.

Parent Signature

Date

**La Grande School District
La Grande, Oregon 97850
Kindergarten Early Entry Request Form**

We would like to enroll our student in kindergarten in the La Grande School District even though he/she will not be five years old by September 1 of the coming school year. We understand that the process we must follow includes:

1. Submission of a student enrollment form and early entry request form.
2. A meeting with a team from the resident school to discuss the implication of early entry.
3. An evaluation of school readiness conducted by a qualified professional and paid for by the family that will include:
 - a. Cognitive development;
 - b. Social development;
 - c. Physical development; and
 - d. Grade level readiness skills.
4. The screening instruments used in the evaluation will be selected by the school district.
5. A second meeting with the team from the resident school to review the results of the evaluation and make a decision regarding school readiness.

In addition we understand that the final decisions rest with the principal of the resident school.

Student Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Parent Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Resident School: _____

Parent Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

School Use Only

_____ Kindergarten Early Entry Testing request submitted	Date _____
_____ Student Enrollment Form Complete	Date _____
_____ First Team Meeting to Discuss Early Entry	Date _____
_____ Testing Fee Received and sent to district office	Date _____
_____ Copy of Enrollment and Early Entry Forms sent to district office	Date _____
_____ Testing scheduled	Date _____
_____ Testing conducted	Date _____
_____ Second Team meeting to review results	Date _____
_____ Team decision <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Principal Signature _____ Date _____

Early Entry Evaluation and Test Procedures

Assessment Plan For: _____

Date: _____

Cognitive Abilities

Cognitive tests assess a person's development in a variety of educationally relevant abilities which may include memory, reasoning, concentration, visual discrimination, auditory processing, processing speed, problem solving and verbal fluency. Tests we plan to use may include:

1. Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence, Fourth Edition (WPPSI-IV), ages 2:6-7:7.
2. Woodcock-Johnson, Fourth Edition (WJ-IV), ages 2-90.
3. Other: _____

Academic Achievement

Academic achievement tests assess readiness skills for, reading, written language and mathematics. Tests we plan to use may include:

1. Kaufman Test of Educational Achievement, Second Edition (KTEA-II), ages 4:6-25.
2. Wechsler Individual Achievement Test, Third Edition (WIAT-III), ages 4-20.
3. Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement, Fourth Edition (WJ-IV) ages 2-90.
4. Other: _____

Social/Emotional/Adaptive

Screening instruments assess social, emotional and adaptive behavior. Tests we plan to use may include:

1. Adaptive Behavior Assessment System, Second Edition (ABAS-2), ages 5-21:11.
2. Behavioral Assessment for Children, Second Edition (BASC-2), ages 2-21.
3. Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function (BRIEF), ages 5-18.
4. Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scale, Second Edition (Vineland-II), ages 3-21.
5. Other: _____

Physical

Measures fine and gross motor development. Tests we plan to use may include:

1. Beery-Buktenica Developmental Test of Visual Motor Integration (VMI), ages 3-17.
2. Bruininks-Oseretsky Test of Motor Proficiency, ages 4:6-14:5.
3. School Function Assessment (SFA), ages grades K-6.
4. Other: _____