

Frequently Asked Questions about Early Entrance to Kindergarten

Is early entrance right for my child?

There are many factors to consider when deciding on early entrance to kindergarten. This packet describes the process used in Reynolds School District and can help you determine if early entrance may be appropriate for your child.

What is the age requirement for kindergarten?

In Oregon, a child must be five years old on or before September 1 of the school year they wish to enter kindergarten.

Are there any exceptions?

Early entry into kindergarten will be allowed for a child whose fifth birthday occurs between September 2 and September 30 and who is sufficiently advanced to succeed in the educational program based on analysis by qualified professional staff of the child's academic readiness, social, and physical development.

How do I apply for early entrance?

Visit your child's neighborhood school and ask for an 'Early Entrance Packet' or download and print the packet from the district or school website. Complete the **application, parent checklist and questionnaire**, and ask your child's preschool teacher to complete the **preschool teacher checklist**. Submit all three completed documents to your school's office anytime between February 1 and April 15. You will be contacted to schedule an assessment appointment for your child to take a school readiness assessment.

Requests received after April 15 for any given school year cannot be considered.

What are the assessment criteria?

The school-based team will review the submitted application, parent checklist and questionnaire, preschool teacher checklist, and Bracken School Readiness Assessment scores. These factors will be considered to determine if your child qualifies for early entrance.

What happens next?

A representative from the school will contact you to review the findings. If your child meets criteria and there is consensus that early entrance is appropriate for your child, you may register your child for school. Results of the assessment and determination will be made available to parents no later than July 15.

Is there a cost for the assessment?

There is no cost for the assessment.

Can I appeal the decision of the school team if my child is not accepted for early entrance?

No, decisions cannot be appealed. Every effort is made to ensure that the screening process is fair and equitable. Decisions on kindergarten/first grade readiness will be made by a team of professionals. The team's decision is final.

