

Early Entrance – 2021-2022 School Year

Early Entrance into Kindergarten or First Grade

Children who turn 5 (Kindergarten) or 6 (First Grade) years of age between September 1 and December 31, 2021 must meet specific District requirements for early entrance into kindergarten or first grade.

General Information:

- ✓ Parents must submit an application, copy of the child's proof of birth, and the \$75 fee to the District office by **May 27, 2021**
- ✓ If you feel your income qualifies you for a free screening please include proof of income with your application.
- ✓ Appointments will be emailed to parents **May 28-29 2021** (*subject to change*)
- ✓ Assessments will be conducted by District staff (results from private psychologists will not be accepted).
- ✓ We will screen candidates on **June 6, 2021** for early entrance for the 2021-2022 school year.

Screening & fees:

- Candidates are screened by a District team of Kindergarten teachers and/or school psychologists in a small-group setting
- The fee for the screening is **\$75** (\$0 if you qualify for a reduced fee). Please submit your payment with the application.
- **We will refund your fee only if your child does not separate from you on the day of the assessment or if you notify us of your intent to withdraw by June 5.**
- You will receive the results of your child's screening by email by **July 15, 2021**.

Other Important Info:

- ✓ **At least one caregiver must also attend a MANDATORY, informational meeting about Early Entrance on June 3.** Your child will not be evaluated for early entrance and your fee will be returned if a caregiver does not attend the **MANDATORY** meeting.
- ✓ **First Grade early entrance only:** please request a *First Grade Early Entrance Form* if your child is currently enrolled in a private, accredited Kindergarten.
- ✓ **Evaluation period:** Successful candidates must also attend Kindergarten Jump Start, scheduled for August (date TBD) and complete a 25 school-day evaluation period which begins on the first day of school.
 - Extended absences during the 25 school-day screening period are not recommended and may impact the final decision whether the student will be able to remain in Kindergarten or need to re-enroll in the 2022-23 school year.
 - First grade candidates who do not successfully complete the 25 school-day period will be placed in Kindergarten.
- ✓ **The school team may decide at any time during the evaluation period if early entrance is appropriate.**
- ✓ **Conversations:** Families may request a conversation with the assistant superintendent if their child did not meet the criteria for early entrance based on the screening results.

*As outlined by Edmonds School District School Board policy and procedure 3110 & 3110P. (*Pursuant to WAC 392-335-010*)

In this packet...

Page 2: Checklist and timeline for parents

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Please contact Tara Taitano at 425-431-7176 or taitanot742@edmonds.wednet.edu with questions.



Early Entrance Checklist Important Due Dates and Timeline for Parents

Date	Who	What
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/caregiver	<i>Considered the implications of early entrance on my child's long-term development (see page 3)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/caregiver	<i>Submitted</i> the application, copy of child's birth certificate, and \$75 fee to: Edmonds School District, 20420 68 th Ave W, Lynnwood WA 98036, ATTN: Tara Taitano
<input type="checkbox"/>	Edmonds School District	Appointment times <i>emailed</i> to parents
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/caregiver	<i>Attended MANDATORY</i> parent meeting, 20420 68 th Ave W, Lynnwood, Board Rooms
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/caregiver	Last date to <i>cancel</i> appointment and receive refund
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/caregiver	<i>Brought my child to screening (parent/caregiver must be in attendance, complete survey information about your child, and wait while the assessment is completed)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Edmonds School District	Results emailed to parents
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>If Approved for Early Entrance</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/caregiver	<i>Registered</i> my child for school
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/caregiver	<i>Brought my child to <u>Jump Start to Kindergarten</u> (attendance MANDATORY)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/caregiver	<i>Attended <u>Family Connection Meeting</u> at my school (appointments set by school)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/caregiver	<i>Brought my child to <u>first day of school</u></i>

Please note that dates/times are subject to change pending COVID-19 restrictions and re-entry plans

Updates will be posted on the Edmonds School District website.

Important Information for Parents to Consider about Early Entrance

Parents, please note that the early entrance process is designed to provide an opportunity for children who do not meet the August 31 cut-off age as mandated by the state of Washington, but are academically ready and **advanced**, to enter kindergarten early. These children must also demonstrate advanced characteristics socially, emotionally, and in their thinking schools. All of these factors demonstrate readiness for the elementary classroom environment.

Students who are ready for kindergarten early are advanced in multiple areas when compared to their same-age peers, or other children of the same birth month and year. Many students can demonstrate academic ability based on the exposure provided by parents and daycare settings; however, few children will demonstrate the aptitude or thinking ability to needed to enter kindergarten early. When considering early entrance into kindergarten, keep in mind it is a process designed to meet the academic and social needs of the child, not as a replacement for child care. Students accepted into kindergarten early will be placed in a class where peers could be up to two years older. They will also be expected to attend kindergarten for a full day during the 25 school-day evaluation period.

The following factors and questions should be considered when determining if the early entrance process is something you wish to pursue for your child. It's also very important to note that the evaluation can be exhausting for a four-year old. **Please consider the effects of perceived failure on a young child, taking care to praise and provide support if s/he does not pass the evaluation.**

Questions to Consider	Factors/Characteristics to Consider
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is my child capable of working successfully with children who are one to two years older? • Does my child adapt well to change, or will the adjustment frustrate him/her? • What long term impacts will early kindergarten placement have on my child's long term academic career (e.g. beginning college and high-school a year early)? • Does my child ask questions to advance his/her learning? • Can my child read, comprehend, and/or make connections to a story? Can my child decode challenging words? • Does my child have an understanding of basic math concepts, such as shapes, time, number recognition? • Does my child demonstrate leadership with same-age peers? • Is my child able to maintain interest for long periods of time? • Does my child demonstrate a curiosity about learning new things? • Does my child demonstrate strong memory and recall skills? • Is my child able to maintain a structured schedule for longer periods of time than same-age peers? 	<p>My child...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believes he/she can experience success at new tasks • Can maintain personal care and hygiene with little assistance from adults (e.g. use the bathroom, tie shoes, button and zip garments) • Thoughtfully considers feedback and adjust behavior accordingly • Has the ability to focus attention for long periods of instruction • Demonstrates fine and large motor skill coordination • Can be separated from a parent without being upset • Demonstrates strong interpersonal skills with students of his/her own age and older peers • Follows routines and schedules • Is enthusiastic about elementary school • Follows given and multi-step directions



Application for Early Entrance Screening
Submit with fee ASAP (but no later than 4:00 pm on May 27, 2021)

Child's Full Name: _____ Birth date: ____/____/____

For: Kindergarten First Grade

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Assigned School _____

My child has attended preschool: Yes No Name of Preschool: _____

My child needs an interpreter for the screening Yes No Language _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email _____

Parent needs an interpreter for the appointment Yes No Language _____

Parent/Guardian preferred language: _____

FEE: \$75 (or \$0 if you feel you will qualify for a reduced fee screening) is required with this application to reserve an appointment. Payment may be made by checks payable to the Edmonds School District or money order (do not send cash).

You will receive a refund of the fees **only** if your child does not separate from you at the time of the screening or you notify us of your intent to cancel by June 5.

I am applying for a free screening based on my income status (based on free/reduced lunch income criteria).
 Yes No

If yes, complete the income/household information below (**proof of income such as recent paystubs/DSHS paperwork, etc**) **must** accompany this application to be considered for a reduced fee

Total # of people living in your household? _____ What is your gross monthly income? _____

To reserve an appointment, please submit this form with the \$75 fee and a copy of your child's proof of birth as soon as possible but **no later than 4:00 pm on May 27, 2021** to
Tara Taitano, Edmonds School District, 20420 68th Ave W, Lynnwood, 98036.

Permission for Assessment

The Edmonds School District may screen the child named above to determine eligibility to enter kindergarten (or first grade). I understand that the results of this assessment will be shared with me, appropriate District staff, and will be made a part of my child's school record, but will not be shared with other parties except with my written permission or in compliance with a judicial order. I understand that my child must pass all required components of the assessment attend Jump Start for Kindergarten, and have good attendance during the 25-school day evaluation period in order to be eligible for early entrance into Kindergarten (or first grade).

 Parent/Guardian Signature Relationship to Child Date

To be completed by Edmonds School District:

Date Received: _____ Proof of Birth Received: Yes No

Fee Received: Yes No Amount \$ _____ Ck M Order