



CPA GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES for Early Admission to Kindergarten

EARLY ADMISSION

At the request of a parent or guardian, a child who turns 5 years old between Sept. 2 and Oct. 1 may be screened and evaluated to determine readiness for placement in Kindergarten. This is a free service.

The purpose of the procedure is to determine whether the child's educational and personal/ social development would be best served by early admission. Only children with superior cognitive abilities who have strong academic readiness and motor skills and are mature in language and social/emotional development will be recommended for early admission. In addition, a child must be toilet trained and able to use the restroom independently.

RATIONALE FOR EARLY ADMISSION

In general, most children will have the best chance for successful school experiences if they begin their schooling with their own age group at the usual time of entrance into preschool. A child will be considered a good candidate for early admission to Kindergarten if the child can successfully compete, without substantial stress, with the most mature children entering that grade. Those children appropriate for early admission are clearly superior in their level of development.

WHAT PARENTS SHOULD DO

Parents who would like their child to be considered for early admission to Kindergarten should submit the following documents to CPA by March 15th:

1. CPA Application for Early Admission to Kindergarten.
2. A copy of the child's birth certificate.
3. A copy of the Early Childhood Screening.

WHAT CPA WILL DO

Upon receipt and review of the above documents, your child will be included in the lottery for admission to Kindergarten. If your child is awarded a seat in that lottery, he or she will be evaluated for early admission to Kindergarten. A school-based assessment team will:

1. Contact you to schedule a time for an initial assessment of your child, which will include:
 - **Academic Readiness Skills**
 - **Fine and Gross Motor Skills**
 - **Language Skills**
 - **Social and Emotional Maturity**
2. The school assessment team will inform parents/guardians whether or not the child has passed this initial screening. If the child has passed, the school makes a referral for evaluation by the school psychologist.

3. The psychologist will assess intellectual development to help determine the child's academic readiness to successfully compete with Kindergarten children as well as evaluating other areas identified by the screening team. The psychologist will also be looking for evidence that the child can handle all-day every day Kindergarten program without harm to the child's self-concept. This evaluation will take about an hour. The parents may then meet with the psychologist to discuss the evaluation and have the results shared with them.

Please note the following:

Only children who have been awarded a seat in Kindergarten via the lottery system will be evaluated for early admission.

The child is expected to have superior academic functioning compared to children her/his age, and have similarly advanced social, emotional, language and motor development. If the child demonstrates this above average development, the child will be recommended for early admission.

The school psychologist's evaluation and recommendation is the final step in determining early admission. Children must pass both the individual screening AND the evaluation by the psychologist to be considered for early admission status. The decisions of the school screening team and the school psychologist are final and can not be appealed.

EARLY ADMISSION IS PROBATIONARY

In the event that a student is accepted for early admission to Kindergarten, the first 6 weeks of school will be considered a probationary period. During that period, either the Parent(s)/Mentor(s) or the School may determine that it is in the best interest of the child, or of the program, for the child to be withdrawn.

