



# South Washington County Schools

## REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION FOR EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN

Parents/legal guardians residing in South Washington County Schools, District 833, may request consideration for their child's early entrance to kindergarten by completing this request form and submitting it to the Gifted Education Coordinator. A copy of the child's birth certificate and a non-refundable \$200 fee must also be submitted. *Scholarships are available for parents/legal guardians who qualify based on federal standards for free and reduced price school meals or by application for financial assistance.* Parents/legal guardians will then be contacted to schedule a psychological evaluation to assess whether the child is ready to begin kindergarten one year early. The child's fifth birthday must fall between September 2 and October 15. **An informational meeting must be held with the attendance boundary elementary school principal before the evaluation process may begin.**

Date of Informational Meeting with Attendance Boundary Elementary School Principal: \_\_\_\_\_  
(mo./day/year)

Signature of Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Male or Female Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print First Last (Circle one) (mo./day/year)

Name of Parents/Legal Guardians: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Work Cell

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

District 833 Attendance Boundary Elementary School: \_\_\_\_\_

Language Spoken at Home \_\_\_\_\_ Interpreter Needed Y/N \_\_\_\_\_

Has your child had experience with groups of children away from his or her parents, such as in daycare or early childhood classes? Please list or explain.

\_\_\_\_\_

Pre-School Teacher: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you feel your child would benefit from early entrance?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I consent to a psychological evaluation of my child to determine his or her readiness for Early Entrance to kindergarten.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent or guardian

- ✓ The \$200 non-refundable assessment fee, payable to District 833, is enclosed
- ✓ A copy of your child's birth certificate is enclosed
- ✓ An application for free and reduced priced school meals or District 833 financial assistance is enclosed (if necessary.)
- ✓ Early Childhood Screening Summary Sheet
- ✓ Health Forms, Physical and Immunizations

**Return to:** Eileen McElrath, Gifted Education Coordinator  
[emcelrat@sowashco.org](mailto:emcelrat@sowashco.org) or  
7362 East Point Douglas Road S  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
Attn: Early Entrance Review Committee



## EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN-*Frequently Asked Questions*

---

**What is the latest birth date a child may have to be considered for Early Entrance to Kindergarten?**

The child's birth date must be after September 1 and on or before October 15.

**Who do I contact for an Early Entrance to Kindergarten application?** Parents may obtain the Early Entrance application by **scheduling an informational meeting** with the attendance boundary elementary school principal. The school psychologist and a kindergarten teacher may also attend the meeting, which may be scheduled during the school year through early August. ***It is advantageous to apply before the end of the school year as the school staff have more flexibility in their schedules.***

**What is the application deadline?** Applications may be made between May 5<sup>th</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup> of the year the parents or guardians wish the child to enter school and must be submitted to the Early Entrance Review Committee.

**Are there costs involved in applying for Early Entrance to Kindergarten?** Yes. The cost of the psychological assessment is \$200 and is paid by the parents/legal guardians. Scholarships are available for parents/guardians who qualify based on federal standards for free or reduced price meal guidelines.

**What does the assessment for Early Entrance involve?** A district licensed school psychologist will administer assessments in the areas of cognitive ability, academic, adaptive and social emotional skills. Parents will complete a Pre-school and Kindergarten Behavior Scales, which is an instrument used to measure a child's social skills and behaviors and will request input from preschool or daycare provider, if available, using a district questionnaire.

**I have already had my child assessed? May I submit those results instead of having him/her assessed again?** Results from a licensed psychologist may be submitted if the assessment was completed within the last year. Please check with the Gifted Education Coordinator to confirm that the results meet the district criteria.

**Can I choose the school that my child attends?** Yes, with some limitations. Parents/legal guardians applying for early entrance to kindergarten for their child may apply for an intra-district transfer to a school outside of their assigned neighborhood attendance boundary *after* the child has been approved for early entrance to kindergarten. Since the early entrance process is not finalized until July/August of the school year desired, the number of kindergarten spaces available through the school choice option, including Nuevas Fronteras Spanish Immersion and Multiage at Valley Crossing, may be limited.

**If I do not agree with the decision of the Early Entrance Committee, how do I appeal the decision?**

Parents/legal guardians who disagree with the findings of the school staff may appeal the decision in writing to the appeals committee, which is comprised, of staff from Gifted Education and the Superintendents offices. The final decision shall rest with the Superintendent of Schools. Please submit your letter to:

Julie Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent  
7362 East Point Douglas Road S  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016