

Early Entry into Kindergarten
Procedure for Eligibility Determination

The following steps will be implemented when a parent makes a request for early entry consideration:

1. The principal in the school in the child's attendance area and the kindergarten teacher will meet with the parents to discuss early entrance issues. If the parent(s) continue to express interest in exploring early entrance for their child, the kindergarten teacher will administer a developmental screening instrument. If the child demonstrates readiness, behavior and interpersonal skills consistent with the development levels necessary for early entry, the request will be considered. The parents will also be asked to complete a health and physical history questionnaire.
2. The kindergarten readiness screening instrument as established by the Intermountain ESD, will evaluate the child in the areas of intellectual ability and social-emotional maturity. Data will also be gathered in the areas of perceptual-motor and physical development. The principal and kindergarten teacher will meet to review all evaluation data and *arrive at a recommendation for the superintendent*.
3. If the parents do not agree with the recommendation made by the team, the due process procedure will be followed.

Early Entrance Criteria

1. The child must have his/her fifth birthday on or before midnight on October 1st of the year of entry into school;
2. The child must have met all the criteria for entry into kindergarten under the same guidelines as other students who are kindergarten eligible as of September 1st.

Due Process

The superintendent will designate a hearings officer. A hearings panel will be appointed by the superintendent to include but not be limited to: an uninvolved elementary principal and an uninvolved kindergarten teacher. This panel will hear testimony and review the record of the child in question. The recommendations of the hearings panel will be presented to the superintendent, who will make a decision based on the recommendation of the hearings panel and his/her professional judgment.