



Policy on Early Entrance to Kindergarten

Children considered eligible for automatic consideration for kindergarten entrance will be five years of age on or before September 1. It is recognized that some children may have exceptional skills and ability and could be ready to begin their formal education before they reach that age. To provide an appropriate opportunity for these children, Mounds Park Academy has established the following policy for consideration of early kindergarten entrance.

Research supports that predictors of success of early admittance are (in order of importance): IQ, early numeracy skills, early literacy skills, and social emotional skills in the areas of attention, impulse control, prosocial behavior, emotional regulation, and relationship skills. Those children who will be five years of age and whose birth date falls after September 1 but prior to November 15 are eligible to be considered for early entrance to kindergarten if these criteria are met.

Admission consideration for all kindergarten applicants is based on the following requirements:

1. Application for admission (available at www.moundsparkacademy.org/admission)
2. Copy of birth certificate
3. Letter of recommendation (by primary teacher)
4. Early Childhood Screening Results (optional, but highly encouraged – generally performed through the school district you reside in at low or no cost)
5. MPA Developmental Assessment and Observation Visit (approximately 2-2.5 hour visit to campus)
6. Developmental Questionnaires (shared with family after date of assessment is determined)
7. Parent/family meeting

Additional requirements for early entrance consideration:

1. An assessment of IQ. Children must demonstrate superior intellectual ability as measured by a nationally normed, individually administered assessment, defined as performance at or above the 95th percentile on full scale IQ and index scores. No descriptors should be below average. Preferred assessments are: WPPSI, SB-5, or KABC-II. A licensed psychologist must administer this intellectual assessment.
2. An assessment of early numeracy. Student should be at 90th percentile or higher. One assessment option is “myIGDIs” (more information at <https://www.myigdis.com/preschool-assessments/>)
3. An assessment of early literacy. Student should be at 90th percentile or higher. One assessment option is “myIGDIs” (more information at <https://www.myigdis.com/preschool-assessments/>)
4. An assessment of social-emotional skills. The parent/guardian, current teacher(s) (if applicable), as well as MPA teachers will observe and rate each child on the following skills:
 - Ability to pay attention when completing academic tasks
 - Prosocial behavior (sharing, cooperating, taking turns)
 - Impulse control (keeping hands to self, waits patiently)
 - Emotional regulation (frustration, excitement, fear, sadness)
 - Interaction skills (able to make friends, navigates conflict)

Note: The costs of the above assessments vary and are the responsibility of the family. Please contact the Office of Admission to confirm all assessments you are pursuing prior to payment or assessment date. All required admission documents and assessment results must be received by August 1 to be eligible for early entrance consideration.

Process for Early Entrance Consideration

1. Contact the Office of Admission at Mounds Park Academy to establish assessment dates for your child(ren)
2. Submit all required documents to the Office of Admission at your earliest opportunity (no consideration after August 1)
3. After all assessments have been completed and all requirements are fulfilled, admission and appropriateness of early entrance to kindergarten will be determined by the MPA Early Childhood Admission Committee
4. Parents/guardians will be contacted to discuss this decision, which is considered final

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