

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

- The Allegany County Early Admission Process and Guidelines have been established to identify children who have the advanced academic skills and emotional maturity to enter first grade early.
- The Allegany County first grade curriculum requires a rigorous reading, math, science, and social studies program based on Maryland's State Curriculum.
- A child who enters first grade early will be younger than his or her classmates throughout his or her academic career. This means that the child may well be the youngest student in his or her high school class. Will this put your child at an academic and/or social disadvantage?
- Early entry is the equivalent to skipping a grade, not just giving a head start.
- There may be less leadership opportunities in upper grades.
- There may be negative effects in GPA and class ranking which will impact the college application and acceptance processes.

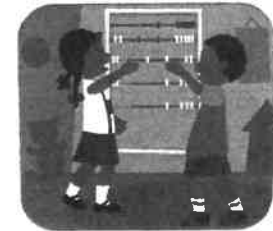
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EARLY ADMISSION TO FIRST GRADE



PARENT INFORMATION

EARLY ADMISSION FACTS

- Code of Maryland Regulation requires that a child must be six-years-old by September 1 of the school year in which the child applies for admission to first grade.
- The student must demonstrate superior intellectual and academic achievement which is on or above first grade level, and is comparable to the peer group in which the placement occurs.
- The student must exhibit advanced social, emotional, and physical maturity appropriate for first grade placement; and which is comparable to the peer group in which placement occurs.
- The Allegany County Board of Education has established a process and guidelines for evaluation of early admission to first grade requests for five-year-old children.
- Young children who demonstrate capabilities that exceed the level of challenge typically presented in a grade one program should be provided the opportunity for early entry if their birthday is prior to December 1.
- Applications received on or before May 15 will be reviewed by June 30. The application process begins at your home school. Contact your school for applications.

THE EARLY ADMISSION PROCESS



THE EARLY ADMISSION PROCESS

- Parents/guardians will make a written request for early admission at the elementary school designated for their residential district.
- Applications will be accepted from the first day of registration through May 15.
- Parents/guardians will meet with the school principal and discuss the request.
- Parents/guardians will be given and must complete:
 - The Early Admission to First Grade—Parent Survey
- Parent or guardian will meet with Educational Management Team (EMT) or school principal.
- School personnel will administer the required initial screening test:
 - Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test (K-BIT) (Required score 115) If a student scores less than a 115, early admission will not be granted. Scoring a 115 or higher warrants further testing.

Further Tests and Entry Requirements:

- WPPSI - IV (Required score 130)
- Adaptive Behavior Assessment System 3 (Required score 120)
- Test of Kindergarten/First Grade Readiness Skills-(Required score 125 or higher) in both Reading and Math
- Assessment results will be given to the school principal.
- The school principal and the Educational Management Team will review the assessment results.
- Parents/guardians will be invited to meet with the school principal and EMT to be informed of the results and placement options.
- Parents/guardians will have 10 days to submit a written appeal to the Superintendent.
- Allegany County Public Schools take the request for early admission to first grade very seriously. Our goal is to work collaboratively with families to ensure that the best long-range decision is made for each child.