



Kodiak Island Borough School District
Special Services (907) 486-7574

A Parent’s Guide to the Policy and Procedure on Early Entrance to Kindergarten

What are the Kindergarten Age Entrance Requirements?

Your child must be age five on or before September 1st of the year they are entering kindergarten.
Exceptions include:

- Kindergarten and 1st grade students entering from another state or district may be accepted if enrolled in the former school in accordance with the laws and regulations of that state.
- A child under school age for kindergarten may be admitted by KIBSD upon written recommendation by the home school psychologist and principal. The recommendation should be based on appropriate assessment and evaluation of the child’s readiness to attend school.
- Only children with September birthdays will be assessed by KIBSD Special Services for early entry to kindergarten.
- Children born after September will not be considered for early entry to kindergarten.

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Is My Child Ready to Attend Kindergarten?

Children are generally ready to participate in a kindergarten program when the child is able to:

- Associate comfortably with other children of the same age;
 - Use the bathroom independently;
 - Express an interest in learning;
 - Beginning to secure early learning skills such as knowing colors, naming alphabet letters, recognizing their name in print;
 - Follow directions and take turns;
 - Manage clothing needs such as boots, coats, zippers, etc.;
 - Listen to a story or work on an activity for 10-15 minutes at a time;
- **If “No” is answered to any of the above questions, it is probably best to wait the additional year before enrolling your child in kindergarten.**

What is the Kindergarten Early Entry Procedure?

1. Contact KIBSD Special Services at 486-7574 prior to or during the first two weeks of August.
2. KIBSD Special Services will contact you to discuss early entry for your child prior to or during the first week of school.
3. If early entry requirements are met, your child will be assessed by KIBSD special services.
4. A meeting will be held to discuss the results of the assessment on your child.
5. KIBSD staff will determine if your child is provisionally accepted to kindergarten.
6. If provisional attendance occurs, your child will begin kindergarten the same time as all kindergarten students.
7. Following the trial period, a KIBSD team along with parents will meet to determine permanent kindergarten status. This may occur within a three week window after provisional acceptance.
8. The KIBSD School Board then approves or denies the application for early entrance prior to the end of October.