

GUIDELINES FOR EARLY ADMISSION

The following procedures are prescribed for considering applications for early admissions to kindergarten or first grade:

1. Written application will be made by the parent to the elementary principal for admission to Pre-K or kindergarten of any child who would be ineligible to attend because of age.
2. Personal interview shall be held with the elementary principal and/or school psychologist to determine the parent's reasons for requesting entrance prior to the legal age.
3. An evaluation of the child's potential shall consider intellectual ability, general readiness skills, social and emotional maturity and physical health. The individual evaluation shall be conducted by the school psychologist. The psychologist may request the participation of other personnel as deemed appropriate. The evaluation shall be at no cost to the parents.
4. After the evaluation has been completed, a conference will be held with the parents to discuss the findings and the recommendation that will be made regarding early admission. If early admission is approved, no further hearings are necessary.
5. If the parent/guardian(s) desire to appeal this recommendation concerning early admission, they may contact the superintendent who will hear their rationale along with the rationale for the recommendation from the principal and school psychologist, and inform the parties of the outcome of the deliberation regarding early admission of the child.
6. If the parent/guardian(s) are dissatisfied with the decision of the superintendent, they request the superintendent to schedule a hearing before the Board of Education's Policy and Curriculum Committee who will hear the rationale for each previous decision and rule on the question of early admission for the child.
7. The parents will then be notified of the committee's decision. If the parent disagrees with the decision of the committee, they have the right to request a hearing in closed session before the Board of Education, who will have the final authority for deciding whether or not the child is to be admitted to Pre-K / kindergarten/~~first grade~~ in accordance with the conditions and standards listed below:
 - A. Pre-K - A child who will not be four ~~five~~ years old on or before September 1 may be considered for early admission if:
 1. The child is capable of functioning at the Pre-K level socially, emotionally, physically, mentally and in general readiness skills; or
 2. The child has been evaluated by a Colby District IEP team and determined not to have a disability, but would benefit from an early educational program; ~~or~~ and
 3. Staff and facilities are deemed sufficient.
 - B. A child may be considered for early admission to Kindergarten if:
 1. The child successfully completed a four-year-old public school kindergarten, certified by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, during the previous school year, and
 2. The child successfully completed a program for four-year-old children which the school district deems equivalent; or
 3. The child, not meeting the conditions of (A) or (B) above, but who as a result of the evaluation prescribed in (2) is considered capable of, and whose educational welfare would best be served by, placement in Kindergarten.