

Policy

BOARD OF EDUCATION
HORTONVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENTS
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ENTRANCE AGE

The Hortonville Area School District permits early kindergarten admission provided certain criteria are met. The Hortonville Area School District does not discriminate against pupils on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap in its education programs or activities.

Children may be considered for early enrollment into school class before their legal entry age, (age six (6) or age five (5) by September 1st) but only after thorough investigation of the facts, evaluation by school officials and final approval by the Board of Education. Requests for early entrance consideration must be made on or before June 1st in the year he or she proposes to attend school.

Implementation:

1. Four-Year-Old Kindergarten Entrance Age
 - A. A child must be four years of age on or before September 1st in the year she/he seeks admission to Four-Year-Old Kindergarten.
 - B. No exceptions will be made to the requirement that a child must be four years of age on or before September 1st in the year she/he seeks admission to Four-Year-Old Kindergarten.
 - C. Families may use their discretion to enroll their five (5) year old in the HASD Four-Year-Old Kindergarten program for one (1) academic year prior to entering Five-Year-Old Kindergarten. Students who complete Four-Year-Old Kindergarten may not repeat the following school year.
2. Five-Year-Old Kindergarten
 - A. Application in writing stating specific reasons for early entrance for Kindergarten (or First Grade without successfully completing five (5) Year Old Kindergarten) shall be made by the parent(s) to the school principal on or before June 1 in the year he or she proposes to attend school.
 - B. The school psychologist shall evaluate the child to determine the emotional stability, social and mental maturity, and physical health of the child. The specific tests used will be determined by the school district.
3. Upon completion of the evaluation, recommendations will be made by the psychologist to the principal.
4. The student must meet the criteria in 1, 2, 3 and 4:
 - A. The student desires early entrance.
 - B. The student is determined to be relatively free of social, emotional and/or physical adjustment problems that could negatively impact the placement.
 - C. The student will be required to demonstrate cognitive abilities at or above the 95th percentile on a measure selected by the District.
 - D. The student will be required to demonstrate academic skills at or above the 75th percentile of students in the grade he/she desires to enter (5 years 6 months for Five -Year-Old

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Kindergarten or 6 years, 6 months for First Grade) based on District selected achievement tests.

Parent(s) will be notified of school recommendations on or before July 1st prior to the respective school year.

5. The school psychologist shall report to parents whether criteria above were met.
6. The principal shall meet with parents and the child who meet the criteria above to discuss testing results and specific reasons for the application.
7. The principal shall make recommendation to the district administrator for all early entrances.
8. The Board of Education has the final authority for deciding if the child will be admitted to kindergarten before legal age.

First Grade Entrance Age

1. A child may enroll in First Grade if she/he meets any of the following requirements:
 - A. The child has successfully completed a Five-Year-Old Kindergarten program or its equivalent;
 - B. The child was admitted to First Grade in another public school district prior to moving into the Hortonville Area School District; or
 - C. The child demonstrates satisfactory completion of preliminary student assessments.
2. A child who becomes six years of age on or before September 1st of the year she/he seeks admission to First Grade but has not successfully completed Five-Year-Old Kindergarten may enroll in First Grade if the child meets any of the following requirements:
 - A. Before either commencing or completing First Grade, the child moved into Wisconsin from a state, country, or territory in which completion of Five-Year-Old Kindergarten is not a prerequisite to entering First Grade.
 - B. Before either commencing or completing First Grade, the child moved into Wisconsin from a state, country, or territory in which completion of Five-Year-Old is a prerequisite to entering First Grade and the child was exempted from the requirement to complete Five-Year-Old Kindergarten in the state, country, or territory from which the child moved.
 - C. The child has successfully completed an educational program for five-year-old children in a private school or licensed day care center that the Hortonville Area School District deems equivalent to public school Five-Year-Old Kindergarten.
 - D. The child demonstrates satisfactory completion of preliminary student assessments.
3. A parent/legal guardian shall submit a request for early entrance or entrance without attending Kindergarten into First Grade to the District Administrator on or before August 1st of the year in which early admission is requested.