

EARLY KINDERGARTEN ENTRANCE

The Nebraska Legislature has changed the law governing when children begin kindergarten in public schools. Starting in the 2012-13 school year, students may enter kindergarten if they turn five years of age on or before July 31, a date that was previously October 15. However, if your child was born between August 1 and October 15, he or she is eligible to participate in an assessment conducted by Lincoln Public Schools to determine possible early entrance to kindergarten.

COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Is my child eligible?

• Your child must turn 5 years of age between August 1 and October 15 (a certified birth certificate will be required). Children who are good candidates for this process are those who demonstrate academic achievement as well as social, emotional and physical maturity appropriate for kindergarten placement.

How do I have my child participate?

- You can obtain a brochure and an application from your neighborhood school starting March 1, 2013. You need to fill out an application and register with the neighborhood school at least one week prior to the beginning of each round of testing.
- Application and certified birth certificate will be due at the time of the registration. The birth certificate will be copied and returned
- There is no charge for the assessment.

When, where and how will my child be assessed?

 Your child will be assessed on vocabulary, letter identification, visual discrimination, phonemic awareness, comprehension and numeracy.

• Trained teachers will conduct an assessment that will last up to 45-minutes.

• When you register your child at your neighborhood school, you will also schedule the time and date of your child's assessment.

• The assessment will take place at the LPS Student Service Building (Hawthorne) at 300 S. 48th St. (Please use the northwest entrance.)

• Testing times will be 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. (ending time) on Tuesday May 28, June 4 and June 11. All other days the testing times will be 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

May 28-31 (Tuesday-Friday) June 1 (Saturday)

June 3-7 & June 10-14



What will happen the day of testing?

- Your child should arrive at the LPS Student Services Building at the scheduled time. You will be asked to wait in the outer office while your child is taking the assessment in a different room.
- Parents will not be allowed to remain in the room while testing occurs and must stay on site.
- Administering the assessment will take up to 45 minutes.
- Parents will be notified of results/determination within two weeks.

How will I find out if my child is eligible for entrance to kindergarten?

- A letter will be sent with the results/determination no more than two weeks after the assessment.
- If the child is eligible for entrance, the parent makes the final decision to register the child for kindergarten. Even if a child is found eligible, he/she is not required to attend kindergarten this fall.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Parents can obtain a brochure and an application from their child's neighborhood school.
- The parent turns in a completed application and certified birth certificate to the neighborhood school.
- While at the neighborhood school, the parent schedules the assessment during the registration process.
- The assessment is conducted with children at the LPS Student Services Building (Hawthorne, 300 S. 48th St).
- Parents are notified of results/determination within two weeks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Lincoln Public Schools Student Services, (402) 436-1680.

