Baltimore County Public Schools

Parent Guidelines for Applying for Early Admission to Kindergarten

2023-24

Office of Early Childhood Programs
Lisa Dingle, Coordinator
Guidelines to Applying for Early Admission into Kindergarten

Age of Admission

The following are the Maryland State Department of Education age requirements for enrollment to kindergarten. See, Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-101, Admission of Students; COMAR 13A.08.01.02, Age for School Attendance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Year</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Cutoff date</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023-24</td>
<td>Preschool 3</td>
<td>3 years old by Sept. 1</td>
<td>DOB 9/2/19 – 9/1/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023-24</td>
<td>Prekindergarten</td>
<td>4 years old by Sept. 1</td>
<td>DOB 9/2/18 – 9/1/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023-24</td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>5 years old by Sept. 1</td>
<td>DOB 9/2/17 – 9/1/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023-24</td>
<td>First Grade</td>
<td>6 years old by Sept. 1</td>
<td>DOB 9/2/16 – 9/1/17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A four-year-old child may be recommended for early admission to kindergarten upon written request of the parent or guardian if the superintendent or his/her designee determines that the child demonstrates capabilities warranting grade acceleration as demonstrated on the identified assessment.

In order to be considered for early admission to kindergarten for school year 2023-24, the child must turn five between September 2 and October 14, 2023. The procedures for requesting early admission to kindergarten may be obtained at the child’s home school, from the Office of Early Childhood Programs, or on the Baltimore County Public Schools’ (BCPS) Web site at the Office of Early Childhood page.

Early Admission Request Deadlines

1. Early admission requests for the succeeding school year must be submitted to the home school principal between January 15 and May 1 of the current school year.

2. For students applying for a magnet program, early admission requests must be submitted to the home school principal by no later than the published magnet application deadline. Assessments for students applying for enrollment in a magnet program will take place in January so that the recommendation decision for early admission may be forwarded to the Office of Magnet Programs no later than the last business day in January.

3. The deadlines outlined in this section are mandatory. Early admission requests will be deemed timely if hand-delivered or communicated via e-mail to the home school, on or before May 1, or postmarked on or before May 1.
New Baltimore County Residents

Under certain conditions, a parent(s) who moves into Baltimore County after the May 1, 2023, deadline may request early admission to kindergarten. In order for a request to be considered, the child’s birthday must fall between September 2 and October 14 AND the request must be made no later than the first day of school.

Early Admission Procedures

1. The parent/guardian must submit a written request for early admission to kindergarten to the home school principal. Requests will be accepted via US Mail or via e-mail.

2. The written request for early admission must include the following information:
   - Name of child
   - Child’s date of birth
   - Name, address, phone number of parent(s)/guardian(s), and e-mail address
   - Reason for request for grade acceleration

3. Within two weeks following receipt of a written request for early admission, a conference in person or by phone will be conducted between a school administrator and the parent to discuss the request. During this conference, the administrator will inform the parent/guardian that assessment for early admission to kindergarten follows a process similar to that used to request grade acceleration for a child currently enrolled in a BCPS school. (Refer to Appendix A)

4. If an early admission assessment is still requested following the conference, an appointment for assessment should be scheduled by the home school. The initial testing session should occur within one month of the administrator conference with the parent unless other arrangements are mutually agreed upon. (Refer to Appendix B for a sample letter to parent(s)/guardian(s).)

5. The administrator will provide the parent with parent/guardian surveys for English Language Arts and for Mathematics (See Appendix C, Parent/Guardian Survey for English Language Arts and Appendix D, Parent/Guardian Survey for Mathematics). If the child is currently attending a preschool or prekindergarten program, teacher surveys for English Language Arts and for Mathematics will also be provided to the parent (See Appendix E, Teacher Survey: English Language Arts Student Achievement and Potential and Appendix F, Teacher Survey: Advanced Mathematics Student Achievement and Potential). Questionnaires should be completed and returned to the test examiner no later than the day of the early admission assessment.

6. Any child recommended for early admission to kindergarten shall be enrolled by the parent no later than the first full day of classes for students or the recommendation will automatically be rescinded and deemed void.
**Early Admission Assessment**

1. Early admission assessments will be administered solely for admission to a **Baltimore County public school** in the following manner:
   - Each assessment is conducted during one session, on one day.
   - A second testing session will be conducted if warranted by the results of the initial assessment (i.e., child scores at or above the high average range on 5 or 6 of the subtests administered during the initial assessment session. The second session will be scheduled within two weeks of the initial assessment unless other arrangements are mutually agreed upon.
   - Administered in English only
   - Administered by a trained examiner

2. Assessments conducted by Baltimore County Public Schools’ personnel are the **only** assessments that will be considered for the purpose of early admission to kindergarten. No other reports or assessment data will be considered.

3. Following the administration of the assessment, a written report of the assessment results will be generated by the individual administering the assessment. (Refer to *Appendices H, I and J* for the assessment report formats and sample report.)

4. A decision regarding early admission will be determined by the home school principal and mailed to the parent **within ten (10) business days** of the assessment. (Refer to *Appendix K* for a sample letter.)

5. The decision will be based upon the results of the assessment. A child will be required to score in the high average range or above on 7 or more of the 9 assessment subtests in order to be recommended for entrance to kindergarten.

6. A child who scores in the high average range or above on 5 or 6 of the subtests will be scheduled for a second assessment session, during which three additional subtests will be administered. The child must score at the advanced level or above on all three of the additional subtests in order to be recommended for early entrance to kindergarten.

7. The parent may request a meeting with the home school administrator to discuss the assessment results and recommendation decision for early admission. The principal may request that the examiner be present for this meeting.
Appeal Process

1. A parent who does not agree with the early admission decision made by the home school principal may appeal that decision in accordance with the following process. All appeals must be in writing; no electronic communications will be accepted.

2. Appeal to the Executive Director
   a. A decision of the principal to deny early admission to kindergarten under these guidelines may be appealed to the Executive Director of Academic Services (hereinafter, executive director).
   b. The appeal must be made in writing and filed with the executive director within fifteen (15) calendar days of the date of the notice of early admission denial.
   c. The appeal shall be mailed to:
      Executive Director, Department of Academic Services
      Baltimore County Public Schools
      105 W. Chesapeake Avenue
      Towson, Maryland 21204
   d. The executive director, or his/her designee, will review the facts of the case and issue a final decision in writing.

3. Appeal to the Superintendent
   a. If the appeal is denied or the party is not satisfied with the decision rendered by the executive director, he/she may further appeal that decision by filing an appeal with the superintendent within ten (10) calendar days of the date of the executive director’s decision.
   b. The appeal must be made in writing and filed with the superintendent.
   c. The appeal shall be mailed to:
      Department of Employee & Student Appeals
      Attn: Manager, Employee & Student Appeals Baltimore County Public Schools, Greenwood Administration Building
      6901 Charles Street
      Towson, Maryland 21204
   d. The superintendent, or his/her designee, will review the facts of the case and issue a final decision in writing.

4. Appeal to the Board of Education
   a. A decision of the superintendent, or his/her designee, regarding the denial of early admission to kindergarten may be appealed to the Board of Education of Baltimore County.
   b. The appeal must be made in writing and filed with the Board within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the Superintendent’s decision.
   c. The appeal shall be mailed to:
      Board of Education of Baltimore County
      Attn.: Senior Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board
      6901 Charles Street
      Towson, Maryland 21204
Testing

Testing associated with early admission to kindergarten will occur at the child’s home school. The following resources have been provided to assist in implementing the 2023-24 Guidelines for Applying for Early Admission to Kindergarten.

- Planning Considerations
- Office Staff Checklist - Early Admission to Kindergarten
- Administrator Checklist - Early Admission to Kindergarten
- Instructions for Testers
- Tester Checklist - Early Admission to Kindergarten
- Appendix A– Grade-Level Acceleration Process – Early Entrance to Kindergarten
- Appendix B- Sample Parent/Guardian Appointment Letter
- Appendix C- Parent/Guardian Survey for English Language Arts
- Appendix D- Parent/Guardian Survey for Mathematics
- Appendix E- Teacher Survey: English Language Arts Student Achievement and Potential
- Appendix F- Teacher Survey: Advanced Mathematics Student Achievement and Potential
- Appendix G–Sample Parent/Guardian Permission for Testing Letter
- Appendix H–Testing Report Format (one testing session)
- Appendix I- Testing Report Format (two testing sessions)
- Appendix J–Completed Testing Report Sample
- Appendix K–Sample Recommendation Letter to Parent(s)/Guardians(s)
- Appendix L–Process for Appealing a School’s Decision Concerning Early Admission into Kindergarten
- Appendix M–Questions Frequently Asked by Parent(s)/Guardian(s) about Kindergarten Entry
Planning Considerations

In planning for early admission to kindergarten testing, the following should be considered:

• Testers
  A trained examiner must virtually administer the 9 required subtests of the *Woodcock-Johnson IV Tests of Achievement*. Determine who will administer the assessment and ensure that the guidelines and supporting documents are clearly understood.

• Testing location
  A location for testing with minimal disturbances or distractions during the testing should be selected. This is imperative to avoid the possibility of an appeal based upon the testing environment.

• Length of time required to administer the subtests
  Each child responds individually to the testing situation. In general, allow approximately one and one-half to two hours for administration of the test. This provides time for most children to take a bathroom break, several stretch breaks, and an opportunity to have a snack. It is recommended that the parent(s)/guardian(s) are told to plan for a two-hour testing session and to bring a snack and drink for their child.

• Scoring the test and generating the report
  Approximately 45 minutes should be allowed for scoring the test and generating the report.

• Options for parent(s)/guardian(s) during the administration of the assessment
  Parent(s)/guardian(s) must be advised of their options during testing for early admission to kindergarten. Provide parent(s)/guardian(s) with the following options prior to the testing.
  o Parent(s)/guardian(s) may wait in an appropriate location in the school during the testing but may not leave the building.
    One parent/guardian may stay with his/her child in the room during the testing. If so, he/she must sit behind the child and refrain from assisting with answering any questions. The parent/guardian must refrain from taking notes and/or using any electronic devices.

• Special circumstances
  o In some instances, parent(s)/guardian(s) of children for whom English is a second language have requested testing for early admission to kindergarten. Parent(s)/guardian(s) must be made aware that the test is administered in English.
  o If requested in advance, the test may be administered with the assistance of an interpreter. If an interpreter is used, his/her role is to ensure that the child understands the directions given by the test examiner. The Office of World Languages (443-809-6756) should be contacted to provide assistance in securing an appropriate and impartial interpreter. Arranging for an interpreter may take additional time; therefore, the Office of World Languages should be contacted as soon as possible.
  o If the parent(s)/guardian(s) of a hearing or visually impaired child requests testing, the Department of Special Education (443-809-3660) should be contacted to provide assistance in securing an appropriate support person.

Above all, ensure that there is consistency regarding all aspects of the testing procedures. Please direct questions regarding the implementation of the 2023-24 Guidelines for Applying for Early Admission to Kindergarten and Supporting Documents for Guidelines for Applying for Early Admission to Kindergarten to the Office of Early Childhood Programs, ldingle@bcps.org.
Office Staff Checklist - Early Admission to Kindergarten

I. Prior to accepting and processing letters of request for early admission to kindergarten testing for school year 2023-24:
   _____ Verify that letters of request for early admission to kindergarten testing are for children whose dates of birth fall between 9/2/18 and 10/14/18. There are no exceptions.
   _____ Verify that letters of request for early admission into kindergarten testing are received no later than May 1, 2023.
   _____ Verify that the written request for testing has been submitted to the school that serves the child’s home address.
   Note: Under certain conditions, a parent(s)/guardian(s) who moves into Baltimore County after the May 1, 2023, deadline may request early admission to kindergarten testing. In order for a request to be considered, the child’s birthday must fall between September 2 and October 14 AND the request must be made by no later than the first day of school.

II. Following the receipt of a written request for early admission into kindergarten testing:
   _____ Verify that the written request for testing has been submitted to the school that serves the child’s home address.
   _____ Ensure that appropriate documents have been provided to verify the child’s domicile.
   _____ Contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) to schedule a conference in person or by phone with an administrator to discuss the request for testing. This conference should occur as soon as possible.
   _____ Encourage the parent to participate in Prekindergarten Registration to help prevent the child’s missing the opportunity to attend prekindergarten in his/her home school.

III. Following the parent/guardian conference with an administrator:
   _____ Unless other arrangements are mutually agreed upon, schedule a testing date to occur within one month of the administrator meeting with the parent(s)/guardian(s).
   _____ Provide the parent/guardian with copies of the Parent/Guardian Surveys for English Language Arts and for Mathematics. If the child is currently attending preschool or prekindergarten, provide the parent/guardian with copies of the Teacher Surveys for English Language Arts and for Advanced Mathematics. (Refer to Appendices C, D, E and F.) Instruct the parent to return completed questionnaires via e-mail to the test examiner no later than the day of the early admission assessment.
   _____ Identify the appropriate staff member to conduct the testing.
   _____ Select an appropriate location for testing that minimizes disturbances.
   _____ Have the parent/guardian sign and return the Parent/Guardian Permission for Testing Letter PRIOR to the testing. (This can be done via e-mail. Refer to Appendix G in this packet.) Make sure to review this document PRIOR to the onset of testing to ensure that the child has NOT had standardized testing within the past 12 months.

**If a parent indicates that the child has had any standardized testing within the past 12 months, please contact Lisa Dingle, ldingle@bcps.org, prior to testing the child.
IV. Following the testing for early admission into kindergarten:

Have the tester complete a written report of the assessment results. Provide the appropriate administrator with a copy of the testing report. A copy of the signed report must also be scanned and e-mailed to ldingle@bcps.org (an electronic signature will be acceptable) or mailed to Office of Early Childhood Programs, Jefferson Building; Attention: Lisa Dingle.

Have the appropriate administrator determine the recommendation for early admission to kindergarten based upon the testing results. (A child will be required to score in the high average range or above on at least 7 of the 9 assessment subtests in order to be recommended for entrance into kindergarten prior to the age of entry guidelines established by the Maryland State Department of Education. Students who score at or above the high average range on 5 or 6 of the 9 subtests must be administered the 3 required subtests from the WJ-IV Tests of Early Cognitive and Academic Development. The child must score at the advanced level or above on all 3 of these subtests in order to be recommended for early entrance into kindergarten.)

Mail the letter of recommendation along with a copy of Appendix L, Process for Appealing a School’s Decision Concerning Early Admission to Kindergarten to the parent(s)/guardian(s) within ten (10) business days of the final assessment appointment.

File testing documents in a location that is accessible during the summer months.

Date letter of request received  Date of administrator conference  
Date(s) of testing  Date recommendation letter sent
Date copy of testing report sent to the Office of Early Childhood Programs.
Administrator Checklist - Early Admission to Kindergarten

A conference in person or by phone between the parent(s)/guardian(s) and an administrator must be conducted prior to scheduling the assessment for early admission to kindergarten. The conference should be scheduled within two weeks of the request.

During the parent/guardian conference, explain the following points.

_____ The child may be more than a year younger than some of the other kindergarten students and this difference in age may have both academic and social implications throughout the child’s school career.

_____ Assessment for early entrance to kindergarten is conducted to determine whether a child requires grade acceleration in order to meet his/her academic needs. The process followed for this assessment is similar to that used to request grade acceleration for a student who is currently enrolled in a BCPS school. A child must demonstrate skills that are two to three years above grade level in order to qualify for grade acceleration. (See Appendix A, Grade-Level Acceleration Process – Early Entrance to Kindergarten.)

_____ Testing will take place during one session, on one day. A second session will be offered for a child who scores in or above the high average range on 5 or 6 of the 9 subtests administered. During the second session, an alternate set of 3 subtests will be administered to further evaluate the child’s need for grade acceleration. The child must score at or above the advanced level on all 3 of these subtests in order to be recommended for early entrance into kindergarten.

_____ Testing will be administered one time.

_____ Testing will be administered in English only.

_____ Testing will be conducted for admission into a Baltimore County public school only.

_____ Assessments conducted by Baltimore County Public Schools personnel are the only assessments that will be considered for the purpose of early admission to kindergarten. No other reports or assessment data will be considered.

_____ Initial testing will take approximately one and one-half to two hours. This provides time for most children to take a bathroom break, several stretch breaks, and an opportunity to have a snack and drink provided by the parent(s)/guardian(s). If a second session is scheduled, it should take no longer than 45 minutes.

_____ The parent surveys and teacher surveys, if applicable, should be completed and e-mailed to the test examiner on the day of the early admission assessment.

_____ One parent/guardian may stay with his/her child in the room during the testing. He/she must sit behind or to the side of the child and refrain from assisting with the answering of any questions. The parent/guardian may not take notes or use any electronic devices.
Instructions for Testers - Early Admission to Kindergarten Testing

- Administer the 9 subtests of the Woodcock Johnson (WJ) IV Tests of Achievement, Form A during one session, on one day. Administer the subtests orally; do not use the audiocassette for any portion of the assessment.

- Ask the parent for the completed parent surveys and, if applicable, the completed teacher surveys. (See Appendices C, D, E and F)

- Provide parent(s)/guardian(s) with the following options prior to the testing.
  - Parent(s)/guardian(s) may wait in an appropriate location in the school during the testing but may not leave the building.
  - One parent/guardian may stay with his/her child in the room during the testing. If so, he/she must sit behind the child and refrain from assisting with answering any questions.
  - The parent/guardian must refrain from taking notes and/or using any electronic devices.

- Prior to beginning the assessment, have the parent(s)/guardian(s) ask the child if he/she needs to use the bathroom. If a parent/guardian does not stay in the room during the testing and the child needs to use the bathroom, have the parent/guardian accompany the child to the bathroom.

- Note the start and stop times of the testing session(s) and whether or not a parent/guardian remained in the room during the session(s). Note the number of breaks offered and taken by the child.

- Offer the child opportunities to stretch during the testing session.

- The sample parent/guardian appointment letter (refer to Appendix B) includes a request that parent(s)/guardian(s) bring a snack to the testing session. Offer time for the child to eat his/her snack during testing session breaks.

- Make every effort to ensure that the child and parent(s)/guardian(s) are comfortable during the testing session.

- Following the administration of the test, use the WJ IV online scoring to score the assessment. If the child scores in or above the high average range on 5 or 6 of the 9 subtests administered, notify your school administrator. The administrator must contact the parent and offer an opportunity for the child to participate in a second testing session, during which 3 subtests of the WJ IV Tests of Early Cognitive and Academic Development (ECAD) will be administered.

- Complete the testing report using the template included with the Guidelines for Applying for Early Admission to Kindergarten. (Refer to Appendices H and I.)
  - If a standard score is not generated for a subtest, include the grade equivalent in the standard score box, if applicable. (Example: write Less than K.0 or GE K.2; K.1 or less is not considered high average; K.2 or greater is considered high average.)
grade equivalent is not provided, record on the score sheet, “No standard score” to indicate the raw score was too low to generate a standard score.

- When completing the Qualitative Behavioral Observations section on the report, ensure that objective terminology is used. Utilize the language directly from the Test Session Observation Checklist located on the front cover of the Test Record booklet and/or from the Qualitative Observations Checklist included for each subtest. These checklists are not part of the correspondence to parent(s)/guardians(s).

- **Save the score report and Assessment for Early Admission to Kindergarten report so that it can be retrieved, if necessary. Inform school administrators where the test booklet will be stored during the summer months.**

- Share the testing report with the principal so that he/she can complete the Recommendation Letter to Parent(s)/Guardian(s). (Refer to *Appendix K*.)

- A copy of the **signed** report must also be scanned and e-mailed to ldingle@bcps.org (*an electronic signature will be acceptable*) or mailed to Office of Early Childhood Programs, Jefferson Building; Attention: Lisa Dingle.
Tester Checklist - Early Admission to Kindergarten

I. Prior to the testing date:
   _____ Become familiar with the Guidelines for Applying for Early Admission to Kindergarten COVID and supporting documents.
   _____ Select a testing location with reduced disturbances or distractions. This is imperative to avoid the possibility of an appeal based upon the testing environment.
   _____ Locate and prepare all testing materials.

II. Prior to beginning the testing session:
   _____ Explain the following options to the parent(s)/guardian(s):
     o Parent(s)/guardian(s) may wait in an appropriate location in the school during the testing but may not leave the building.
     o One parent/guardian may stay with his/her child in the room during the testing. If so, he/she must sit behind the child and refrain from assisting with answering any questions.
     o The parent/guardian must refrain from taking notes and/or using any electronic devices.
   _____ Have the parent(s)/guardian(s) ask the child if he/she needs to use the bathroom. (If a parent/guardian does not stay in the room during the testing and the child needs to use the bathroom, have him/her accompany the child to the bathroom.)
   _____ Have the parent/guardian sign via e-mail the Parent/Guardian Permission for Testing Letter (refer to Appendix F) if he/she has not already done so.
   _____ Ask the parent for the completed parent surveys and, if applicable, the completed teacher surveys. (See Appendices C, D, E and F.)

III. During the testing session:
   _____ Administer the subtests orally; do not use the audiocassette for any portion of assessment.
   _____ Offer the child opportunities to stretch and have his/her snack during the testing session.
   _____ Note the start and stop times of the testing session.
   _____ Note whether or not a parent/guardian stayed in the room during the testing.
   _____ Note the number of breaks offered and taken by the child.

IV. Following the testing session:
   _____ Use the WJ IV online scoring tool to score the assessment. Notify an administrator if the child scored in or above the high average range on 5 or 6 of the 9 subtests administered. The parent will be offered the opportunity for the child to participate in further testing. Three specific subtests of the WJ IV Tests of Early Cognitive and Academic Development (ECAD) will be administered during the second testing session.
   _____ Complete the testing report using the template. (Refer to Appendices H and I.)

   o If a standard score is not generated for a subtest, include the grade equivalent in the standard score box, if applicable. (Example: write Less than K.0 or GE K.2; K.1 or less is not considered high average; K.2 or greater is considered high average.)
   If a grade equivalent is not provided, record on the score sheet, “No standard score” to indicate the raw score was too low to generate a standard score.
   o When completing the Qualitative Behavioral Observations section on the report, ensure that objective terminology is used. Utilize the language directly from the Test Session Observation Checklist located on the front cover of the Test Record booklet and/or from the Qualitative Observations Checklist included for each subtest. These checklists are not part of the correspondence to parent(s)/guardians(s).
Save the score report and Assessment for Early Admission to Kindergarten Report so that they can be retrieved, if necessary.

Inform school administrators where the test booklet and score report will be stored during the summer months.

Share the testing report with the principal so that he/she can complete the Recommendation Letter to Parent(s)/Guardian(s). (Refer to Appendix K.)

Send a copy of the signed and scanned report to ldingle@bcps.org (an electronic signature will be acceptable) or mail to The Office of Early Childhood Programs, Jefferson Building; Attention: Lisa Dingle.
Appendix A

Grade-Level Acceleration Process Early Entrance to Kindergarten

“Academic acceleration in its many forms is without question the most effective means . . . for meeting the needs of academically advanced learners. A wide range of literature supports the efficacy of acceleration when used appropriately. When implemented correctly, acceleration, whether partial- or full-grade, works very effectively to increase student learning without undesirable social or emotional consequences.” (Beyond Gifted Education: Designing and Implementing Advanced Academic Programs, 2014.)

Criteria and Consideration for Acceleration

Criteria for grade-level acceleration:

• The child’s instructional level is at least two or three grades above same-age peers across major subject areas.
• The student is an outlier or has no intellectual peer group within the current instructional program.

Considerations when reviewing a student for grade-level acceleration:

• The student may demonstrate intense frustration, or he/she may academically or intellectually disengage with the current academic program.
• The student demonstrates success when provided with access to educational options, including differentiated instructional approaches such as compacting, and/or accelerated content.
• The student expresses interest in acceleration.
• The parents/guardians support acceleration.
• The school environment supports acceleration and recognizes that the student may, in the transition, reveal some gaps in knowledge and skills that can be quickly remediated.

Grade-Level Acceleration Procedures – Early Entrance into Kindergarten

Procedures for recommending grade acceleration/early entrance into kindergarten are defined in the Guidelines for Applying for Early Admission to Kindergarten. These Guidelines may be obtained at the child’s home school, from the Office of Early Childhood Programs, or on the Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) Web site at the Early Childhood Kindergarten page.

Early Admission requests for the succeeding school year must be submitted to the home school principal between January 15 and May 1 of the current school year. In order to be considered for early admission to kindergarten, the child must turn five between September 2 and October 14. For students applying for a magnet program, early admission requests must be submitted to the home school principal no later than the published magnet application deadline.

Under certain conditions, a parent who moves into Baltimore County after the May 1 deadline may request early admission to kindergarten. In order for a request to be considered, the child’s fifth birthday must fall between September 2 and October 14 AND the request must be made in writing no later than the first day of school.