

## **Kindergarten Entrance**

Washington State requires that students entering kindergarten in the fall must be 5 years of age on or before Aug. 31. However, the Lopez Island School District will consider a child whose birth date falls on or between Sept. 1 and Oct. 15 and who resides within district boundaries. The student may enter kindergarten if he/she meets the early entrance requirements and successfully completes the process outlined below before the first day of kindergarten.

The early entrance process involves an objective evaluation of your child in several areas of development related to early school learning. Those areas include oral language development, visual motor development, cognitive development and social development. To increase the likelihood that your child will have a successful first year of school, he or she will be expected to meet standards approximately six months above his or her chronological age in the assessed areas equating to an overall readiness rating of above average.

Children meeting these early entrance standards will go on to participate in a two full-day trial period in the classroom, which will determine final eligibility for kindergarten placement in the upcoming school year. The Lopez Island School District offers a full day kindergarten program and students in the program are expected to attend full days. A fee for the assessment will be due on the scheduled assessment date.

Applicants must meet all the following criteria and provide documentation. There are no exceptions.

### **Eligible Criteria:**

1. **Application Process** -
  - Parent Information Session and/or home visit
  - Child must turn 5 years of age between Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> and Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Child must have completed a minimum of 200 hours enrolled in a preschool program within the last 24 months.
  - Child must currently reside within the boundaries of Lopez Island Public Schools.
  - A \$75 fee for the assessment will be due on the scheduled assessment date.
  - The application process must be completed before the first day of kindergarten.

\*A preschool program is defined as a learning experience in which the child has participated in age appropriate academic, social and emotional experiences in a group setting, under guidance and supervision of a lead teacher.

2. **Initial Assessment** - Academic, Social, Emotional
3. **Initial Assessment Results** - Meeting with parents

4. **Optional Trial Period** - An extension of the trial period can be up to nine full days in the full day kindergarten classroom.

**Legal References:**

RCW 28A.225.010 Attendance mandatory – Age – Exceptions

RCW 28A.225.020 School's duties upon child's failure to attend school

RCW 28A.225.160 Qualifications for admission to district's schools – Fees for preadmission screening

RCW 28A.225.220 Adults, children from other districts, agreements for attending school – Tuition

WAC 392-335 Pupils – Uniform Entry Qualifications

WAC 392-134-010 Attendance rights of part-time public school students

WAC 392-137 Finance – Nonresident attendance

Adoption Date: 03.19

Lopez Island School District

Classification: Discretionary

Revised Dates: