



## **Information for Early Entrance to Kindergarten**

#### Q: Who is eligible to enter kindergarten early?

State and Tacoma Public Schools guidelines require that students entering Kindergarten in the fall must have turned five years of age on or before August 31<sup>st</sup>. However, a child whose birthdate falls on or between September 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup> may enter kindergarten if he or she meets entrance-screening requirements. Families must also reside within the Tacoma School District to be eligible for testing.

## Q: What kind of information is used to determine if my child is eligible for early entrance to kindergarten?

Your child's eligibility for early entrance to kindergarten will be based on readiness for kindergarten. The process involves an objective evaluation of your child's beginning academic skills, language development, physical coordination, and social maturity.

To assure that your child will be more likely to have a great first year of school, he/she will be expected to meet standards at least six months above his/her age in all areas assessed.

Children meeting the entry standards will be recommended for a four-week trial period in kindergarten beginning at the start for the 2020-21 school year. Determination of final placement into kindergarten is the decision of the teacher and school principal.

# Q: What is the evaluation process for determining student eligibility for early entrance into kindergarten?

#### **Step 1: Attend one of the REQUIRED Parent Information Meetings**

The Parent Information Night meeting is on June 3rd at 2pm or 5:30 pm at the Willard Early Learning Center, 3201 S D St., Tacoma, WA 98418. The purpose of this meeting will be to inform parents of Tacoma Public Schools Early Entrance policies and procedures. Applications, proof of address and a testing fee of \$50.00 (cash or Check) must be turned in at this meeting to schedule testing appointment. We will jointly schedule testing appointments at the end of this meeting for all interested parents.

#### Step 2: Testing

This testing process lasts approximately one hour and takes place at the Willard Early Learning Center the week of June  $15^{th} - 18^{th}$ , 2020.

The purpose of the testing is to determine whether your child demonstrates the skills necessary to be successful in a kindergarten classroom setting.

Families will receive a letter indicating the outcome of the screening. There are two possible outcomes of the testing:

- The student did not demonstrate the needed readiness skills and is not eligible for further testing, or;
- The student did demonstrate the require readiness skills and is eligible for early entrance into kindergarten.





<u>The results are final</u>. If your child is eligible for early entrance to kindergarten, you will receive a letter of success and TPS Enrollment Services will be notified for placement. If your child is not eligible for early entrance, we may have preschool options available for your child.

#### Step 3: Four-Week Trial Period

Students eligible for early entrance who enroll in a kindergarten program are assigned a four-week trial period beginning at the start of the 2020-21 school year. After four weeks, your child's kindergarten teacher and the building principal will review your child's performance in the classroom to determine whether your child should continue in kindergarten. Determination of final placement into kindergarten is the decision of the school principal and your child's kindergarten teacher.

#### Q: What are the dates and times for this year's individual testing?

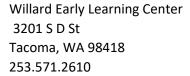
There will be one week of testing, June  $15 - 18^{th}$ , 2020 from 9 am to 3 pm. An additional week will be scheduled if necessary. These are one-hour appointments. You will receive only **ONE** appointment time, so plan to be sure that your child will be able to take advantage of the scheduled testing appointment. **Missed appointments will not be rescheduled.** 

#### Q: If found eligible to enter kindergarten early, how do I enroll my child?

If your child is eligible for early entrance to kindergarten, the teacher will provide letter of success at the end of testing.

A copy of your child's Early Entrance acceptance letter will be sent to the Tacoma School District Enrollment services office. They will contact you with enrollment information based on space availability.

Application Requirement	Applications are available online or at the required parent information meeting on June 3 <sup>rd</sup> at either 2pm or 5:30 pm at the Willard Early Learning Center 3201 S D St., Tacoma, WA 98418
Individual Testing	June 15 <sup>th</sup> – 18th, 2020 by Appointment only –scheduled at required parent meeting on June 3rd <sup>th</sup> , 2020
Four-week Trial Period	First four weeks of 2020-21 school year





# Early Entrance to kindergarten testing application Turn in at the required parent meeting on June 3rd at either 2:00 pm or 5:00 pm

Testing fee of \$50.00 of exact change or check collected with application				
Student's Last Name	First Name	Middle	Date of Birth	
Parent/Guardian Name (	Gender			
Home Address	City, State	Zip Code	Languages Spoken at Home	
Phone Number(s)			Child's Primary Language	
Email Address			Has your child attended pre-school? Name of pre-school:	
·	indergarten entrance into Kindergarten a ectations. Please indicate yo	• • •		
Academic Skills				
black, white)?	e basic colors (red, blue, y			
Can your child recite the	<del>_</del>	YES	NO	
How many letters can yo "This is b")	ur child identify (e.g., poin	t & say List:		
How many letters can yo	ur child write?	List:		
How high can your child	count?	Cou	nts to	
Does your child know bastriangle)?	sic shapes (e.g., circle, so	uare and YES	NO	
Can your child write his c	or her name?	YES	NO	
Physical Maturity				



Willard Early Learning Center 3201 S D St Tacoma, WA 98418 253.571.2610

Does your child run? Jump? Hop?	Circle all that apply:	
	run	jump
	hop	
Does your child use crayons or pencils?	YES	NO
Social Maturity		
Is your child able to separate from you, his/her parent/guardian	YES	NO
Does your child follow adult directions or instructions well?	YES	NO
When given a task to do, does your child work with the task until it is completed?	YES	NO

### **PERMISSION FOR ASSESSMENT**

I grant permission for Tac	oma School District staff members to test my child,
	to determine eligibility to enter kindergarten. Child's
Name	
speech and language and will be shared with me ar parties except with my w	ting may include tests of cognitive ability, gross/fine motor, visual motor, social/emotional development. I understand that the results of this testing and made a part of my child's school record but will not be shared with other ritten permission or in compliance with a judicial order.
	a school district policy No. 3110 available on website.
Print Name:	Signed:
Date:	Relationship to child:
Documents receive	d:



Willard Early Learning Center 3201 S D St Tacoma, WA 98418 253.571.2610

	Copy of Birth	Certifica	te Proof of address –
attached or view	wed	_initials	Testing fee – cash or check
# Fe	esting date/tim	ie	