



Dear Parent/Guardian:

Thank you for your interest in Early Admission to Kindergarten (EAK) for your child. The Blackduck School District has a process for EAK for children who live within the district and whose birthday falls between September 2 and October 31. Children who will reach the age of five by October 31 may be considered for early entrance to kindergarten. A student may be considered for early entrance if the following can be clearly demonstrated: a high level of academic achievement in all areas of the curriculum, intellectual ability at or above the 98th percentile, social and emotional maturity, functional independence and school readiness skills. In order to meet these policy requirements, the District has established an EAK process for all early entrance candidates. The evaluation process consists of the parent information requested in the application and two stages of assessment conducted by Blackduck District staff. In the first stage of assessment, children are administered an individual intelligence test by a Blackduck District psychologist. If children meet the criteria in the first stage, they are recommended to move to the second stage of assessments. In second stage of assessments, children are interviewed by a Blackduck Public Schools teacher and Differentiation Instructional Teacher for academic and social emotional screening. In addition, parents and previous teachers may also be asked to complete a social/emotional/behavior rating scale to supplement the social and emotional screening conducted by Blackduck Public School, EAK team. The parent information requested in the application and teacher observations are part of the information gathering phase of the evaluation process, as required by the state. After all the information is collected, the EAK team will make the decision on early entrance. EAK is subject to additional academic and behavioral screenings throughout the first 6-8 weeks to assess if placement is deemed appropriate. To apply for EAK, please complete all information in the accompanying packet along with a check for \$250.00 to Blackduck School District and return to Blackduck School District no later than March 31st. Once all materials have been submitted, a member of the EKA team will contact you. If you have questions regarding the EAK process, please feel free to contact Leslie Frosaker, Differentiation Instructional Teacher, at frosaker@blackduck.k12.mn.us or at 218-835-5300 ext. 305.

Sincerely,
Leslie Frosaker
Differentiation Instructional Teacher
Blackduck School District

Form: Request for Early Admission to Kindergarten

Blackduck School District Policy on Early Admission to Kindergarten:

Students who are younger than five on September 1st of the new school year, may qualify for early admission to kindergarten consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.02, subdivision 1. Only children who are five-years-old by October 31 will qualify for early admission and who show advanced academic skills for their age as well as social and emotional readiness.

Parents must complete a form entitled "Request for Early Admission to Kindergarten" by March 31, five months before the upcoming school year that parents are applying for their child to enter. Students will be screened using the Pre-School Screening, Kindergarten Screening, and MAP assessments to evaluate academic, social, and emotional readiness for kindergarten. The assessments will be given between April 1 and May 10 at the elementary school. The children being screened will be observed interacting with other kindergarten students to watch for emotional and social readiness. These assessments will be administered by a kindergarten teacher, school psychologist, and the Differentiation Instructional Teacher. The cost to apply for these additional screenings is \$250.

Date Received by Blackduck Elementary Office Staff: _____
(Form must be submitted to elementary office by March 31, 5 months prior to child entering kindergarten)

_____ Attach \$250 fee to this application for the assessment

Name of Child: _____ Date of Birth: _____

_____ Attach copy of child's birth certificate to this form Female or Male

Name of Parents or Guardians: _____

Address of Parents or Guardians: _____

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Please answer the following questions:

1. Why are you interested in pursuing Early Admission to Kindergarten for you child?
2. How long does your child maintain interest in a play activity or game at a given time?
3. What responsibilities does your child have at home? How does he/she show initiative to complete these?
4. How does your child respond when he/she tries but can't do something?

5. In what types of academic activities does your child engage at home? What kinds of reading activities does he/she engage in?

6. How high can he/she rote-count?

7. Describe your child's ability to use markers, crayons, pencils, scissors, clay, etc.: What does your child know about numbers, shapes, colors, and patterns?

8. How does your child adjust to changes during the day or to transitions to new situations?

9. How does your child interact with other children? What role does he/she tend to take in peer situations (e.g., leader, follower, etc.)? Please describe how your child shares, takes turns, cooperates, etc.

10. How many siblings does your child have? What are their ages?

11. Primary language spoken at home? Does your child speak more than one language? If yes, list languages.

12. List your pros and cons for early entrance here:

Pros

Cons

Please let all previous schools attended (include all preschool programs) and dates of attendance.

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| School | Dates Attended |
| Contact Person | Telephone Number |
| School | Dates Attended |
| Contact Person | Telephone Number |
| School | Dates Attended |
| Contact Person | Telephone Number |

By signing below, you give us permission to call the above references:

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Early Admission to Kindergarten Assessment Permission Form

Blackduck Public Schools
156 1st Street Blackduck, MN 56630
218-835-5300

This Notice Given to the Parent on: _____

Student Name: _____ DOB: _____

(This request applies only to children who are five years of age on September 2 through October 31st of the calendar year for which admission is sought.)

I give permission for educational personnel with Blackduck School District to conduct an assessment for my child to determine whether he is eligible for "Early Entrance" to Kindergarten. Students who may be eligible for Early Entrance demonstrate exceptionality given the following:

For a child with a birthday between September 2 and October 31,

1. At least at the 98th percentile and a judgment of adequate maturity level by a certified school psychologist.
2. Except in very unusual cases, no pupil will be admitted with a birth date after October 31.

To assess the domains of intellectual ability and maturity, the following evaluation procedures are proposed:|

- Battelle Developmental Inventory Test
- Curriculum-based measures of early literacy and portfolio assessment of math skills
- A Home/Family Questionnaire, which will provide a brief developmental history
- Interviews and or questionnaires of the preschool teacher and student
- A review of preschool work samples

Information obtained from this screening will used to inform decision-making regarding Early Entrance to Kindergarten eligibility. I understand that I will be responsible to pay a \$250 fee for this service, which is subject to normal payroll guidelines.

Parent/ Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____