

EARLY ADMISSION PROCESS FOR FIRST GRADE

ABOUT EARLY ADMISSION

Thank you for your interest in early admission to 1st grade for your child. We are very pleased to provide information and assistance to families as they consider the many options available for their children at Arbor Park School District 145.

The academic standards Arbor Park School District 145 utilizes for early admission to 1st grade are high to ensure that children are not frustrated by the challenges and expectations of the curriculum. To demonstrate that they meet these standards, children must have average abilities areas of academic, social emotional, and cognitive development.

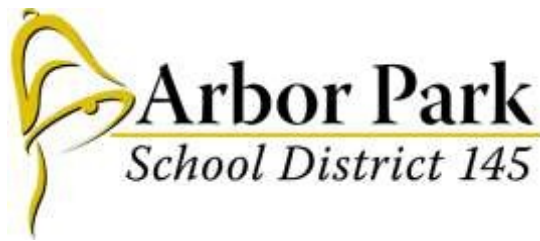
The process by which Arbor Park School District 145 will consider your child for early admission to first includes the following:

EARLY ADMISSION PROCESS

1. As the child's parent or guardian, please complete Sections 1-3 of the Early Admission Packet.
2. Have a teacher, principal, teacher's assistant, or childcare provider complete Section 4 of the Early Admission Packet. Students applying to First Grade must have one Kindergarten Teacher checklist completed.
3. Return a completed Early Admission Packet to Kimberly Heights School attention to the building Principal. A member of the Screening Team, which is made up of highly qualified professionals in education, will contact you to schedule an early admission screening date for your child. The screening will take approximately an hour. Parents are to wait for their child in the school's waiting area for the duration of the screening.
4. Your child must meet the criteria that is set by Arbor Park School District 145.
5. You will be notified by mail regarding the early admission decision. If your child is eligible, you may take the letter as proof of admission to the district's registration office.

EARLY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST GRADE

- Proof of residency within District 145
- Child's date of birth (e.g. 6th birthday between September 2nd and October 15th of that school term).
- Child's attendance records from completed state certified kindergarten program.
- Completion of Parent Questionnaire (forms on district website).
- Completion of Teacher Questionnaire (forms on district website).
- The child must demonstrate average social-emotional development. This may be determined by interview, observation in the current school placement, and/or adaptive behavior rating scales (e.g. Vineland) completed by District Staff.
- The child must score within the average range on academic tasks in both literacy and mathematics. The child must meet end of year Kindergarten grade-level targets on AIMSweb and Star360 academic screening measures.



Assessments Utilized for Screening: Teacher and Parent Questionnaires, Adaptive Behavior Rating Scale (e.g., Vineland), AIMSweb Tests of Early Literacy and Tests of Early Numeracy (end of year Kindergarten targets applied), Star360 Early Literacy assessment, and student observation data.

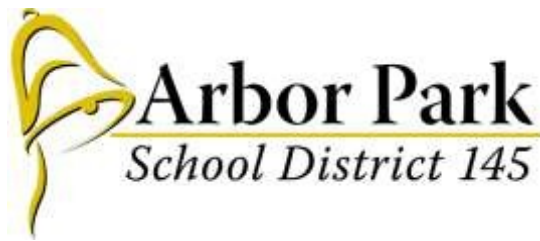
TIMELINE FOR EARLY ADMISSION TO FIRST GRADE

Early Admission Procedures	Dates for Current School Year
Parent/Guardian submit Sections 1-4 of Early Admission Packet to the Kimberly Heights School Office. The packet forms must be received by the school no later than May 31st.	April 1 st - May 31 st
Once a completed packet has been received, the child’s parent/guardian is contacted by a Kimberly Heights School staff member to schedule a date for an early admission screening.	April 1 st - May 31 st
Children are screened at Kimberly Heights School	Between the months of April to June
Parent/Guardian receives notification letter regarding acceptance or denial for early admission. Request for further assessments may be warranted at this time.	Between the months of April to June

If you have any questions or need additional information about the early admission process, please contact us at (708) 532-6434. We will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Arbor Park School District 145 Early Admissions Team



EARLY ADMISSION FAQ

Is early admission the best choice for my child?

Please consider the following:

- Younger students need to be capable of working in a classroom setting with children older by a year or more
- Entering school early is a long-term decision that parents are making for their child. The potential social/emotional impact on the child as he or she progresses through elementary, middle, and high school, and beyond, is not predictable.

Why do applicants for Early Admission have to be assessed when other children entering 1st Grade are not?

Children who are not age-eligible must demonstrate average performance in academics as well as social/emotional development. The standards for early admission are high to ensure that students are not frustrated with their placement.

How should children be prepared for the screening?

Parents/Guardians should ensure that their child has rested adequately and had sufficient nourishment to participate in the screening. Children do not need any type of special preparation.

How long is the screening? Who is administering the screening?

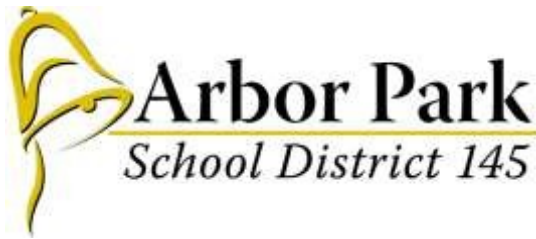
The screening is approximately 1 hour long and is administered by highly qualified early childhood education specialists. Parents/guardians are required to wait for their child while the screening is being administered.

If my child misses the screening date, can my child re-take the screening?

The screening is only administered one time to each child. Children cannot be rescreened for any reason. The screening date cannot be rescheduled.

If my child is not accepted for early admission, does it mean that he or she is behind their peers academically?

No, not at all. The qualifications for early admission include the demonstration of skills and competencies that are comparable to students in a Kindergarten program at the end of the school year. The screening is not meant to formally assess academic skills; rather, this process is utilized to ensure that young students are academically and emotionally prepared for the demands of the 1st grade curriculum. Arbor Park School District 145 classes are highly differentiated, since students enter school with a wide variety of strengths and needs.



APPLICATION FOR EARLY ADMISSION

Please ensure that all documents included in this packet are completed and submitted to:

Kimberly Heights School 6141 Kimberly Drive, Tinley Park, IL 60477

A child will not be screened until ALL documents have been submitted and received.

SECTION 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN)

Child's name (last, first, middle initial): _____

Child's date of birth (must be between Sept. 2 and Oct. 15): _____

Parent/Guardian names: _____

Email Address: _____

Address (where the child resides): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone number(s) (Put a check next to the best number in which to contact you):

Name: _____ Phone: _____

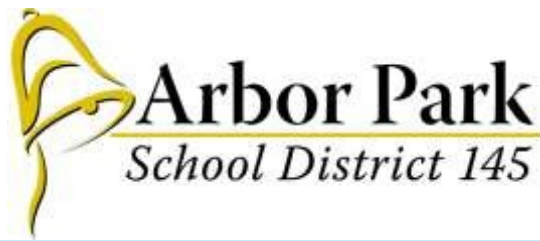
Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

SECTION 2: PRIOR SCHOOL EXPERIENCE (TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN)

List the state-certified Kindergarten programs your child has attended, as well as pre-school, Head Start, or child care programs your child has attended. Include the dates of attendance.

Name of School/Program	Dates of Attendance



SECTION 4: TEACHER/CHILD CARE PROVIDER QUESTIONNAIRE

Please read each statement and indicate the student's abilities as listed below by checking the appropriate column.

	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Never
PHYSICAL WELL-BEING & MOTOR DEVELOPMENT				
Runs, jumps, and climbs with balance and control				
Uses crayons, markers, & pencils to write and draw with control				
Cuts with scissors independently				
Knows and follows rules and understands the reasons for rules				
PERSONAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Never
Interacts cooperatively with adults and other children				
Persists with tasks long enough to complete them or attain a goal				
Follows directions, rules, and routines without much assistance from an adult				
Shares toys easily and takes turns with other children				
LANGUAGE AND LITERACY	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Never
Expresses ideas clearly; uses an extensive or advanced vocabulary				
Writes name				
Can identify letters				
Uses letters to write words				
Writes sentences and stories				
MATHEMATICS & SCIENCE	Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Never
Can recognize numbers 0-20				
Use problem solving strategies to gain understanding				
Writes numbers 1-10				
Can recognize shapes and talks about their attributes				
Puts objects in order from smallest to largest				
Describes characteristic and basic needs of living things				
Observes objects and is curious about how they work				

Teachers Name: _____

School: _____

Signature: _____

Phone Number: _____