KINDERMATEN ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT

Kindergarten Appeals Process

A. AGE

Any child who attains the age of 5 on or before August 1st will be admitted to the kindergarten program of the Monroe County Community School Corporation.

The parent(s)/guardian(s) of any child who will turn five between August 2 and August 31 may make an appeal to the Superintendent for early admission to kindergarten.

B. APPEAL PROCEDURE

Parents who desire their children to be enrolled in kindergarten earlier than indicated by state code need to complete the following steps:

1. Demonstrate that child's birth date falls between August 2 and August 31 of the year in which s/he becomes 5 years of age.

2. Attend a special information session provided by the school system. The criteria for content and process will be established by central administration. A list of general questions, developed by central administration, will be provided parents at each session. The purpose of the questions is to assist parents in asking complete and pertinent questions about the kindergarten program. The questions will also help parents in identifying the child's various levels of development. Parents will have the opportunity to attend either spring or late summer information sessions.

3. Complete an early admittance request form (available at the information sessions or by appointment at the school) no later than June 30. No appeals will be considered after this date.

4. Submit form to the office of the school in child's attendance area (applications accepted through the first day of school) or the Superintendent’s office.

5. Follow the same enrollment requirements as outlined for of-age students. The Superintendent or designee will respond to the parent’s appeal for early admittance in writing before the first day of the school year.
The early admittance of each student is contingent upon the completion of the above requirements, class sizes, and space available in a kindergarten program. Priority of space will be determined by lottery if there are more early applicants than space allows. Conscientious effort will be made to respond to parents as soon as possible to inform them of the school's ability to accept their children into the kindergarten program. Early.

If a child is enrolled as an early kindergarten entrant into a school outside the normal attendance area, the transfer attendance is for the kindergarten year only.

The priority of admittance into kindergarten programs in the MCCSC is:

1st priority: of age students living in the school attendance area
2nd priority: early entrance students living in school attendance area
3rd priority: of age students living out of school attendance area
4th priority: early entrance students living out of school attendance area

C. EXCEPTIONS

1. A Transitory Student is one who is residing in the MCCSC, on a temporary basis, from another residence, which has an earlier enrollment date. The children may be admitted to kindergarten upon the Superintendent's receipt of documentation of transitory status and the birth date for kindergarten/school enrollment of the permanent residence.

2. A child transferring into the MCCSC from an out-of-state kindergarten program (public or private) or an in-state kindergarten (public or private) and does not meet the Indiana state age eligibility requirements, will be admitted to the MCCSC kindergarten program, unless it can be determined that enrollment in such a program was intended to circumvent Indiana law.

The MCCSC administration will repeatedly inform the public of the early appeals process and its requirements.

Revised: 8/10/92, 4/25/94, 5/8/95, 8/1/01 (State law change: July 1), 5/13/03, 1/30/06 (State law change: August 1); 3/10/10
Indiana Department of Education
GUIDELINES FOR PARENT APPEAL PROCESS
KINDERGARTEN ENTRANCE

Effective July 1, 1991, each school corporation is required to have a procedure for parents to appeal to the superintendent for early entrance or admission of transfer students affected by the kindergarten age requirements. The following principles are suggested to guide local school corporations in establishing an appeal procedure:

- Kindergarten programs will be "ready" to meet the child where he/she is and provide a one-year, integrated, developmentally appropriate experience for each and every child.

- Any child who meets the age requirements will be welcomed into an appropriate kindergarten program.

- Children coming into kindergarten will be at various developmental levels, no matter what entrance date is used. Homogeneity among kindergarten children should not be an expectation.

- Chronological age is the only fair, unbiased determination of a child's eligibility for kindergarten entrance. While I.C. 20-8.1-3-17 does allow for exceptions, issues of equity must be considered regarding which students, if any, become the exceptions to this law.

- When a child transfers from out-of-state or a private kindergarten program and does not meet the Indiana age-eligibility requirements, that child should be accepted into the kindergarten program. Continuity of services, rather than age requirements, should be the strongest consideration. In cases where a child was enrolled in an out-of-state or private kindergarten for a very short time to circumvent the Indiana law, it is reasonable for entrance to be denied if this can be documented.

- Early kindergarten entrance should be based on multiple sources of information (not all of which will be objective) and should never be based on a single test score.

- Any decision to approve a parent request for early entrance should be based upon judgment of school personnel as they consider what is in the best interest of the child and the school corporation.

8/2/91
Indiana Department of Education
CRITERIA FOR ADOPTING MODEL ASSESSMENT
DETERMINING INITIAL PLACEMENT

The following criteria are suggested for use in making decisions regarding assessment procedures for determining kindergarten or first grade placement for children entering school for the first time under compulsory attendance laws:

• It should be understood that children coming to school will be at various developmental levels. Homogeneity among Indiana's school children should not be an expectation as they enter school, through the schooling experience, or when they leave school.

• Kindergarten attendance is not mandated in Indiana. Blanket local policies requiring kindergarten attendance prior to first grade, as well as pre-established lists of skills that a child must have "mastered," are discouraged.

• Decisions having a major impact on children, such as enrollment and assignment to remedial or special classes, should be based on multiple sources of information (not all of which will be objective) and should never be based on a single test score.

School corporations should look to the early childhood field and the National Association for the Education of Young Children for policy concerning the use of standardized tests to determine placement.

8/2/91