

IRONTON CITY SCHOOLS

EARLY ENTRANCE REFERRAL FORM

ABOUT EARLY ENTRANCE

A unique type of whole-grade acceleration is early entrance to school (i.e., kindergarten or first grade). For academically talented young children, early entrance to school may be an excellent option. There is abundant evidence that bright children who are carefully selected for early entrance generally perform very well, both academically and socially. (A Nation Deceived: How Schools Hold Back America's Brightest Students, 2004)

EARLY ENTRANCE REFERRAL FOR:

Child Name: _____ **Date of Birth:** ____/____/____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ **Email:** _____

Type of Acceleration Requested:

(Check One)

- Early Entrance to Kindergarten (my child will be 5 before January 1)
- Early Entrance to Kindergarten (my child will not be 5 before January 1)
- Early Entrance to 1st Grade (my child will be 6 before January 1)
- Early Entrance to 1st Grade (my child will not be 6 before January 1)

Children who will benefit from early entrance may not exhibit all of the characteristics listed below; however, strong candidates will exhibit more of these characteristics than other children.

What to look for in the areas of ability/achievement/aptitude/behavior?

(Check the characteristics that you feel your child exhibits.)

My child seems advanced beyond other children his/her age in these ways:

- Understands the meanings and use of words better than other children his/her age;
- Is curious about many things and asks questions often;
- Is very good at working puzzles or solving problems;
- Has a great sense of humor and understands jokes more than other children his/her age;
- Has a good memory and remembers details of conversations or stories;
- Is interested in difficult concepts such as time and space;
- Concentrates on certain activities much longer than other children his/her age;
- Reads (and understands text) in picture books or chapter books;
- Figures out math-related problems better than other children his/her age.

What are some important school and academic factors?

(Check the characteristics that you feel your child exhibits.)

My child:

- Enjoys learning new information or skills;
 - Participates in community-sponsored activities such as sports, dance, gymnastics, library and museum programs;
 - Believes he/she is capable of succeeding at new tasks.
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What are some important developmental factors?

(Check the characteristics that you feel your child exhibits.)

My child has the following developmental characteristics:

- Has average fine and large motor coordination (i.e., holding a pencil, skipping);
- Is able to use the computer to play games or find information.

What are some important interpersonal skills for entering school?

(Check the characteristics that you feel your child exhibits.)

My child:

- Thoughtfully considers feedback and criticism and modifies behavior appropriately;
- Often behaves in a way that is positive and effective;
- Has good interpersonal skills with age-mates, as well as with both older and younger children and with adults;
- Has excellent interpersonal relationships with adults in a teaching role.

Some considerations:

(Check if applicable)

My child:

- Is enthusiastic about going to kindergarten or first grade.
- Has one or more older siblings in the grade in which he/she will be placed if admitted by early entrance which may cause social/emotional issues in the family. In which case, acceleration may not be advisable.
- Often did not want to attend preschool or missed preschool often because of illness or family issues.
- Did not participate in a preschool program.

As a parent I understand that a child's success in school depends on support provided at home. I am able to give my child additional support to help in his/her transition to a new setting with much higher academic demands. I believe that my child exhibits the checked characteristics listed above that indicate he/she might benefit by entering the grades K-12 program. I have reviewed the considerations and do not feel they would negatively impact my child's success in school. I request evaluation for my child for possible early entrance to kindergarten or first grade.

Parent/Guardian: _____ **Date:** ____/____/____

The referral request will be processed and parents will receive the final determination for early entrance in 45 days from the date the referral is received.

School Representative Receiving Referral: _____

Date Received: ____/____/____

Office Use: Final Determination By: _____/_____/____
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