

Early Entrance to First Grade

Central School District 301 supports early entrance to first grade for students who demonstrate advanced intellectual, academic and social-emotional skills as determined by the district administered assessments. District 301 has established procedures for requests for early entrance to first grade for students who display strong readiness competencies, who attended a non-public preschool and continued their education at that school through kindergarten, was taught in kindergarten by a certified teacher and will turn six years of age on or before December 31 of that school year. We recognize that a child may be ready for first grade earlier than their chronological age or others based on their intellectual, academic and social-emotional abilities.

Parents who are considering having their child assessed for early entrance to Central D301's first grade program should review the following information. Requests must be made to the elementary building the student would attend no later than May 1st of the upcoming school year. Please note the documents to be completed and the deadline for submission.

Procedures for Early Entrance to First Grade

1. The student must live within Central School District 301 boundaries **and** must meet the qualifications for early entrance to first grade based on the student's intellectual, social-emotional and academic abilities.
2. Parent(s) or guardian must submit the following information to the office of the elementary school the child would attend by **May 1st** prior to the upcoming school year in which they would be enrolled. If you are unsure as to which school your child will attend, contact the CUSD 301 Transportation Department at (847) 464-6052.
 - Proof of residency
 - Child's birth certificate
 - [Early Entrance to First Grade Request Form](#)
3. Following the submission of documents and the request form, the student will be scheduled for the early entrance screening at the elementary school they would attend.
 - a. **Step 1:** Your child will be scheduled to be assessed at your neighborhood school to participate in academic assessments. A social-emotional questionnaire will be distributed to parent(s)/guardian(s) and the child's current teacher (if applicable). If your child does not meet the **Step 1** established criteria, the process will stop here. If your child meets the **Step 1** established criteria, your child will proceed to **Step 2**.
 - b. **Step 2:** Your child will be scheduled at your neighborhood school for a cognitive assessment.

Upon completion of the screening and development of the report by D301 school psychologist, parents will meet with the elementary building principal to discuss the assessment results and eligibility for early entrance to first grade. A written notice will be mailed home outlining eligibility determination for early entrance to first grade.