

- **How common is early entrance placement?**

Early entrance is typically reserved for the exceptional child.

Although students do not need to be gifted for early entrance placement, students who are ultimately eligible often fall in the gifted range of ability. The goal of all placement decisions is to ensure that students entering Kindergarten are ready for what this big year has in store academically and socially. Because the August 1 date is appropriate for most children, there often are very few students, if any, who demonstrate eligibility for early entrance.

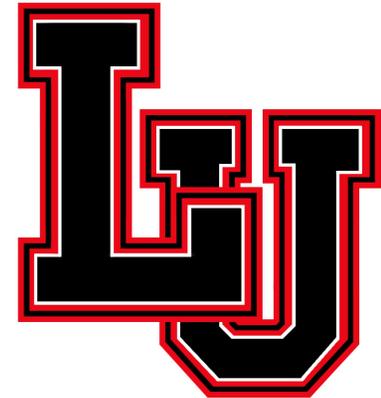
Timeline for Early Entrance

- Deadline for Early Entrance to kindergarten/1st grade [applications](#): **June 1**
- Deadline for completion of evaluations: 45 school calendar days after submission of application
- Deadline for written notification of outcome of the evaluation process: **July 1**

Note: All early entrance applications must be submitted no later than 60 calendar days prior to the first day of school in order to be processed. No applications will be considered after this date.

Please return the completed application, information sheet and consent form to:

Director of Student Services
1108 S. Main St.
Baltimore, OH 43105
(Ph): 740.862.4171 x. 4152
Email: sara.hayes@libertyunion.org



Liberty Union- Thurston Local Schools

Early Entrance to Kindergarten Frequently Asked Questions

- **Is my Child eligible for Early Entrance?** In Liberty Union-Thurston Schools, students must be 5 year of age on August 1st to enter Kindergarten. You may request testing for Early Entrance to Kindergarten if the student will be 5 on or before January 1st of that year.
- **If my child is not yet 5 by the district's cutoff date for Kindergarten, how do I know if they are truly ready for Kindergarten?** The Ohio Department of Education lists a Kindergarten Readiness checklist that parents can review. <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/Kindergarten/Kindergarten-Readiness-Checklist>
- **How do I get my child assessed for Early Entrance?** If families want their child assessed, please contact the elementary school to request an application for Early Entrance Testing. Assessment requests for the following school year should be made between April 1 and June 1 to

ensure time for assessment and any necessary placement prior to the start of the school year.

- **Once I fill out the application, what are the next steps?** The application will be reviewed by the Director of Student Services. The Director will call the family to schedule an appointment for assessment. Assessments take place in the spring. The family will bring their child to the elementary school building for the first assessment.
- **What are the assessments that will be administered?** Liberty Union uses the Iowa Acceleration Scale (IAS) for making placement decisions. Based on the guide established in the IAS, students must have a cognitive ability score of at least 115 to continue through the process. Also, students must have enough advanced academic skills to earn the required rating points to continue the process. Typically, students need to score at or above the 90th

percentile in most subject areas when compared to students of the same age to get enough points to continue with the assessment.

- **Who makes the decision to place or not place a child in Kindergarten early?** A placement committee will make decisions about placement for any child who completes the entire assessment process. The decision is based on the data gathered during the assessment process.
- **What if I don't agree with the committee's decision?** A parent or legal guardian of the referred child may appeal in writing the decision to the Superintendent within 30 days of being notified of the committee's decision. The Superintendent shall review the appeal and notify the parent or legal guardian who filed the appeal of his or her final decision within 30 days of receiving the appeal. The Superintendent's decision shall be final.