



Strongsville City Schools Kindergarten Early Entrance Testing FAQ

Who needs to be tested?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Children in Strongsville who turn 5 after August 1st and whose parents would like to determine if their child qualifies to be whole grade accelerated to start kindergarten in Strongsville in August.
Why does my child need to be tested to start kindergarten early?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">SCS procedures are based on the Ohio Department of Education's requirements. Please see Ohio Gifted Early Entrance process from the Department of Education.
When is testing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The process for early entrance begins with a testing held appointment only. You need to call the Curriculum Office to indicate your interest between January 1- May 15th of the year requesting early entrance so we can explain the process and schedule your child. The process can take up to 45 school calendar days after submission of application.
How do I make an appointment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Please call the Curriculum Office at 440-572-7015 to schedule your child's appointment for the first assessment. You must call by May 15th.
Where is the test held?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Testing is held at SCS Administrative Offices, 18199 Cook Avenue, Strongsville, OH 44136.
Who gives the test?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A licensed school psychologist administers the test(s).
What is the process?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">An individual standardized cognitive intelligence ability test is first given. If your child scores at a certain threshold (115 or higher) determined by the Iowa Acceleration Scale (IAS, 3rd Ed.) approved by the State of Ohio for whole grade acceleration, an individual standardized achievement test of specific academic and aptitude abilities will then be scheduled for a subsequent day, information gathered from the family and preschool for the developmental scale, and an acceleration team will be formed in order to guide the process. See additional information here.
Why do you contact my child's preschool?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Preschools can give valuable insight to a child's social, emotional, behavioral, and academic readiness, and will be contacted as part of the team.
Do I need to bring anything?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Parents should bring the completed Application for Early Entrance to Kindergarten form which will be emailed to them when they schedule an appointment.
How long are the assessments?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Each assessment takes approximately 1-½ hours.
When and how will I get results?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The psychologist will score the intelligence ability assessment upon completion and will immediately meet with parents to provide written results and answer any questions to determine if the child will continue in the process to receive additional assessing. If qualified to continue, after subsequent assessing and information gathered, the psychologist will schedule a meeting to discuss results with the team.
Are the tests given in a group setting?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Children are tested individually.
Can I stay in the room with my child?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Parents cannot be in the room during testing as we need to see how the student does independently.
Can my child study for the tests?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There isn't a way to study for an intelligence test since it measures cognitive development and students' natural abilities. The academic & aptitude assessment measures levels of academic achievement, so studying is neither recommended nor required.
How well does my child need to score?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A child needs to be functioning well above grade level to start kindergarten early so that we may set the student up for success. This is based on research on child development and acceleration practices and in accordance with state guidelines. It is based on evaluation of assessments and information through the IAS, 3rd edition, from state and local requirements, which can not be altered.
How many children usually qualify?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">It's a rigorous process that is highly structured in order to ensure students are ready for the social and academic rigors of kindergarten. There is not a set number of students that are accepted or that qualify.
Can I have my child tested elsewhere?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Testing by an Ohio licensed psychologist in accordance with approved assessments per the Iowa Acceleration Scale (IAS, 3rd ed.) will be accepted if administered within the appropriate timeline. The student must still go through the early entrance to kindergarten process per Board Policy with Strongsville City Schools for potential qualification as it is an acceleration team decision with multiple data points, attributes, and information.
What about kindergarten registration?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Please do not complete any registration steps prior to early entrance testing. You do not need to complete the online registration or submit a deposit for full day kindergarten. After testing, instructions will be given to complete the registration process if your child qualifies for early entrance.

Please call the Curriculum Office with any questions or to set up a screening (440) 572-7015