

Dear Colorado River BOCES Family,

Thank you for your interest in our Early Access Program. We are excited to offer highly advanced gifted children the opportunity to begin their school careers early. Please read the Early Access Procedure document for detailed information about the process. Children must be 4 years of age **by your district's start date for kindergarten**, or 5 years of age **by your district's start date for first grade** in order to be considered eligible for this program.

Applications must be received by your district coordinator prior to April 1 for consideration of early access for the following school year. You may submit your application prior to this date, no earlier than March 1. Because of the dynamic nature of early childhood development, applications will not be officially marked *RECEIVED* until March 1 to allow us time to conduct the required screening and formal assessments, if required, as close to the start of the next school year as possible.

Following the receipt of an application, your district's gifted coordinator will contact you about bringing your child to school for a screening and to have you complete the Kingore Observation Inventory for Parents. They will also collect information from your child's pre-school teacher, if applicable.

Your Responsibilities:

- You must submit a complete Application for Early Access on or before April 1. Late applications will not be accepted, and incomplete applications may result in the district denying the application.
- In addition to the application, you may also submit student performance samples that may help district staff determine if your child should undergo a formal evaluation for Early Access. Suggested work samples could include:
 - Examples of the child's independent drawings, writing, or other interests
 - A video of the child reading and/or communicating
 - Test data obtained from a private psychologist or other public evaluation, given within three months from the date of the application.
 - Any other supporting information you believe will help the team reach a proper decision about assessments
- Make sure your child is available for observation, screening*, and formal and/or informal assessment, as required.

Submit the completed application and any optional supporting information directly to your district gifted coordinator before the due date. Your coordinators can also answer any questions you may have about the process.

*Please note that this process is rigorous and the screener is designed to efficiently determine whether a student is a good candidate for this kind of acceleration before they are tasked with a complete battery of testing. Your child may or may not go through the entire process based on this screening.