



El Paso 3, Widefield - 21030 | **Submission Date:** 11/22/2021

Early Access Addendum

THE FOLLOWING SECTION IS REQUIRED IF THE ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT PERMITS EARLY ACCESS TO KINDERGARTEN OR FIRST GRADE. Refer to ECEA rules 12.08 for describing all sections and provisions required for early access.

Early Access: Rule Section 10.02(1)(H) and 12.08 Gifted children who qualify for grade level acceleration and are age 4 for kindergarten, or age 5 for first grade, by October 1

Directions:

Address each section and the provisions of the early access ECEA Rules 12.08.

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/gt/lawsregs>

In each section below, describe the methods and/or tools that the administrative unit will implement for early access communication, criteria and process. Type your response in the white boxes referencing the topics.

Communication

Information on Early Access is included on the district website under the Gifted and Talented section. An informational pamphlet can also be obtained through the district office. Early Access information will include criteria, the process, and timelines. Parents and community members that inquire will be directed to the website. Administrators and Gifted and Talented teachers will be informed during the regular meetings of the process, guidelines, and timelines. Professional Development will be provided for the teachers and other school personnel that will conduct the screening, administer the assessments, and be a part of the review team prior to March 1 of every year. The Gifted and Talented teacher from the student's school will collaborate with the parents in developing the ALP and setting student goals.

Criteria

Aptitude:

Trained assessment administrators give the Weschler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence. A child age 4-0 or older must score at the 97th percentile or higher.

Achievement:

Trained assessment administrators give the Test of Early Mathematics Ability (TEMA), the Test of Early Reading Ability (TERA), and the Test of Early Written Language (TEWL). A child age 4-0 or older must score at the 97th percentile or higher on all three nationally norm-referenced assessments. The writing performance assessment is scored using a research-based writing rubric.



Performance:

The parent or guardian submits a portfolio of student work by April 1. The portfolio should include dated student work samples completed within the last year demonstrating ability in the following areas:

- Knowledge of number sense
- Knowledge of beginning alphabet sounds
- Knowledge of shapes
- Knowledge of colors
- Examples of writing
- Evidence of reading ability
- Samples of student's drawings, artwork
- Any other items the parent or guardian deems relevant

The Early Access team will review the portfolio using a rubric to determine if a child shows highly advanced capabilities in relation to similar-age peers.

Readiness, social behavior and motivation:

Draw A Person Test (DAP) to determine social readiness.

Teaching Strategies GOLD Survey (School Readiness)

Support system:

The Gifted and Talented teacher, the school counselor and the classroom teacher will support the student during the child's first year in school to ensure success. The transition goal(s) will be monitored by the GT and classroom teachers and progress will be communicated to the parents during parent-teacher conferences held twice a year and also after each reporting period. At the end of the year, goal attainment will also be reported to parents.

Process

Timelines:**Early Access Timeline School Year**

First day of 2nd semester	Early Access application materials are available on the first day of the second semester of each school year
	Early Access application materials are due no later than this date for consideration for the 2022-2023 school year.
April 1 or the next Monday	Students who have relocated due to a military move may turn in applications past the deadline, per the Military Interstate Compact Agreement.
April 1-15	Early Access Team reviews all application materials
April 15-30	Early Access Team conducts interviews and testing
By May 30	Early Access determinations are made and parents/guardians are notified
By September 30	ALP will be completed for student

Personnel:

Collecting Referrals: Office of Assistant Superintendent, Gifted and Talented Director

Collecting Data for BOE: Asst. Director of Elementary Education and Gifted and Talented Director

Qualified Testing Personnel: Gifted and Talented Teachers, Psychologist, Asst. Director of Elementary Education



Determination Team (may include all or some of the following personnel): Gifted and Talented Director, Asst. Director of Elementary Education, Gifted and Talented Teacher, School Counselor, Psychologist, Kindergarten or 1st grade teacher, School Administrator, other members as deemed appropriate

Support Team: Classroom teacher, Gifted and Talented Teacher, School Counselor, Parents

Evaluation:

Access into kindergarten requires the student to be four years old by October 1 for kindergarten and age 5 by October 1 for first grade.

1. Parents shall request Early Access application materials from the Widefield School District 3 Administration Building. WSD3 will conduct a preliminary screening, test, or interview to determine if a student is a candidate to fill out an application. Application materials will be available on the first day of the second semester of each school year. These can be attained at the District Administration Building.

2. If child was deemed to be a good candidate, parents or guardians complete the Early Access application and submit a portfolio of student work, including the following:

- Complete application form
- Copy of child's birth certificate
- Proof of residence- applicants must reside in WSD3 boundaries
- A letter from parent or guardian stating the reasons early access is appropriate for the child.
- Student portfolio of work that provides evidence of a need for early access.
 - Knowledge of number sense, beginning alphabet sounds, shapes, colors, writing, reading ability
 - Samples of student drawings/artwork
 - Any other items the parent deems appropriate
- Any previous private/public assessment data if applicable
- Letter of recommendation for Early Access from a previous teacher or familiar adult outside of the family

Note: Please date and title each artifact.

The completed packet shall be submitted to the Director of Gifted Education at the administration building no later than April 1. Only students who have relocated due to a military move may turn in applications past the deadline, per the Military Interstate Compact Agreement.

3. A team of educators knowledgeable in gifted education and early childhood development will review the application and portfolio and make a determination if the child shall progress to the assessment phase.

Upon approval of the application, the Early Access assessment phase begins.

- A licenced/trained professional will administer the Weschler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence and nationally normed referenced tests in math reading and writing. We will also use the Draw A Person Test (DAP) and the Teaching Strategies GOLD Survey to determine social readiness. Candidates must score a minimum of the 97th percentile on all tests to advance in the process.
- Assessments will include aptitude, achievement, performance data, school readiness, social behavior and motivation data.
- Members of the WSD3 Early Access team will review the applications, portfolios and assessments as a body of evidence for student placement.
- Test scores at the 97th percentile will not alone determine eligibility for Early Access. These scores may or may not determine if a child would benefit from early access to kindergarten at age 4 or first grade at age 5.
- Parents/Guardians will be notified of the committee's decision based on data from the entire process within 60 calendar days of receiving the completed application via phone call and a determination letter. (Letters attached)
- The Gifted and Talented teacher from the school where the child will attend will collaborate with the child's parents and classroom teacher in developing the ALP and setting student goals.



Determination Letter

Date: _____

Dear _____

The Gifted Educational team has reviewed the collected data concerning Gifted placement for your child. A Body of Evidence was collected to guide in the determination of placement. The Gifted Educational team has determined that your child has met the criteria for Gifted Identification and Early Access Placement.

We invite you to join us to discuss the results of the Body of Evidence.

Date: _____ Time: _____

Place _____

Please call our office to confirm this conference appointment. We look forward to working with you and your child. 719-391-3007

Connie Florell, Asst. Superintendent

Tricia Bentley, Asst. Director of Elementary Education

Determination Letter

Date: _____

Dear _____

The Gifted Educational team has reviewed the collected data concerning Gifted placement for your child. A Body of Evidence was collected to guide in the determination of placement. The Gifted Educational team has determined that your child at this time has not met the criteria for Gifted Identification and Early Access Placement.

We invite you to join us to discuss the results of the Body of Evidence.

Date: _____ Time: _____

Place _____

Please call our office to confirm this conference appointment. We look forward to working with you and your child. 719-391-3007

Connie Florell, Asst. Superintendent

Tricia Bentley, Asst. Director of Elementary Education

Monitoring:

Student will be progress monitored quarterly. Progress towards grade level academic standards and social-emotional well-being will be communicated with parents quarterly. Attainment of goals on ALP will be documented on ALP and reported to parents at the end of the school year.

Dispute Resolution: Will the AU be using the same procedure for disagreements process as in the main Program Plan? Yes

The administrative unit's program plan is due with the Comprehensive Program Plan or no later than January 1 prior to early access implementation.