



Indian River School District

Early Childhood Programs

Pre-Kindergarten Typical Peer Requirements; Prior to Application

- Children eligible for the typical peer slots **must be** Indian River School District residents.
- During the Open Application Period, all applicants must be three years of age **on or before** August 31st to apply for the following school year.
- Parents/guardians of typical peers **must** complete the ASQ Developmental Screenings (ASQ-2 and ASQ SE-3).

IRSD will accept applications throughout the year, and will offer an “Open Application Period” prior to each school year.

- **The 2023-2024 Open Application Period begins; March 1, 2023.**
- First draw for open slots will **occur on June 2nd**.
- Sequential drawings for open slots will occur the 2nd of each month if additional slots become available.

Families who applied for typical peer slots when their children were three, but who were not invited/accepted, must reapply.

Pre-Kindergarten Typical Peer Selection

Preference will be applied to fill IRSD slots in the order listed below. A review of Pre-Kindergarten slots will be held and students meeting the below criteria will be enrolled:

1. Children eligible for the typical peer slots **must be** Indian River School District residents.
2. Children who are three years of age and hold a priority based or tuition slot from the previous school year.
3. Children who attended as students with identified disabilities and have been dismissed from special education services, and are **Indian River School District residents.**
4. Children of Indian River School District employees **who reside in the school district.**

Remaining student slots will be divided equally through a lottery and equal weight will be applied to the factors below:

- Meet the weighted criteria based on the Head Start Program Performance Standards. These are called priority-based slots and are ranked through point criteria.
- Children **who reside in Indian River School District** and will be 3 or 4 **by August 31st** of that school year. These slots are tuition based and are selected through a random lottery process.

Protocol for Admission

Phase 1	Beginning January 1 all interested applicants must fill out the Ages and Stages questionnaires (ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE3) through the District's Early Learning Portal (This does NOT guarantee acceptance into the Early Learning Programs).
Phase 2	Interested applicants may begin the application process by filling out the online application through the District's Early Learning Portal (This does NOT guarantee acceptance into the Early Learning Program). Please be aware that regardless of ASQ results, ALL applicants MUST still fill out the Early Learning Programs application.
Phase 3	Those who have been accepted into the District's Early Learning Programs, according to eligibility guidelines, will receive notification of acceptance via a phone call as to which Early Learning Program their child has been accepted into and an acceptance packet will be sent home.
Phase 4	Those accepted will register their child/children either through the online portal or in person. All necessary documentation has been uploaded or given to office staff, including but not limited to current physical and TB (current within the year), lead tests, hemoglobin tests.

The Indian River Early Learning Program Consists of 3 Pathways

Early Childhood Specialized Learning Programs	<p>Provides <u>free</u> developmentally appropriate and child-centered education for pre-school aged with special needs. Lessons are individualized and differentiated based on each student's Individualized Education Plan. Services available include screenings, multidisciplinary assessments, early childhood education and related services such as physical therapy, occupational and speech therapy. Our staff includes certified special education teachers, licensed therapists and paraprofessionals.</p> <p>Children MUST reside in the Indian River School District, be referred to the district by Child Development Watch, parents, local daycare provider or pediatrician and meet the criteria through evaluation to receive Special Education Services.</p>
Early Childhood ECAP Program	<p>Provides preschool services for 3 and 4 year old children focusing on the areas of language, literacy, social-emotional, physical development, health, nutrition and mental wellness. Our goal is to prepare children to be successful in Kindergarten and beyond.</p> <p>Children MUST reside in the Indian River School District and be 3 years old by August 31st.</p> <p>Eligibility is based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from a family with annual income at or below 110% of federal poverty level • qualify for school district special education services • multilingual learners • families who receive TANF, are homeless, or receive SSI • at risk families
Early Learning Tuition-Based Program	<p>Those families who do not qualify for Special Needs Services or meet ECAP eligibility requirements can apply. The tuition program provides preschool services for 3 or 4 year olds at an affordable rate.</p> <p>Children MUST reside in the Indian River School District and be 3 years old by August 31st.</p>