



**Zionsville Kindergarten Early Entrance Waiver Application
(for students who will not be 5 years old by August 1st of enrolling year)**

Child's name _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Birth date _____ Male or Female (please circle)

Name of school your child will attend if waiver is approved: _____

Please attach the following to this application:

- A **copy** of the child's birth certificate
- A letter of recommendation from your child's preschool teacher. The letter should include specific examples of your child's academic achievement levels, evidence of advanced maturity, and evidence of social skills appropriate for a kindergarten classroom setting. The letter should not be given to parents, but mailed directly from the preschool to the Academic Services Office, Zionsville Community Schools Educational Services Center, 900 Mulberry Street, Zionsville, IN. 46077
- A letter from you stating why you believe it is in your child's best interest to enter kindergarten at the age of four. In the letter please give specific examples of your child's level of maturity—for instance: is he/she responsible for chores at home, able to share and patiently wait for turns in a group of students, able to sustain attention to a task and to a full day of academic activities, ready to separate from you for an entire day?
- Optional: If a child has any formal assessments of intelligence and/or achievement from an independent evaluator, that information can be submitted and will be considered.

Father's name _____

Mother's name _____

(OR) Guardian's name _____ Guardian's relationship to child _____

Street address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Home phone () _____

Cell phone number () _____ Email address: _____

Parent signature _____ Date _____

This completed form and all attachments must be submitted no later than June 1st via email, mail, or delivery to Academic Services at the Zionsville Community Schools Educational Services Center, 900 Mulberry Street, Zionsville, IN 46077. After all required materials are received and reviewed, we will schedule an appointment to assess your child in order to make a decision about whether early entrance is the best placement. Questions can be sent to Christine Squier – csquier@zcs.k12.in.us. Applications will be considered by a committee and all committee decisions are final. Parents will be emailed the committee's decision by the end of June. **Please do not attempt to register for kindergarten or pay textbook fees until you receive notification this waiver has been approved. Parents, please see important note on next page.**

IMPORTANT NOTE:

As professionals experienced with the performance of thousands of children, we reserve the right to evaluate information submitted and make determinations about whether we will waive the entrance requirement for any child. While we welcome parents to engage with us as partners, a parent who artificially skews testing data that we might use by rigorously "prepping" his/her child for assessments ahead of time actually does not enter the process in good faith--as it is designed to give us accurate pictures of a child's true performance levels and ability to learn rather than what he/she has been "trained" to do in the months prior to the assessment. Our testing norms and decision protocols take into account that this is most children's first experience with assessments. Preparation not only skews outcomes; it also gives false indications of a child's ability to succeed if placed. With that said, we have had parents who believe that it is in their child's best interest for them to do this, and in many of those situations, when the child arrives for the simulation, he/she will evidence stress and anxiety in degrees that can render test results less important to us. If our teacher assessment team perceives children are highly stressed about their parents' expectations for their academic outcomes during the testing and assessment day, it may negatively impact our willingness to offer early entrance to that child since we do not wish to bring our littlest learners into school settings that may contribute detrimentally to their emotional health over time. We respectfully ask that parents please allow your child's performance to be authentic and do not inquire about test prep materials for these four-year-olds.