



# Kindergarten Acceleration Parent FAQ

**1. Who do I talk with first if I am interested in kindergarten acceleration for my child?**

Spring testing will be addressed during Kindergarten Round-Up. If you are new to Frisco, and enrolling after Kindergarten Round-Up, please visit with your child's counselor.

**2. Who is eligible to take the kindergarten acceleration exam?**

Students must reside within the Frisco ISD boundary and have proof of residency. The student must also be enrolled in a Frisco ISD school. Proof of enrollment is required. Students must turn 6 years old by December 31st of the kindergarten eligible year. A birth certificate is required on file at the school. There are no exceptions.

**3. Where do I get an application for kindergarten acceleration?**

An application will be available in March upon completion of the Required Online Parent Information Module. Please check the Kindergarten Acceleration website for important dates and additional information:

<http://www.friscoisd.org/departments/kindergarten/kindergarten-acceleration>.

**4. When and where must I submit the application?**

Completed applications should be submitted by May. Please check the Kindergarten Acceleration website for the exact date:

<http://www.friscoisd.org/departments/kindergarten/kindergarten-acceleration>.

Applications returned after the published deadline date will not be accepted.

**5. When and where will my child take the kindergarten acceleration exam?**

Once a completed application is received, you will be contacted with a date and time for testing. Testing will be done at a central location (TBD) in May. New to Frisco students will test on own their campus in August.

**6. Is the kindergarten acceleration exam online or paper?**

It is a paper exam.

**7. Does my child have to read the test by themselves?**

For phase 1 of testing, the questions will be read to them and the answers will be in picture format. For phase 2 of testing, the math questions and writing prompt will be read to them, however for the DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment), students will be required to read on their own and answer questions.

**8. How long is the exam?**

For phase 1 of testing, the test will take approximately 2 - 2½ hours including some breaks. If your child advances to phase 2 of testing, the tests should take approximately 1 - 1½ hours. The CIS facilitator will call you when testing is complete.

**9. What do students have to score on the kindergarten acceleration test for phase 1 to accelerate?**

On the ITBS test (phase 1), students must score at/above the 85th percentile. Students with a score at/above the 85th percentile will advance to phase 2 the second day. Students who do not meet this standard will enter Kindergarten in August. An appeal of the test results is not accepted.

**10. What do students have to score on phase 2 of testing to accelerate?**

For the DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment), students must read at a DRA level of 10 or above. The Frisco ISD math passing standard is a score of 21 out of 24 correct or better. The writing test is scored with a rubric, and the student must score 8 out of 10 or better.

**11. When will I know my child's score?**

The CIS facilitator will contact you with results by late afternoon of the day your child tested or the day after testing.

**12. If my child meets passing standards on both day 1 (phase 1) and day 2 (phase 2) of testing, does he/she have to be placed in 1st grade or can I think about it?**

If your child meets passing standards on both phase 1 and phase 2, your child **will be placed** in 1st grade. If you are not sure if you want them to be in 1st grade, then you should not have them take the kindergarten acceleration tests.

**13. My child went to a private kindergarten. Can't they be placed in 1st grade without taking the kindergarten acceleration exam?**

No. Students must complete kindergarten in public school to be automatically placed in 1st grade. If your child attended a private kindergarten or did not

complete kindergarten in a public school and you wish for them to be in 1st grade, they will have to take and pass the Frisco ISD kindergarten acceleration exams.

**14. My child already knows how to read. He/she can also add and subtract numbers. Will they be bored in kindergarten?**

Frisco ISD goes beyond teaching the basic objectives/skills. Students in kindergarten will be challenged in a variety of ways. Reading involves more than reading words on a page. Comprehension, vocabulary, and learning about different genres are important skills taught throughout kindergarten. Knowing math facts is not enough. Problem solving and critical thinking are important skills taught in kindergarten as well. Writing is also integrated in all subjects in kindergarten. Social and emotional readiness is just as important as academic readiness. In kindergarten, your child will learn how to work with others as well as work independently.

**15. What if I still have questions about kindergarten acceleration?**

Please reach out to your school counselor.