



Kindergarten Acceleration Parent FAQ

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

After completing the registration process, please contact your child's school counselor to discuss kindergarten acceleration. Applications for summer testing typically open in mid-April each year. If you are new to Frisco ISD and enroll after the summer application window has closed, please connect with your child's counselor for guidance.

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

Students must be enrolled in a Frisco ISD school. You must provide proof of enrollment. Students must turn 6 years old on or before December 31 of the school year they are entering kindergarten. A birth certificate must be on file at the school. These requirements cannot be waived.

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

The application will be available in mid-April after you complete 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?

You must submit the completed application by the **published deadline**. 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?

After we receive your completed application, we will contact you with your child's testing date and time by the end of June. Summer testing takes place in July at a central district location (to be determined).

Students who enroll during the summer and are new to Frisco will test at their home 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?

In Phase 1, the test questions are read aloud to students. Students choose answers from pictures. In Phase 2, the math questions and writing prompt are read aloud. For the DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment), students must read independently and answer questions on their own.

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 who score at or above the 85th percentile will advance to Phase 2 on the second day. Students who do not meet this standard will enter Kindergarten in August. Appeals of test results are not accepted.

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

To pass Phase 2, students must:

- Read at DRA level 10 or higher
- Score 21 out of 24 or higher on math
- Score 8 out of 10 or higher on writing

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

The Testing Proctor will let you know if your student has qualified for Phase 2. Official Scores will be emailed by the end of July. Students who enroll during the summer and are new to Frisco, will test on their own campus in August. Results will be communicated after testing is complete.

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 all passing standards in Phase 1 and Phase 2, they will be **placed in 1st grade**. Placement in 1st grade is automatic. Families should carefully consider their decision before applying for testing.

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 teaches more than basic skills. Students in kindergarten will be challenged in a variety of ways. Reading is more than saying words out loud. Comprehension, vocabulary, and learning about different genres are important skills taught throughout kindergarten. Knowing math facts alone 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.