



Boulder RE2, Boulder Valley - 07020 | **Submission Date:** 04/12/2022

## Early Access Addendum

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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

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**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

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All information, processes and procedures for admitting students to kindergarten or first grade early will be posted on the district's website under the Office of Gifted Education.

- Information will also be shared in district communication to preschool, elementary and PK-8 principals so that they understand the process and criteria for Early Access.
- Parents and guardians also receive information at an informational meeting facilitated by the GT Instructional Specialist. Here, parents can get questions answered and receive hard copies of the portfolio materials if needed.
- Communication information and materials will be shared with the leadership of the Early Childhood department so that they can distribute information among their stakeholders.

## Criteria

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**Aptitude:**

Currently, the KBIT 2 is the primary cognitive assessment administered by a district gifted personnel.

- The cutoff score for eligibility will be at the 97th percentile per state requirements. There is no fee charged for Early Access testing.

**Achievement:**

The Test of Early Mathematics-3 (TEMA-3) and the Test of Early Reading Ability-4 (TERA-4) will be the two primary achievement tests.



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· The cutoff scores for eligibility in these areas must be in the 97th percentile in both of the two named achievement tests.

**Performance:**

The Early Access portfolio that is submitted will include the Gifted Rating Scale-P (GRS-P) that is to be completed by both the parent and a current teacher (if applicable).

- If the child is not in a school setting, a GRS-P must be completed by an adult who is familiar with the child (for example, a music teacher, athletic coach, or other stakeholder).
- In addition, parents will be asked to provide four examples from any of the following: number sense/higher level math skills, writing ability, and / or creativity (drawing and 3-D design).

**Readiness, social behavior and motivation:**

The Gifted Rating Scale-P (GRS-P) is also used to assess readiness, motivation and social behavior. It is completed and submitted by both the parent and current teacher.

- Additionally, observations of the child will be made during testing to assess the child’s fine motor skills, their ability to sit for extended periods of time and to listen and follow directions.

**Support system:**

The GT District personnel will work with each receiving building level team, including the principal (or appointee) and the GTA (GT Advisor) and the classroom teacher, other personnel as determined by need and the parents/guardians to create the initial ALP.

- The ALP will be created by September 30th to be verified in the formal October Enrollment Count and will contain an initial profile of the student’s strengths and need to inform and guide instruction and programming. The ALP will also indicate that the child was identified through the Early Access process.

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## Process

**Timelines:**

All portfolio applications will be due April 1st, except when that date is a holiday or weekend. In those cases, portfolios will be due the first school day after April 1st. All final notifications will take place within 30 days of the portfolio due date.

- For families who move into the district after April 1st, portfolios will be accepted until August 4th with all screening and testing to be completed by August 15th.
- All portfolios require parents/guardians to sign the portfolio to indicate that they understand the process and give consent for screening and assessment.
- All portfolios also require that parents/guardians complete the district Home Language Survey and provide a copy of the child’s birth certificate or other official identification.

**Personnel:**

All portfolio applications will be collected and reviewed by the staff of the Office of Gifted Education. Then, the district GT coordinator (Gifted endorsed, Ed.D), will guide the Early Access committee through the assessment and decision process. Assessments will be administered by qualified personnel. · The Early Access committee includes, but is not limited to, the following personnel:

1. Elementary math teachers
2. Elementary literacy teachers
3. Gifted and Talented Advisor



4. Early Childhood Education specialist
5. School Psychologist
6. District GT endorsed educators

**Evaluation:**

Interested parents/guardians print or request Early Access applications by contacting the Office of Gifted Education or accessing the district website.

· The staff of the Office of Gifted Education will address questions from parents at this time, including providing an informational meeting open to all parents/guardians interested in the process. The child must be four years old by October 1st for kindergarten and five years old by October 1st by the first day of school for first grade in order to participate in the Early Access application process.

· Next steps are:

1. Parent/guardian reviews Early Access portfolio documents.
2. Parent/guardian submits completed portfolio to the Office of Gifted Education by April 1st. The staff of the Office of Gifted Education reviews the portfolios for completion and appropriateness for assessment.
3. The assessment process takes place under the supervision of the GT District Coordinator and the GT Instructional Specialists.
4. The Early Access committee reviews assessment data and makes final determinations.

In order to qualify for Early Access, a child must have a composite score in the 97th percentile or higher in math, reading and writing and on a cognitive ability assessment. Again, the Early Access committee reviews all pieces of evidence for applicants and makes final determinations.

· For those students who do not meet this criteria, parents/guardians will receive written notification along with a copy of the written results of the assessments. For those children who do qualify, parents/guardians will receive written notification along with a copy of the written results of the assessments. The staff of the Office of Gifted Education will notify parents/guardians, the Gifted Advisor in the school the student will be attending and the school principal.

**Monitoring:**

The classroom teacher is the main contact person for meeting with staff and parents/guardians to ensure a smooth transition for the student.

The school team will set progress monitoring dates every five weeks with documented evidence and facilitate ALP revisions as needed. Progress monitoring of the ALP goals will be shared with parent/guardians at the fall and spring/winter conference meetings with the classroom teacher.

· The transition of the child will be monitored by ongoing conversations and observation of the student through involved personnel who work with and support the child on a regular basis.

**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.**