



KINDERGARTEN FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) 2024-2025



1. **HOW OLD DOES MY CHILD HAVE TO BE TO START KINDERGARTEN?**

Your child must be 5 years old by September 30 to enroll in Kindergarten.

2. **WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE HALF-DAY AND THE ALL-DAY KINDERGARTEN (ADK) PROGRAMS? ARE BOTH OPTIONS AVAILABLE?**

The curriculum is the same for both the Half-Day and the All-Day Kindergarten Programs. The extra time All-Day Kindergarten students spend at school is devoted to activities half-day students engage in at home or elsewhere. e.g., eating lunch, taking breaks, having recess, and reinforcing learning.

A choice between All-Day Kindergarten and Half-Day Kindergarten is available to parents in Worthington Schools. There is a tuition fee for All-Day Kindergarten.

Administrators will use enrollment numbers to determine Half-Day and All-Day Kindergarten sections in each building.

3. **DESCRIBE THE ALL-DAY KINDERGARTEN LOTTERY PROCESS?**

First, the parent/guardian completes an online registration (OLR) for their incoming kindergarten student. [CLICK TO COMPLETE ONLINE REGISTRATION \(OLR\)](#)

Second, the parent/guardian will receive an email link to schedule a phone appointment with a member of the Welcome Center to complete their child's enrollment. The Welcome Center will call parents at their scheduled phone appointment time to complete the registration process.

AFTER the successful completion of the phone appointment, the parent/guardian will receive an email with a link to sign up for the All-Day Kindergarten Lottery/Program and to make the first month's tuition payment once the payment portal opens.

IMPORTANT: It is the sole responsibility of the parent/guardian to complete the All-Day Kindergarten sign-up and payment.

The enrollment period to be eligible for the All-Day Kindergarten Lottery is:
November 1, 2023 - February 23, 2024. All children signed up during that period will be in the **same** selection pool by home school, for the All-Day Kindergarten Lottery. See ADK Timeline on the Welcome Center website for details.

“Post-Lottery” All-Day Kindergarten seats fill on a first come, first served basis according to when the parent/guardian pays the tuition and completes the All-Day Kindergarten sign-up. (Sign-ups are time stamped and dated upon submission so there’s no confusion.) All-Day Kindergarten seats fill quickly. Completing enrollment earlier in the spring versus later in the summer is to your advantage.

4. WHEN IS AN ALL-DAY KINDERGARTEN LOTTERY NECESSARY?

If there are more All-Day Kindergarten applicants than available seats at an elementary school, then a lottery will be necessary. If there are more seats available than applicants at a given elementary school, then a lottery will not be necessary.

5. WHAT IS THE COST OF THE ALL-DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM? IS THERE A PLAN FOR FAMILIES WHO CANNOT AFFORD THE ALL-DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM?

Parent/guardian is charged a monthly tuition fee. (9 total payments; September-May) in addition to the standard school fee that is paid by all Kindergarten families.

If you believe your child may qualify for free or reduced tuition under the Federal Lunch Program, please share that during your Welcome Center enrollment phone appointment and **prior to** signing up for the All-Day Kindergarten Lottery/Program.

6. ARE REFUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ALL-DAY KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS?

Refunds will be processed **after** the All-Day Kindergarten Lottery if:

Your child enrolls in a private Kindergarten (withdraws from the ADK Program).

Your family moves out of the Worthington School District (withdraws from the ADK Program).

Your child accepts a Half-Day Kindergarten slot.

Refunds for children on the All-Day Kindergarten waitlist will be processed at the end of the first week of school. Refunds will be issued on a prorated basis once the school year is underway.

7. DO OPEN ENROLLED STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO THEIR HOME SCHOOLS?

If there is space available. **Open enrollment is a choice, and there is no guarantee that your child will be able to return to their home school for 1st grade.**

8. IS TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED FOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS?

Transportation will be provided to kindergarten students (both half-day and all-day) who live on established school bus routes and who are not open enrolled.

9. ARE LUNCHES AVAILABLE FOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS?

All-Day Kindergarten students are able to purchase lunch at school or may bring a packed lunch. Lunch is not necessary for Half-day Kindergarten students.

10. IS THE ALL-DAY KINDERGARTEN LOTTERY PROCESS DIFFERENT FOR MULTIPLES?

If a lottery is necessary at your home school, then the parent/guardian of multiples will be contacted. If the parent/guardian would like siblings kept together, then the siblings will be on one placement card for the All-Day Kindergarten Lottery. In that scenario, each sibling will receive a seat in the All-Day Kindergarten Program if their card is drawn. If parents would like sibling in separate classrooms, this should be discussed during the phone appointment.

11. WHAT IS A TYPICAL KINDERGARTEN CLASS SIZE?

Class sizes are typically between 24-26 students.

12. HOW ARE MORNING/AFTERNOON (AM/PM) HALF-DAY KINDERGARTEN PLACEMENTS DETERMINED?

Morning/afternoon (AM/PM) placements are made at the elementary school.

Bluffsview, Brookside, Evening Street, Granby, Wilson Hill, and Worthington Hills have AM ONLY.

Colonial Hills, Worthington Estates and Worthington Park have PM ONLY.

Liberty and Slate Hill have AM and PM.

For more Kindergarten Resources go to the

[Welcome Center Website](#)

OR

Feel free to contact your elementary school directly if you have remaining questions.