



Opportunity Kindergarten

A Transitional K Program

What is Opportunity K?

Opportunity K is a transitional kindergarten program designed to extend the kindergarten experience of students who have not had access to a structured early childhood opportunity and need support in early academic and social skills. Opportunity K prepares students for the traditional kindergarten program the following year.

Burlington-Edison's Opportunity K classrooms are located at Bay View and Allen Elementary. However, students from across the district are welcome to apply. Opportunity K is a full-day program and operates like any other kindergarten classroom. Opportunity K runs from October through the end of the school year.

Who is eligible?

Eligible students for Opportunity K must meet the following criteria:

- Turn four by August 31 and plan to attend kindergarten after Opportunity K.
- Have not yet had access to an early learning program. This included licensed in-home family childcare, center-based child care, and/or preschool.
- Live within the attendance boundaries of the Burlington-Edison School District.
- Demonstrate a need for extended kindergarten to be better prepared for their full kindergarten year. The need is based on the family application and screening process.

How to Apply?

Parents/Guardians who believe their child meets the above criteria should complete an application. Applications are available online on the B-ESD enrollment website and in hard copy from the District Office or your neighborhood elementary school. If you need support completing the application, please visit the District Office. *Applications are collected through the first week of September.*

If, based on your application materials, your child is eligible, they will be invited to engage in a screening process to determine if they will be placed in an Opportunity K classroom. Our Opportunity K classroom teachers facilitate the Opportunity K screening process, including meeting a parent/guardian and your child. The screening will review your child's aptitude, fine and gross motor skills, visual discrimination, auditory discrimination, emotional/social development, and language development. Should the screening process suggest a significant developmental delay prompting a referral for an evaluation for special education services, staff will support families in connecting to appropriate staff.

The screening process will occur in early September. Following the screening, families will be informed via written letter and a follow-up phone call in mid-September whether their child has been qualified for enrollment in Opportunity K.

Thank you for considering Opportunity K as an early learning opportunity for your child.