



Minnesota's Approach to Assessment in Early Learning Programs

Maggie Airriess | Kindergarten Entry Profile Specialist

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Minnesota's Pre-K Assessment Landscape 2002-2017

1. Early Learning Programs

- School Readiness Programs
- Voluntary Pre-kindergarten (VPK)

2. Quality Rating and Improvement System

- Parent Aware
- Early Learning Scholarships

3. Kindergarten Entry

- Kindergarten Entry Profile (KEP)

4. Reading Well By Third Grade

- Yearly reporting



Minnesota's Expectations

Ready Children:

According to Minnesota statutes, a child is ready for kindergarten when he/she:

- *Is at least 5 years of age by September 1st of the child's enrollment year (**120A.20**)*
- *Has received early childhood screening (**121A.17**)*
- *Has received medically acceptable immunizations (**121A.15**)*

There is no universal definition for school readiness.

Minnesota's Expectations

- Ready Schools

...Schools must be prepared to support and respond to all children's individual needs because children arrive at kindergarten with a wide range of experiences and competencies.

- Ready Teachers

...Supporting readiness that is inclusive of children's skills and knowledge at kindergarten entry can inform future program planning and teaching...



The Kindergarten Entry Profile (KEP)

The KEP is a voluntary developmental assessment at kindergarten entrance. Participating districts choose which tool works best for them.

Benefits for participation:

- FREE subscriptions to an online assessment system for kindergarten, including publisher technical assistance and data reporting
- FREE training for kindergarten teachers and administrators
- Each tool from the KEP menu aligns to standards and measures both academic and non-academic skills
- Fosters cross-grade collaboration & program transition planning
- All tools help measure expectations for WBWF reporting



Birth-Third Grade Assessment Tools

- Desired Results Developmental Profile
- Formative Assessment System for Teachers (FAST)
- Teaching Strategies Gold
- Work Sampling System



- Choose a tool
 - [Early Childhood tool finder](#)
 - [KEP webpage](#)
- Cadre of Assessment trainers [available](#)
- Online [training](#) modules on authentic assessment practices
- Participate in the KEP

Thank you!

Maggie Airriess

Mde.kep@state.mn.us