



Summit Hill School District 161 Early Learning Program Information

Our Mission: In collaboration with our families and the community, we will provide positive early learning experiences which will enable all students to develop foundational skills for future success.

Our Vision: To provide students with developmentally appropriate early learning opportunities which will challenge them to grow and develop as learners while providing optimal preparation and readiness for the transition to kindergarten.

Our Curriculum: The Early Learning Program utilizes a comprehensive curriculum that uses familiar children's literature to provide a solid educational foundation of the basic skills necessary for children to be successful in kindergarten. All instructional units include activities for the common domains of speech/language, cognitive, gross motor, fine motor, daily living skills, and socialization. Children will acquire these skills through a balance of teacher-directed and child-initiated learning opportunities. Children are taught in small group, large group and individualized settings which promote independence, problem solving, cooperative learning, and self-confidence. Progress is monitored in order to ensure that all children are learning and acquiring skills/concepts being taught. Information from assessments is reviewed by staff and used to guide instructional planning within the classroom.

Our Staff & Classes: All of our dedicated and nurturing teachers are licensed by the Illinois State Board of Education. Each of the preschool classrooms has a maximum of 17 students and is staffed with a certified early childhood teacher and a paraprofessional. There are twelve regular education tuition students and up to five students with special needs in each classroom. A nurse is also on staff.

Residency Requirements: All families must reside within Summit Hill School District 161 boundaries in order for their child to attend the Summit Hill 161 Early Learning Program.

Tuition-Based Preschool Program Requirements: Enrollment is open to students between the ages of three and five as of September 1, 2018. Students must be 3 years of age on or before September 1, 2018, to attend. Students are required to be potty trained prior to the first day of school to participate in the program.

Registration Process: Registration is open to the community starting January 16, 2018. Current families who complete the registration process by the end of the school day on January 12, 2018 will be given first priority for registration. Make sure to circle your AM or PM session preference on the registration packet. Student openings will be filled on a first come, first served basis according to the **date and time the applications are received**. Interested families should fill out a student registration packet and bring it to the Mary Drew Administrative Center with residency documents (new students only) and the first tuition payment of \$275. Parents will be notified with a confirmation letter by March 2nd. Once accepted into the program, \$100 of the initial payment is a non-refundable deposit. New families interested in the tuition-based preschool can access the registration packet on the Summit Hill School District website or pick one up at the Mary Drew Administrative Center.



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Early Learning Program Hours: Students attend five days per week for 2 ½ hours per day following the District calendar. The morning session is from 8:30-11:00 am and the afternoon session is from 12:00-2:30 pm. Each session has a limited number of openings. Session preferences will be considered in order applications are received, with current families given first priority.

Tuition: Tuition is \$2750 per year, payable in ten payments of \$275 as outlined on the promissory note. For families enrolling more than one child, full tuition will apply to the first child and a 10% discount will be applied to the tuition for each additional child enrolled. The first tuition payment of \$275 must be paid at the time of registration. The remaining nine payments of \$275 each are due on the last day of the month beginning in August with the final payment due April 30, 2019. A promissory note is required unless tuition is paid in full at the time of registration. There is no tuition reduction for non-attendance, illness, etc.

Transportation: Parents are responsible for providing transportation for their child.

Location: The program location will be at Dr. Julian Rogus Elementary School.

Residency Documents required for new students only:

1. Your child's certified birth certificate (with certification seal)
2. ONE document from the follow group: real estate bill, signed and notarized lease, mortgage papers, closing papers (closing must have occurred before registration), or mortgage coupon book. If a parent cannot provide a residency document in his/her own name and is living with someone who owns the property, a form is available at the Administrative Center that would need to be notarized to complete this requirement.
3. TWO documents from the following group: gas, electric *or* water bill, driver's license, vehicle registration, home or apartment insurance papers, voter registration card, or public aid card.

For questions, please call Kim Zylka, Early Childhood Coordinator, at 815-464-2034.

