

Morton Grove School District #70  
Blended Preschool Program  
FAQs

**What is a Blended Program?**

An Early Childhood Blended program services students ages three through five. The program provides students with instruction to aid in student development and exposure to pre-academic skills. Speech language and occupational and physical therapies are an integral part of the blended program for students whose educational needs warrant such support.

The Blended program provides opportunities for structured and spontaneous play. The curriculum is play-based and progressive, with a focus on pre-academics. During the school day, students have access to developmentally appropriate activities with support from a teacher, program assistant and related service providers.

**Which students will this program serve?**

The Blended program serves students with special needs who currently have an individualized education program (“IEP”), as well as students who are typically developing.

**What are the benefits to the District and its students by housing our own Blended program?**

Servicing students in their neighborhood school is always preferred. Such a placement allows our Blended students to become part of their school community before Kindergarten. This is an opportunity for students to build routines and make connections within and between their home and school environment. Additionally, for students with older siblings, it is beneficial for the siblings and their families to attend the same school.

**How does a student qualify to participate in the Blended program as a “typically developing student”?**

A “typically developing student” receives either no special education support or 60 minutes or less per week of special education support through an IEP.

**How does a student qualify to participate in the Blended program as a “student with special needs”?**

A student identified as a “student with special needs” meets the following two criteria:

- Receives more than 60 minutes per week of special education support through an IEP.
- Identified placement through IEP is consistent with the Blended program.

**If my student enters the Blended program at age three as a typically development student, will my student be guaranteed a spot the following year?**

Yes, if your student attends the Blended program as a typically developing three year old they will be guaranteed a spot for the following school year provided re-registration deadlines and requirements are met.

**If I have a typically developing student, how do I apply to the program and how will I know if my student has been accepted?**

Applications for typically developing students are available online under the teaching and learning section of the website. Applications for the upcoming school year will be available mid January until mid March each year. If the number of applicants for a given year exceeds the number of spots available, a lottery will be held. Within the lottery process the District may take into consideration balancing the classroom based on age and gender. By the first week of April parents will be notified regarding their student's acceptance into the Blended program as a typically developing student.

**Is the program only open to students who are residents of District #70?**

Yes, this program will only be open to residents of District #70.

**Will transportation be provided to students?**

Transportation will be provided for students with IEPs whose IEPs indicate placement in the Blended program. Transportation will not be provided for typically developing students attending the Blended program.

**Is the District's Blended program a full-day or half-day? How many days per week is the program?**

The Blended program has both an AM and a PM section that runs five days a week.

**If I have a typically developing student, how much will the program cost?**

Tuition is \$3,000 annually for typically developing students who are residents of the district.

**What assessments will the Blended program use on a regular basis to gauge student progress?**

The District will use the "Ready Set Go" Kindergarten readiness assessment and will regularly review data to guide instruction.

**What is the student to teacher ratio within the District's Blended program?**

There will be one teacher and one teacher assistant supporting the classroom. Additionally, related service personnel will be pushing into the Blended classroom on a regular basis to service students with related service needs.