

ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR SWEDISH-LANGUAGE IMMERSION EDUCATION

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Swedish-language immersion education is meant for pupils living in Espoo. You can apply to study from anywhere in Espoo.

The application period for Swedish-language immersion education is open annually at times determined by the City of Espoo. Applications submitted after the deadline shall be dismissed as late arrivals. If the application requires additional documents or applications, the guardian must submit them within the set deadline.

Entrance examinations are organised at times determined annually by the City of Espoo. The applicant takes the entrance examination at the teaching premises they have marked as their first preference on the application form. You can only take the entrance examination once during the same year.

Compulsory education begins in the year when the child turns seven. If the child applying to 1st grade is not yet at compulsory education age, the guardian must apply for a separate permission for their child to start school one year earlier than provided by law.

If the applicant is sick on the day of the entrance examination and cannot participate in it, a new entrance examination day may be arranged for the applicant. The guardian must notify the principal/director of the school organising the entrance examination and providing Swedish-language immersion education of the situation before the entrance examination begins and provide a statement by a doctor or other healthcare professional (such as public health nurse) proving the applicant's illness before the entrance examinations begins or immediately after receiving the statement. Only those applicants who were sick on the actual day of the entrance examination and were therefore unable to participate in the entrance examination can take a new entrance examination. The power to decide on arranging a new entrance examination day lies with the principal/director of the school.

Applicants are admitted for Swedish-language immersion education for the duration of the grades taught at the school mainly from the beginning of the school year. In Espoo, 6th grade pupils in Swedish-language immersion education may continue in Swedish-language immersion education from the beginning of grade 7 until the end of basic education, provided that their application form is directed at all schools providing education.

An applicant admitted for Swedish-language immersion education is not entitled to the school travel benefit (public transport ticket, transport subsidy or school transport) and their younger sibling does not have the right to get in the same school based on sibling criterion when applying to the local school.

Applicants living in other municipalities can only be admitted if there are still vacant study places after the applicants who meet the Espoo criteria.

Applicants moving to Espoo during the school year are admitted after they have moved. If an applicant residing in another municipality intends to move to Espoo before the start of school in the following school year, the applicant can be taken into account like those living in Espoo. You must mention the move on the application form. Once admitted, the applicant will receive a conditional decision, and it will only enter into force if the applicant moves to Espoo by the deadline date the City of Espoo sets for each year and if their home address is visible in the Population Information System at the time.

Pupils admitted for Swedish-language immersion education can only be admitted to another school providing the education based on a particularly weighty reason related to pupil welfare or the pupil's state of health. The guardian must present an expert statement (such as a doctor or psychologist) or a multidisciplinary report prepared at the school to demonstrate the reason in question.

The new teaching groups and the minimum and maximum number of pupils admitted for Swedish-language immersion education are determined annually by the Board.

1. ADMISSION TO 1ST GRADE

Admission is based on an entrance examination. The entrance examination consists of two sections:

- 1) Finnish language skills test (0–45 points)
- 2) A test of basic concepts in Swedish (0–15 points).

Applicants are admitted in the order of the overall score (0–60 points) they have received from the entrance examination. If the applicants' total score is the same, the order is determined by the sibling criterion (an applicant's sibling is a pupil of the school's Swedish-language immersion education in a year other than the highest). If the applicants both meet the sibling criterion, the order of the applicants is determined by drawing lots.

Applicants living in other municipalities can be admitted if there are still vacant study places after the applicants who meet the Espoo criteria. Applicants are admitted in the order of the score they have received from the entrance examination.

Applicants who meet the admission criteria but are not admitted due to the limited number of study places will form waiting lists by school in an order based on their scores on the entrance examination and so that applicants from Espoo take precedence. If study places become vacant, applicants will be admitted following the order of the waiting list until the end of August, at which point the waiting list will expire.

2. ADMISSION TO 7TH GRADE

Admission is based on previous studies in Swedish-language immersion education or Swedish-speaking basic education. The applicant must have been in the teaching in question immediately before the application process.

Applicants are selected in order of priority:

- 1) Applicants who have previous studies in Swedish-language immersion education
- 2) Applicants who have previous studies in Swedish-speaking basic education.

If the number of applicants is higher than the number of study places, the order is determined by the sibling criterion (an applicant's sibling is a pupil of the school's Swedish-language immersion education in a year other than the highest). If the applicants both meet the sibling criterion, the order of the applicants is determined by drawing lots.

Applicants living in other municipalities can be admitted if there are still vacant study places after the applicants who meet the Espoo criteria. Applicants are admitted in an order determined by drawing lots.

Applicants who meet the admission criteria but are not admitted due to the limited number of study places will form waiting lists by school in an order determined by drawing lots and so that applicants from Espoo take precedence. If study places become vacant, applicants will be admitted following the order of the waiting list until the end of August, at which point the waiting list will expire.

3. ADMISSION TO GRADES 2–6 AND 8–9

Admission is based on previous studies in Swedish-language immersion education or Swedish-speaking basic education. The applicant must have been in the teaching in question immediately before the application process.

Applicants are selected in order of priority:

- 1) Applicants who have previous studies in Swedish-language immersion education
- 2) Applicants who have previous studies in Swedish-speaking basic education.

If the number of applicants is higher than the number of study places, the order is determined by the sibling criterion (an applicant's sibling is a pupil of the school's Swedish-language immersion education in a year other than the highest). If the applicants both meet the sibling criterion, the order of the applicants is determined by drawing lots.