

Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts

Providing high quality pre-kindergarten to thousands of young children across the Commonwealth
Because every child is Pennsylvania's future

Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts, established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, is bringing quality half-day and full-day pre-kindergarten to 11,000 3 and 4 year olds in Pennsylvania.



Why does my child need to attend a high quality pre-kindergarten program?

Children who come to kindergarten without all the skills they need often stay behind and struggle in school. Quality pre-kindergarten prepares children for reading and math, but also for paying attention, following directions and getting along with others.

Pre-kindergarten gives children a chance to learn, become excited about school and be better students.

By enrolling your child in quality pre-kindergarten, your child has a better chance of being ready for kindergarten and grade school. This strong early start in pre-kindergarten means they have a better chance of doing well in school, going on to college or career training, and getting a good job. **All of this can start by enrolling your child in a PA Pre-K Counts classroom!**

What can I expect from a PA Pre-K Counts classroom?

Pennsylvania *Pre-K Counts* classrooms will:

- o have teachers with the education and expertise to teach young children;
- o use a curriculum that will help your child grow, academically and socially;
- o regularly review your child's progress and choose teaching and learning activities that are best for your child;
- o help you and your child adjust to pre-kindergarten and smoothly move on to kindergarten;
- o offer a small class size (20 students per one teacher and one aide) so that your child can have plenty of one-on-one time with the teachers.

By enrolling your child in PA Pre-K Counts, you can give your child a great start to a bright future.

Who is eligible for PA Pre-K Counts?

Each program offering PA Pre-K Counts classrooms will have their own guidelines, but **PA Pre-K Counts is designed for children who**

- are between age 3 and until they enter kindergarten;
- are **at risk of school failure**, either because of income (300% of the federal poverty level, or a family of four earning \$61,950), language (English is not your first language), cultural or special needs issues.

If your child falls into these categories, you may be eligible to apply.

How much does PA Pre-K Counts cost?

PA Pre-K Counts is free to families.*

How can I enroll my child in a PA Pre-K Counts classroom?

There are PA Pre-K Counts classrooms in 58 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. To find one near you, visit www.pde.state.pa.us and click on "Pre K-12," "Early Childhood" and "Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts."

* The portion of the day that is funded through Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts is free to families; the program may charge for additional portions of the day (wrap-around care, etc.)

Classes will open as early as September! For more information visit www.pde.state.pa.us.



Helping Pennsylvania's children reach their promise
through Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts