

Jefferson County Schools Governor's Pre-K Programs



Our mission is to provide in a safe and healthy environment, the opportunity for growth in social, emotional, physical and cognitive skills.

Jefferson County Schools now offers “free” preschool programs to eligible students. Our quality preschool program will serve 20 children at each site and will meet 5 days a week for 5 ½ hours each day. Transportation will be provided by the parent.

Student eligibility requirements can be viewed at:

<http://classroom.jc-schools.net/finchums/student%20eligibility%20requirements.pdf>

General Information

** Parents need to call Family Resource Center 475-4596 to schedule a screening to determine eligibility. To find out what school(s) a residence is zoned for, call the transportation office at (865) 397-2139.

Required Documents

- Birth certificate
- Social Security card
- [Tennessee School Immunization Certificate*](#) Records
- [Tennessee Health Card*](#)
- [Proof of residence**](#)
- Proof of income

Present proof of custody of the child if parents are divorced/separated or have never been married.

Birth certificate, Social Security card and proof of residence are required for pre-registration.

*To get a Tennessee Health Card School Immunization Certificate, parents should contact their child's doctor or the health department and schedule an appointment for a preschool physical. At the time of the physical, the health card Tennessee School Immunization Certificate will be issued.

** Proof of residence is a current utility bill – electric, gas – with the parent's name and address printed on it. If parents have not been living at the residence long enough to have a utility bill, a contract or lease on a house or apartment will be accepted.

Jefferson County Schools have a staggered enrollment period at the beginning of the school year. After registration, the parent should receive a schedule showing when their child will be in school during this period. Students are divided into groups and the groups are rotated in and out of school during the staggered enrollment. So, it's important that you know when your child is to be at school and when they are not. At the end of the phase in period, all students attend a full day of school (5.5 hours) every day for the remainder of the school year.

Immunizations: The State requires all students school to have a valid “TENNESSEE SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION CERTIFICATE” (green card) or valid Temporary Form to attend school.

• Hepatitis B – The immunization is a 3 shot series. Students must show proof of at least the first shot of the series to enter kindergarten. They must then have the second and third shots on schedule. If a student does not get their second and/or third shot on schedule, they will not be allowed to attend school until they show proof of the needed shot. The entire series takes 6 months to complete, or 4 months on the accelerated schedule.

MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella) – “2 doses, given after the 1st birthday. Second dose given at least 30 days after the 1st.” (PH-2414)

Varicella (chicken pox) –“Given after 1st birthday. History of disease is acceptable.”

DTP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) – “One dose must be given after age four. For those starting after age 7, only 3 doses are required.” (PH-2414)

Polio – 4 doses required except “if the 3rd dose is given after age four, the 4th dose is not required. If a combination of OPV and IPV is used, all 4 doses are needed regardless of age.” (PH-2414)

Those students deemed “homeless” who have not obtained any required immunizations shall be referred to the school's homeless liaison.

Medical Exemption: “This child has either received the immunizations required for school attendance or has been granted a Medical Exemption as evidenced by the attached statement describing that exemption.” (PH-2414)

Religious Exemption: “This child is exempt from receiving required immunizations for religious reasons. A signed statement from the parents stating that immunization conflicts with their religious tenets and practices is attached .” to the green card. This signed statement must be notarized, and on the "Vaccination(s) Refusal Due to Personal Religious Beliefs ” form. (PH-2414)

A Health Examination is also required to start school. You may obtain the Tennessee School Immunization Certificate Child Health Record with the proof of immunizations from your doctor or at the Health Department at the time of the physical exam.