

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. 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 Criteria:

- Students must be four years of age by September 30th

Priority will be given to students who reside within the geographic school zone and meet one or more of the following criteria:

Student Eligibility

Enrollment in the Voluntary Pre-K program is based upon a child's eligibility as identified in TCA 49-6-101-104. The pre-k state statute specifies that each LEA is authorized to and may enroll any at-risk child who is 4 years old by September 30 and resides in the geographic area served by the LEA, with first priority given to those children who are eligible for the free/reduced lunch program. If a school system accurately identified the number of unserved at-risk children in the school district, every effort should be made to fill these classrooms with this group of children leaving no room for non-at-risk children.

Enrollment Priority Requirements:

- **1st Requirement- Pursuant to state law 49-6-101:** students eligible for the free and reduced lunch program.
If an insufficient number of children meeting the above enrollment requirement are enrolled to fill a specific classroom the LEA may enroll children who meet the following criteria:
- **2nd Requirement-**students with disabilities, students identified as ELL, in state custody, or those as educationally at-risk for failure due to circumstances of abuse or neglect.
At the end of the first pre-k student attendance period, if an insufficient number of children meeting the above enrollment requirements are enrolled to fill a specific classroom, an LEA may submit a written request to the Office of Early Learning for approval to enroll children meeting the following criteria:
- **3rd Requirement-**students identified with other at-risk factors as determined by the local school board and the pre-k advisory council such as, children with a parent(s) in the military deployed to active duty, teen parents, or parents with limited education, may be enrolled **after** a written request is submitted and **approved** by the Office of Early Learning.
- **4th Requirement-**students who do not meet any at risk criteria but are considered unserved or underserved may be enrolled **after** a written request is submitted and **approved** by the Office of Early Learning.

Please call the Family Resource Center at 475-4596 to schedule a screening appointment.