



LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Levittown Memorial Education Center
150 Abbey Lane
Levittown, New York 11756



Central Registration
516-434-7058

FAQ about UPK

1- Does the Levittown School District offer a pre-k program each year?

The Universal Pre-K program is made possible through a grant from the New York State Department of Education. As long as the funding remains available, the district can offer the program.

2- Is the UPK program free?

Yes, those students selected to go are paid for through the NYS UPK grant. There are no fees paid by the family or the district up to 2 ½ hours per day/ five days a week.

3- What days are the children off from school?

The program follows the Levittown School District calendar.

4- How long is the program?

It is a half-day program – 2 ½ hours per day, Monday through Friday (as per the district calendar)

5- Is the program run by the Levittown School District?

The program is administered by the Levittown School District but is offered at community based pre-schools. For the 2019-2020 school year the two providers are Kiddie Junction and Tender Garden. This is subject to change.

6- Who is eligible? How do I apply?

District children who turn 4 years of age by December 1, 2019 are eligible for the program. To apply, you must fill out and submit the UPK Interest Form located on our district website. The form must be done electronically and received no later than February 28th. You will receive a receipt that confirms submission of the form. If you do not receive a receipt within 1 week of submission, please contact our office.

7- Can all district 4 year olds attend?

No. New York State, who funds this grant, has only allocated enough funds for 135 children to attend this program for the 2019-20 school year. It is anticipated that the grant will continue for 2019-20. Until the state budget is adopted we will not know for sure, nor will we know how many students will be served. Each year over 200 families request to be considered. Therefore, a lottery will be held to determine who will be able to participate. Everyone else will be placed on a waiting list. If any vacancies occur during the year, they will be filled from the waiting list until it is exhausted.

8- How will I know if my child has been chosen?

The lottery is held at Levittown Memorial Education Center at 6pm March 13, 2019. You may attend this drawing, but are not obligated to. Parents of children selected for the program will be notified in writing within one week of the drawing.

9- When will we know if the grant is going to be offered again for 2019-2020? Will it be for 135 children again?

The grant is part of the state budget. Usually the state budget is adopted in April. Once the budget is adopted, the State Education Department allocates the funds in May. Only then will the district know if funds are available and for how many students.

10- Can a parent pay for an eligible child to attend additional hours in the program?

All questions regarding additional hours should be addressed with the provider.

11- If my child is going to be absent/be picked up early, who do I call?

The program provider.

12- What if there is a custody situation regarding my child?

You must provide court documentation at time of registration and copies will be forwarded to the program provider. In addition, you must notify the provider. We recommend that you follow up with the provider to be sure that all the proper safeguards are in place.

13- What if my child has a severe allergy or other serious medical condition?

A health form must be filled out upon registration. Any serious medical condition must also be reported directly to the program provider.

14- What kind of curriculum is taught in the program?

All providers that are contracted by the Levittown School District must follow the Levittown UPK curriculum.

15- Does every provider have to run identical programs?

Specific teachers, lessons and special events will vary by location; however any provider that the Levittown Board of Education chooses to use must adhere to the curriculum adopted by the Levittown School District.

16- Can we choose the location we want our child to go to?

You can indicate at registration which location you would like your child to go to, and we will make every attempt to accommodate your request. However, we cannot guarantee placement in a particular program.

17- Is transportation available?

No.

18- What if I have a problem with the provider?

All issues regarding the program must first be handled directly through the provider. If a satisfactory resolution is not obtained, please contact Central Registration at Levittown Memorial Education Center.

19- Will there be a supply list for my child if he/she is selected for the program?

Yes. Our UPK program functions similarly to our Kindergarten program. You will receive a similar supply list request prior to the start of school.

20-Does my child have to be potty trained?

Yes. They must be potty trained by the first day of school, September, 2019.

21- Where can I find out additional information about Universal Prekindergarten?

You can go to the NYS Department of Education's website on Statewide Prekindergarten Programs at <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/upk/>