

# 1. What are the age requirements to enroll in Georgia's Pre-K Program?

A child must be age-eligible (four-years-old on or before September 1) and a Georgia resident. Acceptable proof of age and residency must be on file the day the child begins the Pre-K program.

# 2. What is considered acceptable documents for proof of age?

Examples of acceptable proof of age include: Original/certified birth certificate copy, passport, green card, pink card, or Federal I-94 card and hospital record of live birth. Immunization forms and Medicaid cards are not acceptable documentation for proof of age.

#### 3. What is acceptable documentation for proof-of-residency?

Proof of Residency - Residency is established by providing two items from the list below:

- Current month lease agreement (GA Realtor signed rental lease or Notarized generic lease) or home purchase agreement or mortgage (REQUIRED)
- 2. Current month utility bill or document verifying utility services established for primary residence
- 3. Previous year or most recent tax return
- 4. Current year Department of Family & Children Services documents
- 5. Current year Medicaid card
- 6. Current weekly or monthly paycheck stub

# 4. Can I pick up my child early a few days a week?

Georgia's Pre-K Program operates just like a school classroom. Parents commit to sending their child to school for the complete instructional day, 180 days per year. Children can be disenrolled for being chronically tardy in the morning or being picked up prior to the end of the instructional day.

#### 5. Can I bring lunch for my child?

Georgia's Pre-K requires centers and schools provide a complete nutritional meal for children. Local schools/sites may set policies regarding bringing food to school. If your child has identified special food requirements, contact your Pre-K provider for individual guidance.

#### 6. What is "excessive" in regards to the tardy/early dismissal policy?

Chronic tardiness is defined as late arrival or early departure more than once per week.

#### 7. How do I know who offers Pre-K in my area?

You may search for Pre-K locations by clicking <a href="http://decal.ga.gov/ProviderSearch/ChildCare">http://decal.ga.gov/ProviderSearch/ChildCare</a>) this will take you to the Pre-K Provider Search on the BFTS website. Or a site listing can also be obtained by calling 1-888-4GA-PREK or (404) 656-5957.

# 8. What should I bring to registration?

Parents/guardians should bring proof of Georgia residency, social security card, and age documentation.

#### 9. How much does it cost to register for Pre-K?

Pre-K providers cannot charge a registration fee for the 6.5 hour instructional day.

# 10. Will my child participate in graduation at the end of Pre-K?

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning does not recommend "graduation" for four-year-old children as an appropriate activity. More appropriate activities include, but are not limited to, a field day, an open house, family/child picnic, dinner, etc.

# 11. When will Pre-K Registration be held?

Each site can set their own registration dates, so check with the providers in your community.

# 12. Why doesn't my child's class take field trips?

Field trips are recommended but not a required part of Georgia's Pre-K. Schools/centers are encouraged to offer special educational experiences, which may include, but are not limited to field trips.

# 13. What do I need to know to enroll a child in Georgia's Pre-K Program?

To learn how to enroll a child in Georgia's Pre-K program can be obtained from the article "Enrolling in Pre-K".

This article is located at Pre-K > Georgia's Pre-K Program > Enrolling in Pre-K <a href="http://decal.ga.gov/BftS/EnrollingInPreK.aspx">http://decal.ga.gov/BftS/EnrollingInPreK.aspx</a>

#### 14. The Pre-K classes/school that I want are full. What do I do now?

Most programs maintain a waiting list of students who are interested in attending Pre-K at their program. You will need to contact the program and request that your child's name be placed on their waiting list. The site will contact you directly if a slot becomes available for your child. You may also search for additional pre-k sites in your area by using the online <u>Provider Search</u> (instructions provided on the search page) or calling 404-656-5957 (toll-free at 1-888-4GA-PREK) and asking for the Pre-K consultant of the day. If you need additional assistance, please call the department (1-888-4GA-PREK) and ask to be connected with the Pre-K consultant assigned to your area.