Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK) FAQs

• Are LEAs required to offer FDK?

- Nothing in the bill requires LEAs to offer FDK. If FDK is offered, LEAs shall provide a half-day kindergarten option for a student if the student's parent requests half-day.
- Is kindergarten mandatory now?
 - No. Nothing in the bill made kindergarten a required grade.
 Compulsory education in UT is still age 6.
- Are LEAs still required to administer and report on the KEEP assessment?
 - Yes. All LEAs are required to give the KEEP entry and exit assessment and report scores in the Data Gateway.
- Can a kindergarten student be enrolled in an online school half day and then a regular school the other half day?
 - No, dual enrollment is not allowed in kindergarten.
- Will funding from the OEK grant be going away?
 - The \$36 million in OEK and FDK funds will be rolled into the WPU to provide funding for kindergarten through the WPU only. OEK and FDK grants will no longer exist.
- How can we "apply" for OEK/FDK?
 - There are no applications or grants for kindergarten. Funding comes through the WPU only, like the grades 1-12.
- What do we need to report to ensure WPU funding for our FDK students?
 - The state board requires LEAs to report Average Daily Membership (ADM) for all kindergarten students who attend kindergarten on a schedule that is equivalent in length to the schedule for grades 1 through 3 with the October 1 data described in Section 53F-2-302. ADM and K codes (full day and half day only) are due by June 15 annually.
- If we only have 3 parents choosing a half day kindergarten, do we have to offer a half day class?

 No. The bill does not require an LEA to offer a half day class, but does require an LEA to work with a parent who requests half day kindergarten to offer them a half day option meaning morning or afternoon attendance of a full day class. How this is done is up to each individual LEA.

• What are the funding options for kindergarten students?

- If a kindergarten student attends for the full day (same length as grades 1-3) then the student will be funded at a 1.0 WPU for districts and 0.90 WPU for charters. If a student attends for less than a full day, they will be funded at the 0.55 WPU.
- Is there enough money for our LEA to roll up to 100% in 23-24?
 - Yes, there is enough money for your LEA to roll up to 100% beginning next school year.
- Can we still charge tuition for FDK?
 - No, this bill prohibits LEAs from charging tuition for FDK beginning July 1, 2023.
- Is there anything in code or board rule to limit the number of students in a kindergarten class?
 - No, this bill does not put a cap on the number of students that can be in a kindergarten class.

• Will kindergarten now fall under the 180-day requirement?

- Yes, kindergarten does fall under the 180-day requirement for LEAs to provide educational services. The 180-day requirement is an LEA requirement, not a student or family requirement. Students are not required to attend kindergarten but LEAs are required to provide it. There is an exception to the 180 requirement in R277-419 to allow LEAs to designate no more than 12 educational service days for the assessment of students entering and completing kindergarten.
- Note: We are currently working on updating the language in R277-419, so the 12 service day option will be changing.