

Mid-Year Pilot Site Application

School Districts & Government Organizations

Overview

On November 3rd, 2020 voters in Multnomah County overwhelmingly supported the "Preschool for All" ballot measure. The approval of Preschool for All (PFA) will give 3- and 4-year-olds in Multnomah County access to free, inclusive, culturally affirming preschool experiences.

The <u>Preschool for All Plan</u> was published in July 2020 and is the framework for program implementation. The plan reflects more than two years of a unique community-based policy making process with almost 100 people, including parents, educators, policy makers and early childhood organizations, coming together to form a vision for preschool in Multhomah County.

The Preschool & Early Learning Division (PEL) of Multnomah County's Department of County Human Services, as the administrator of the Preschool for All program, selects Pilot Sites through this application process. Pilot Sites receive contracts for Preschool for All slots and help Multnomah County refine program details for this new initiative.

Applying

This application is intended for school districts and government organizations.

Community based organizations, school districts, public charter schools, private schools, and center-based preschool providers who have multiple locations OR who are licensed for 100 or more children **must** apply through separate processes. Please visit the <u>Preschool for All website</u> for more information.

Preschool for All has two application periods each year, one during the spring (mid year) and one during the summer. The number of Preschool for All seats awarded during the mid year application window is very limited.

This mid-year application window is intended to support providers who:

- Had a facility that did not meet a previous facility readiness timeline,
- Did not have receive seats in their program previously
- Are interested in applying for the <u>BuildUp Oregon</u> facilities funding opportunities with the prerequisite of applying and qualifying for Preschool for All.

Preschool for All Family Connector Organizations (FCOs) are unable to simultaneously hold a contract to serve as a PFA Pilot Site Provider.

Goals & Values

Preschool for All (PFA) provides access to free, inclusive, culturally responsive preschool for 3 and 4 year olds in Multhomah County. PFA is a mixed-delivery system that includes family child care providers, schools, and centers. PFA is growing each year, increasing the number of providers and families, until there is universal preschool in 2030.

Preschool for All is founded on the values of racial equity and justice. Black, Brown, Native American Indigenous, and Children of Color experience systemic inequities starting prenatally through their entire childhood. The impacts of these inequities can be seen in outcomes from birth through the lifespan. Preschool for All is an opportunity to address one of the major gaps in the educational continuum and Pilot Sites must be willing to commit to focusing on racial equity as part of their work. PFA Pilot Sites will be required to participate in professional development, coaching, and data collection to support providers' growth in areas of implicit bias, anti-Blackness, creating culturally affirming spaces, and disparate discipline.

Family applications are accepted through a centralized online application system and process that is managed by the Preschool & Early Learning Division. Prioritized families are matched with slots at Pilot Sites. **Providers must accept and enroll the families that are matched with them.** Family child care providers and center-based providers who are currently serving families from PFA's priority populations work with the Preschool & Early Learning Division on continuity of care for enrolled children.

Pilot Sites provide culturally responsive, inclusive preschool experiences for children in their care. Providers must be committed to ensuring positive relationships with families, with a specific focus on Black, Brown, Native American Indigenous, and Families of Color. Pilot Sites and their educators need to be responsive to feedback from families.

Preschool for All is a new initiative and Pilot Sites help Multnomah County to refine program details. Organizations and businesses selected as Pilot Sites will be working closely with PEL staff and Preschool for All coaches to share feedback and further develop program guidelines and supports. This requires flexibility, and organizations should expect ongoing changes as part of the learning and planning process of program implementation.

Preschools selected as Pilot Sites will:

- Provide inclusive, culturally responsive preschool experiences to 3- and 4-year old children
- Welcome and support all children and families placed at the site including children with delays and/or disabilities, children who are not fully potty trained, children and families that speak other languages, and families who may be experiencing challenges such as homelessness
- Partner with and listen deeply to families, who are their children's first teacher, to ensure that children and families receive needed supports and have a positive experience
- Be committed to continuous improvement. Remain flexible and open to feedback and change
- Partner with the Preschool & Early Learning Division to offer input and feedback to finalize Preschool for All program guidelines and supports

Priority Populations & Service Area

3- and 4- year old children who have a parent or guardian living in Multnomah County are eligible for Preschool for All. As the program builds to full capacity, children who currently have the least access to high-quality early learning experiences are prioritized. Children whose families experience barriers accessing preschool include:

- Black, Brown, Native American Indigenous, and all Children of Color;
- Children who speak languages other than English;
- Children with developmental delays and disabilities;
- Children living in or at risk of placement in foster care;
- Children from families experiencing low incomes; and
- Children experiencing homelessness.

Preschool for All providers must be located within Multnomah County.

Funding

Funding for Pilot Sites will be determined by the number of contracted slots and the services offered to families, including transportation and wrap-around supports. PFA currently estimates the slot rate to be the following:

- School Year/School Day slots will be funded at \$17,532* per PFA slot/per year. Sites must offer a minimum of 6 hours per day and a minimum total of 900 program hours for the program year.
- **Full Year/Full Day** slots will be funded at \$25,008* per PFA slot/per year. Sites must offer a minimum of 10 hours per day with up to four total weeks off during the calendar year plus 8 additional calendar days of closures for planned professional development and teacher workdays, not including observed holidays.

* These are the 2025-2026 program year funding amounts.

In addition to funding for slots, PFA Pilot Sites may be eligible to receive the following additional funds (all subject to approval):

- **Start-up Funds** : for start-up costs of new pilot sites to purchase needed equipment and supplies
- **Transportation Funds** : for sites that confirm they are offering transportation services to families
- Infant/Toddler Stabilization Funds : for sites that offer infant/toddler care. These funds must be used to increase infant and toddler teacher wages and benefits
- **Inclusion Support Funds** : an additional resource to help create environments that meet the needs of individual children in care; contingent on application and approval

Pilot Site Minimum Requirements

Pilot Sites will provide inclusive, culturally responsive preschool experiences for 3- and 4-year-olds in Multhomah County in partnership with their families. Pilot Sites will work closely with the Preschool & Early Learning Division to offer input on program guidelines and processes.

Black, Brown, Native American Indigenous, and Providers of Color are highly encouraged to apply as Pilot Sites. Families have consistently communicated the importance of providers who reflect their culture and language. Preschool for All is committed to having a diverse set of providers who look and sound like the children and families enrolled in the program.

Providers who do not currently meet all of the requirements listed below will have an opportunity to share their plans for meeting these requirements in the allocation stage of this process.

Provider Experience

Pilot Site Providers must have a **minimum of three years of experience operating preschool services** for 3 and/or 4 year olds within a licensed child care facility or legally exempt site by **July 8**, **2025** (date aligns with Facility Readiness deadline in the next section). Experience in operations or management in child care and early learning for groups between 0 and 5 years will be considered. Preschool services are defined as childcare, early learning classrooms, and/or home-based family child care.

Facility Readiness

Any new classroom or facility that is not already open and operating, must be ready **no later than July 8, 2025** including having a License or Temporary License from the Office of Child Care that will be shared with PEL for preschool seats that begin in January 2026.

Licensing Requirements

Providers must have an active child care license with the <u>Oregon Department of Early Learning and</u> <u>Care Child Care Licensing Division</u>. Pilot Sites must inform the Preschool & Early Learning Division of serious valid violations and if their license becomes inactive, suspended or revoked within 24 hours.

Any serious valid violations over the previous **two years** will be considered as part of the application and allocation process and could result in an application being screened out of the process.

Serious valid violations include:

- Child Abuse/Neglect (physical or emotional)
- Supervision: Child Left Unattended
- Serious Injury
- Ratio Violation
- CBR Violation
- Safe Sleep

If your application includes a site that is not already open and operating or has a license history of less than 6 months, any serious valid violations over the previous two years for *all* locations you own and operate will be considered as part of the application and allocation process.

Program Calendar

Preschool for All believes that families should be able to choose the type of early learning experience that meets their needs. Preschool for All offers five days per week school-day and full-day schedules. These slots are intended for children to regularly attend five days per week.

Pilot Sites are expected to provide five day per week programming using one of the following schedules:

- Full Day (minimum of 10 hours) / Full Year (September August with up to 4 total weeks off during the calendar year plus 8 additional calendar days of closures for planned professional development and teacher work days not including observed holidays)
- School Day (minimum of 6 hours) / School Year (900 hours total for the program year)

Specific schedules will be approved during the contracting process. A provider whose schedule does not match with what is outlined above because of other funding requirements or their business model must include that information as part of the application. Additional information may be requested in the allocation stage of this process.

Minimum Slots

Pilot Sites will receive contracts for Preschool for All Slots. Providers must apply for a minimum number of slots based on their setting type. Providers are encouraged to consider the number of slots that will be right for their business or program model and will allow them to meet Preschool for All requirements, including staff wages.

- Family child care providers must apply for a minimum of 4 slots per site
- Center-based preschool providers must apply for a minimum of 10 slots, with a minimum of 10 slots in a single classroom

Providers should carefully consider Preschool for All salary requirements when determining how many slots to request and how many classrooms will include PFA slots.

Providers will be asked to identify a minimum, desired, and maximum number of Preschool for All slots they are applying for in the application.

Staffing

All providers must have a second staff person present and available for a minimum of 20 hours during a program week to support PFA Providers in meeting PFA administrative requirements including (and not limited to) completing attendance, checking and responding to communication correspondence, maintaining online portal information, completing PFA required reports, and completing lesson planning and child assessments. An additional staff also supports the PFA Provider to engage in coaching with their PFA Instructional Coach, and attend consultation meetings to support children with delays and disabilities. This requirement is for all PFA Sites no matter licensed capacity or the total number of PFA slots allocated.

Staff Training and Education Requirements

- Current requirements:
 - Lead Provider/Teacher: Step 7 on the Oregon Registry Online or Child Development Associate (CDA)
 - Assistants/Aides: Step 4 on the Oregon Registry Online (ORO)
- After 2 years of participating in Preschool for All:
 - Lead Provider/Teacher: Step 7.5 on the Oregon Registry Online (ORO)
 - Assistants/Aides: Step 5 on the Oregon Registry Online (ORO)
- By 2030, Preschool for All will require:
 - Lead Provider/Teacher: Step 9 on the Oregon Registry Online (ORO) or an AA Degree in early childhood education or related field
 - Assistants/Aides: Step 7 on the Oregon Registry Online (ORO) or a Preschool Child Development Associate (CDA)

Waivers for education requirements will be available for providers who have a detailed plan to reach these levels within two years.

Staff Wages

Pilot Sites must commit to meeting Preschool for All salary requirements. For Centers, these requirements must be met in any classroom with Preschool for All slots.

Preschool for All defines assistant preschool teachers broadly, as all non-lead teaching staff working with children in the classroom in a center or school model, or working with children in a family child caremodel, including teaching staff with titles like associate teacher, break support staff, or teachers aide.

The method for calculating the wages for Assistant Teachers and Aides is mandated by the ballot measure and is not flexible. The actual wage level for Assistant Teachers and Aides will be calculated each year by the Preschool & Early Learning Division based on the method in the <u>Preschool for All Plan</u>.

| Assistant/Aide Minimum Salary | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Year | Hourly Salary |
| 2025-2026 | \$22.27 |

* The hourly rate may increase for the following program year.

The Lead Teacher salary includes a minimum and a target salary based on training/education level.

| Qualification Level | Provider/Lead Teacher Minimum Hourly Salary | Provider/Lead Teacher Target Hourly Salary |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Step 10/BA | \$29.42 | \$39.23 |
| Step 9/AA | \$25.01 | \$33.35 |
| Step 7 | \$22.67 | \$29.42 |

* This is an estimate based on the best information available at the time of the application release and will likely increase for 2026.

Staff Benefits & Supports

Pilot Sites must provide support and benefits for staff working in PFA settings, including:

- Paid planning time
- Paid time off (vacation, sick time, personal)
- Offering Health Benefits for full-time employees, covering at least 50% of the cost for the individual staff member

Labor Harmony

The County values agencies that work to prevent labor disputes, which may lead to work stoppages or adversely impact the ability of our programs to achieve intended outcomes. The County seeks to work with providers that are committed to avoiding labor disputes that disrupt services. A labor harmony clause is included in Pilot Site contracts. Providers can learn more by visiting this webpage.

Technology Requirements

The Preschool & Early Learning Division uses a family application and enrollment tracking online software to centrally fill and track PFA slots. This system will be utilized by both families and providers participating in Preschool for All. Preschool programs will be required to participate in system training; enter information and data as required, including attendance; and adhere to technology system and data use agreements.

Continuous Improvement & Professional Development

Pilot Site providers must commit to continuous quality improvement, including working closely with a Preschool for All Coach and participating in professional development opportunities.

Participation Requirements for Pilot Sites

Pilot Sites must meet the following standards when participating in Preschool for All:

Program Structure & Expectations

- Provide high-quality, inclusive, culturally responsive preschool experiences for 3- and 4-year-olds in partnership with their families.
- Create an environment of safety, trust, and belonging for all children and families, with a specific focus on the experiences of Black, Brown, Native American Indigenous, and Families of Color.
- Participate in the PFA application and enrollment systems. **Providers must accept and** enroll the families that are matched with them.
- Adhere to PFA's policy of no suspensions or expulsions.
- Implement curriculum aligned with the State of Oregon's Early Learning & Kindergarten Guidelines and complete developmentally appropriate assessments.
- Provide high-quality, tuition-free, developmentally appropriate, early learning experiences that reflect best practices. Early learning experiences should be offered all throughout the day at a minimum of six (6) hours per day.
- Provide free meals and snacks that adhere to child care licensing standards to meet children's needs and support their learning and development.
- Ensure that Preschool for All funds are not used for inherently religious activities such as prayer, worship, or religious instruction

Family Engagement & Support

- Support families with the application and enrollment process, including verifying each child's date of birth and a parent/legal guardian's Multnomah County address.
- Provide a welcoming environment for all families and avoid discriminatory practices, including during the application and enrollment process: families should not be turned away or discouraged from enrolling at a pilot site based on a child's diagnosed or perceived disability or developmental delay, behavior, history, or based on a family's language interpretation and translation needs
- Engage parents and gather information from them as the experts about their children.
- Utilize interpretation and translations services as needed to support written and verbal communication with families including and not limited to:
 - o scheduling an interpreter for family meetings and conferences
 - o translating enrollment paperwork, parent handbooks, and program policies
- Provide opportunities for meaningful family engagement in the program.
- Provide regular opportunities for families to give feedback about their preschool experience.
- Review and talk to families about completed developmentally appropriate screenings.
- Protect child and family personal identifiable information.

Inclusion

- Create an inclusive environment and fully include all children.
- Partner with PEL Inclusion Coordinators, PFA Coaches, Multnomah Early Childhood Program (MECP) providers and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants to create inclusive and positive environments for all children.
- Integrate Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP) goals, accommodations, and supports into all planned activities.

Pilot Site Participation

- Work closely with PFA coaches to strengthen provider's program including monthly in-person meetings
- Work closely with MECP early intervention service providers to plan on how to incorporate and support IFSP goals into daily activities and routines
- Respond to communication from PEL, CCR&R, MECP, and Micro Enterprise Service of Oregon (MESO) in a timely manner
- Work closely with PEL staff or MESO Navigator for contracting, business development, invoicing, and system navigation.
- Collect and report data as required.
- Participate in PFA Pilot Site meetings and professional development opportunities.
- Work closely with PEL staff to offer input and feedback on program guidelines and processes.
- Participate in Environment Rating Scale (ERS) trainings and observations

Pilot Site Communication Expectations

- Respond to all communication correspondence from PEL and PFA Partners related to consultation, coaching, and pilot site supports within 72 business hours
- Respond to and provide needed program information requested from PEL related to slots, funding, program details, and PFA requirements by the determined deadlines and due dates
- Complete and submit all required reports and documentation by the determined deadlines and due dates

COVID Precautions

Providers need to follow the latest COVID guidance from the Office of Child Care. Providers need to have a COVID safety plan in place that meets that guidance. In addition, providers must be in compliance with all federal, state, county, and city mandates.

Additional Contracting Information

Pilot Site contract terms are approximately five (5) years with an opportunity to extend contracts in the future.

Programs may not fund the same slot from more than one public preschool funding stream, which includes Preschool Promise, Early Childhood Equity Fund, Oregon Prenatal to Kindergarten (OPK), Head Start, and private pay tuition.

Preschool for All families cannot incur any out-of-pocket expenses related to Preschool for All funded services and PFA funded preschool program time including enrollment, field trips, meals, supplies, and other costs. The PFA funded services and preschool time are the PFA contracted program days and hours identified during slot allocation and confirmed yearly. Any preschool and child care services outside of contracted Preschool for All program time that are not funded by Preschool for All, are determined by the individual programs and businesses and are not subject to PFA requirements.

Providers will be paid by the number of PFA slots in their contract. Providers will receive the same monthly amount based on the number of slots they have been awarded for the year.

The Preschool and Early Learning Division will pay providers based on regular monthly invoices. Invoices must be received on or before due dates to ensure on-time payments. At a minimum, invoices shall document the number of slots provided, dates of service, and total slot amount. Invoices will be signed and dated by the provider.

Providers will also receive funding for start-up costs to support the purchase of needed materials and to prepare for children starting preschool in September 2025.

Providers will also receive funding for start-up costs to support the purchase of needed materials and to prepare for children starting preschool.

Additional Requirements:

- Providers must be legal entities, currently registered to do business in the State of Oregon (per ORS 60.701)
- Providers must submit verification that all insurance requirements are met during the contracting process
- Providers must have an active child care license with the <u>Oregon Department of Early</u> <u>Learning and Care Child Care Licensing Division</u>

Insurance Requirements

Providers who receive a contract for Preschool for All slots will be required to provide the insurance described in the table below.

| Type of Insurance | Amount | Per Occurrence | Aggregate |
|---|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Commercial General Liability | \$1,000,000 | \$1,000,000 | \$2,000,000 |
| Commercial Auto Liability (only for providers transporting children) | \$1,000,000 | \$1,000,000 | |
| Workers Compensation (only for subject employers as defined by state law) | | Required | |
| Sexual Abuse/Molestation Liability for Family Child Care | \$500,000 | \$1,000,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| Sexual Abuse/Molestation Liability for all other provider types | \$1,000,000 | \$1,000,000 | \$2,000,000 |

Performance Expectations

Providers will be asked to report on data that will allow the Preschool & Early Learning Division to monitor progress, design system supports, and report back to stakeholders. Below are possible performance indicators. These may change over time as the system grows.

| Performance Expectations | Performance Measurements |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Child Attendance | Children in PFA funded slots attend preschool consistently, 80% or more of scheduled days. Attendance records will be collected monthly. |
| Family Satisfaction | 90% of families report being satisfied or highly satisfied with their family's preschool experience |
| Coaching Plan Progress | Provider's PFA Coach reports that provider is making significant progress toward reaching coaching plan goals |
| Developmental Screenings | 100% of children receive a ASQ screening within 45 days of enrollment and annually |
| Child Assessments | 100% of children receive developmentally appropriate, intentionally scheduled child-level assessments at least twice per year to inform curriculum and instruction |
| | 95% of staff complete the satisfaction survey |
| Early Educator Satisfaction | 80% of staff working in Preschool for All settings report being satisfied or highly satisfied with their work environments |

Pilot Site Selection Slot

There are two steps in the Pilot Site selection process:

1. Application Evaluation

Applications will be evaluated by a team that includes staff from the Preschool & Early Learning Division, community partners such as Child Care Resource & Referral, Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC), and community based organizations.

Providers whose applications score **70% or above** on their application will be qualified to participate in Preschool for All. **Qualified applicants are not guaranteed slots.**

2. Slot Allocation

Slots will be awarded in an allocation process that will consider all of the qualified applicants. Funding allocation decisions will be made taking the needs of families and the new Preschool for All system into account. Allocation priorities and selection criteria for slots may include:

- County and Department strategic priorities
- Overall preschool system needs and deficiencies
- Information and evaluation input from the application evaluators
- Provider stability
- Facility readiness
- Provider experience
- Provider participation in a Focused Child Care Network
- Number and type of funded slots
- Experience partnering with parents from PFA priority populations
- Services provided in families' home language
- Geographic service coverage
- Customer feedback (Families, referral sources, etc.)
- Family needs and trends
- Past performance
- Certification and licensing status
- **Licensing history
- Extent of provision of like services by any one agency
- Other factors as deemed appropriate by the funding allocation team

Each provider's licensing history is reviewed during the allocation process. Any serious valid violations over the previous **two years will be considered and could result in a location not receiving any PFA slots.

Serious valid violations include:

- Child Abuse/Neglect (physical or emotional)
- Supervision: Child Left Unattended
- Serious Injury
- Ratio Violation
- CBR Violation
- Safe Sleep

If your application includes a site that is not already open and operating or has a license history of less than 6 months, any serious valid violations over the previous two years for *all* locations you own and operate will be considered as part of the application and allocation process.

Applicant Information

This section is not scored.

Legal Business Name: _____

Doing Business As (DBA) if Different than Legal Business Name:

Owner/Contact Person for Application:

Contact Person Email Address:

Contact Person Phone Number:

Preschool Site Details

This section is not scored.

| 1. Preschool Site Information | | |
|---|-----------|--|
| Please complete site details for each site that you are applying for. | | |
| Preschool Name: | | |
| What is the Employer Identification Number (EIN) / Tax ID # (TIN): | | |
| Setting Type (check one): Child Care Center Head Start School | | |
| Child Care Licensing Division License Number: | | |
| Total licensed capacity: | | |
| Preschool Address: | | |
| City: | Zip Code: | |

| How many total years have preschool services been offered at this program? |
|--|
| years |
| 2. Preschool for All Slots |
| Please indicate the number of Preschool for All slots your program is applying to receive. Please include the minimum, desired, and maximum number of slots you are applying for. Minimum: Desired: Maximum: |
| Is this location currently open and offering preschool?YesNo |
| If No, please describe your plans for opening this facility including: |
| Your projected timeline for opening and where you currently are in the process; |
| Current licensing status, including any upcoming scheduled visits with certifier; |
| Any potential barriers you're aware of that would impact meeting your timeline for opening this facility |
| Have you applied for the Preschool for All Facilities Fund available in partnership with BuildUp Oregon?YesNo |
| 3. Program Schedule |
| Do you provide five day per week programming using one of the following schedules: Full Day (minimum of 10 hours) / Full Year (September- August with up to 4 full weeks off during the calendar year plus 8 additional calendar days of closures for planned professional development and teacher workdays not including observed holidays) School Day (minimum of 6 hours) / School Year (900 hours total for the year) Other |
| If your current schedule does not fit the described full day/full year or school day/school year schedule, please provide additional information about your current schedule: |

| How many full weeks (Mon-Fri) was your program closed during the 2024-25 preschool year (including summer)? |
|--|
| 4. Additional Information |
| How many total preschool slots do you currently have at this location? |
| How many preschool classrooms do you currently have at this location? |
| What is the licensed capacity of each preschool classroom at this location? |
| How many children that are currently in your program do you anticipate enrolling in your preschool for the 2025-26 year? |
| How many new Preschool for All families will you have slots for in the 2025-26 year (families who are not currently enrolled)? |
| Are you licensed to serve infants and toddlers?YesNo |
| How many infant/toddler slots do you currently have at this location? |
| How many infants and/or toddlers are currently enrolled? |
| How many infants/toddler slots will you have for the 2025-2026 program year? |
| Do you have other publicly funded program slots?YesNo |
| If yes, please choose check the program(s) and list how many slots per program: |
| Preschool Promise (PSP): slots |
| Oregon Prenatal to Kindergarten (OPK) : slots |
| Head Start : slots |
| For Preschool Promise (PSP) slots, do you plan on continuing your PSP contract for 2025-2026? |
| YesNo |
| 5. Site Contact |
| If you are allocated PFA slots, the information below will be used to communicate to interested families about your program as part of the online family application process. Please complete this section with responses that you would like families to read about your program. |

Site Contact Email:

Site Contact Name (Optional):

Website:

Program Days (ex Monday - Friday):

| Program Hours: |
|--|
| to Monday |
| to Tuesday |
| to Wednesday |
| to Thursday |
| to Friday |
| to Saturday |
| to Sunday |
| Meal Options Offered (check all that apply): |
| Breakfast included |
| Morning Snack included |
| Lunch included |
| Afternoon Snack included |
| Dinner included |
| Evening Snack included |
| Gluten-free diet available |
| Dairy-free diet available |
| Lactose-free diet available |
| Nut-free facility |
| Vegetarian option available |
| *PFA Sites are required to provide free meals and snacks to enrolled children. |
| Transportation Provided:YesNo |
| Is the program an Immersion Language program?YesNo |
| If yes, what languages? |
| Spoken Languages of Program Staff: |

Questions & Scoring Criteria

There are a total of eight questions that providers need to please respond to. **Each response should be limited to 2500 characters.** A provider can score up to 100 points total. A score of 70 or above is a qualifying score.

Please review the questions carefully, as some have multiple parts to respond to, and please pay close attention to the evaluation criteria for each question. The evaluation criteria will be used to score your answer.

Question 1: Provider Experience and Strengths (10 points)

Please describe how long your program has been operating preschool. Please share the strengths of your program and your vision for high-quality preschool.

Evaluation Criteria – Provider:

- Demonstrates at least three (3) years experience in operations or management of preschool.
- Provides a clear vision of high quality preschool.
- Includes values and beliefs related to equity and outcomes for children. Provides specific examples of how vision, values, and beliefs are demonstrated in the program. Examples might include hiring practices, curriculum, daily practices, family engagement, teaching strategies, etc.

Please limit your response to 2500 characters.

Question 2: Priority Populations (20 points)

Please share which Preschool for All priority populations your program currently has the capacity and skills to partner with and why. Please describe the support and training your program would need to partner with the remaining priority populations on the list.

Preschool for All Priority Populations:

- Black, Brown, Native American Indigenous, and all Children of Color;
- Children who speak languages other than English;
- Children with developmental delays and disabilities;
- Children living in or at risk of placement in foster care;
- Children from families experiencing low incomes;
- Children experiencing homelessness

Evaluation Criteria – Provider:

- Demonstrates experience working with Preschool for All's Priority Populations.
- Demonstrates awareness and understanding of organization's unique training and support needs to partner with priority populations.

Please limit your response to 2500 characters.

Question 3: Cultural & Linguistic Diversity (15 points)

Are you currently caring for, or have you recently (in the last two years) cared for, children who speak languages other than English at home or who have a different cultural background from staff and program leadership?

Please describe how you incorporate children's home language and culture into the preschool setting.

If your program serves a specific cultural community, please share how you tailor services to meet that community's needs.

Evaluation Criteria - Provider:

- Demonstrates experience working with children who speak diverse home languages and have different cultural backgrounds from staff and program leadership or are a culturally specific program.
- Provides specific and meaningful examples of how children's home languages and culture are incorporated into the preschool setting.

Please limit your response to 2500 characters.

Question 4: Inclusion & Retention (10 points)

Are you currently caring for, or have you recently (in the last two years) cared for, children who have developmental delays and disabilities? Are you currently caring for, or have you recently (in the last two years) cared for, children who exhibit challenging behavior? Please describe your program's inclusion and retention plan or policy for children in your care.

Evaluation Criteria – Provider:

- Demonstrates experience working with children who have developmental delays and disabilities.
- Demonstrates experience working with children who exhibit challenging behaviors.
- Describes inclusion and retention plan or policy for organization, including potential resources.

Please limit your response to 2500 characters.

Question 5: Daily Program Schedule (10 points)

Please describe your program's existing or planned preschool daily schedule and include an explanation of each of the activities.

Evaluation Criteria – Provider:

• Demonstrates intentionality and knowledge of child development through daily schedule

Please limit your response to 2500 characters.

Question 6: Employment Related Day Care/Financial Assistance for Families (10 points)

Please describe your experience serving families with lower incomes.

Are you currently accepting Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) payments from the state? If you accept ERDC, how long have you been accepting ERDC? How many families utilizing ERDC do you estimate that you served in the past two calendar years?

If you have not historically accepted ERDC payments, please describe in detail why your organization has not utilized ERDC in the past and describe your financial assistance policies and support for families.

Evaluation Criteria - Provider:

- Demonstrates experience and openness to serving families with lower incomes.
- If the organization has not historically accepted ERDC, it has clear financial assistance policies and support for families.

Please limit your response to 2500 characters.

Question 7: Staff Lived Experience & Family Engagement (15 points)

Please describe how the lived experience of program leadership and staff informs your program's ability to partner with diverse families. How does your program meaningfully engage with and listen to Black, Indigenous, and Families of Color?

Evaluation Criteria – Provider:

- Demonstrates experience and understanding of culturally affirming family engagement practices
- Provides specific examples of opportunities for families to give feedback and input

Please limit your response to 2500 characters.

Question 8: Organizational Culture (10 points)

How will your organization intentionally incorporate Preschool for All into your broader program or school community? Please describe some of the potential opportunities and challenges that you anticipate.

Evaluation Criteria – Providers:

- Describes how organization will incorporate Preschool for All into their program or school community
- Provides concrete and meaningful examples of opportunities and challenges of incorporating Preschool for All

Please limit your response to 2500 characters.

Submission Details

Interested school districts and government organizations should submit a response no later than April 7, 2025

Please email your response to <u>Preschoolforall@multco.us</u> and include:

- 1. A cover page with the following information:
 - Organization Name
 - Contact Person for Application
 - Name
 - Email

- Phone Number
- Please copy and respond to the following question to your cover page:
 - The County values agencies that work to prevent labor disputes, which may lead to work stoppages or adversely impact the ability of our programs to achieve intended outcomes. Please indicate if your Agency is committed to avoiding labor disputes that disrupt services by checking the appropriate box:
 Yes
- If your organization has standard practices and policies that uphold this principle, such as a labor harmony agreement or a collective bargaining agreement, please attach it with your submission as a separate file.
- 2. Responses to the questions listed above
- 3. A Preschool Site Questionnaire for each of the locations that you are applying for

Questions

Please visit the Preschool for All website for more details about Pilot Sites.

If you have any questions about this application, please reach out to Shelly Jackson, shelly.jackson@multco.us.

Thank You!