



How to Access Vermont's Universal Prekindergarten Funding

Vermont's Universal Prekindergarten (Act 166), allows children who are 3, 4 or 5 by September 1st to attend the prequalified prekindergarten program of their family's choosing for 10 hours per week for 35 weeks. **Students WILL NOT be paid for after they turn 6.** You may wish to ENROLL your child in your town's public prekindergarten program or in a private childcare program. Both must be prequalified, which means that a VT State licensed prekindergarten teacher must be present and provide prekindergarten instruction for those ten hours. The program must also hold a Quality Star rating of 4 STARS or 3 STARS with a plan to achieve their 4th STAR.

Enroll Vs Register

All children must be **REGISTERED** with their residential school's registrar to receive prekindergarten funding regardless of whether they are attending a public program or a private program. If you wish to send your child to a private program or one at another public school preschool program you may enroll your child and your residential school district will try to partner with your private program to ensure funding. **However, this is not a guarantee if a program is no longer pre-qualified or is without a certified teacher.** If you do not register your child with your public school registrar, funding may be prorated if completed after the start of the new year.

How do I register?

You will need to provide 1) a copy of your child's birth certificate along 2) two forms of proof of Vermont residency when you go to visit the public school registrar. Residency documents can include a current tax bill, utility bill in your name, lease, deed, valid Public Aid card, pay stub or valid Vermont vehicle registration card. The school will provide you with forms to fill out and all must be returned to the school to be fully registered. Inform the school if you hope to enroll your child in a private program and where that program is. **This process is necessary each year if your child attends a private program as partnerships with districts vary from year to year.** Each child in your family must be registered if attending a private program to ensure funding providing they are 3, 4 or 5 by September 1 st. If you move to another town, the school district must be notified and you must register your child with your new Vermont residential public school.

What if my town doesn't have a public school?

Contact your town's School District and they will put you in touch with the individual who can register your child. If you don't know where the School District is, contact your town clerk.

What if I am living with friends or family?

If you are living with family, friends or in a shelter your child is still eligible to attend prekindergarten for 10 hours for 35 weeks under the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Contact your Vermont School District and ask to speak with the person who can help you with