



Upper Dauphin Area School District

5668 State Route 209, Lykens, Pennsylvania 17048-8414

Phone (717) 362-8134

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Mr. Jared Shade
Superintendent

Jessica Megonnell
Elementary Principal

Mr. Cory Shade
Guidance Counselor

February 13, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

If you are receiving this letter it is because our census records show that you have a child living in your home that meets the age requirements to attend our PreK Counts program for the 2023-2024 school year. Upper Dauphin Area Elementary School hopes to continue having at least one PreK Counts classroom in our school for the upcoming school year to help meet the needs of our preschool age children. Please see the enclosed flier (front and back) that explains the PreK Counts program.

Per the grant guidelines, there are income requirements for PreK Counts. For PreK Counts, you must be below 300% of the poverty level in order for your child(ren) to qualify for this program. I encourage you to apply if you are interested in free preschool for your child and are below 300% of the poverty level. The federal poverty level income chart is included on the enclosed application for your reference.

Please note that returning the application does NOT guarantee your child a spot in the program. Applications will be screened as they are received and you will be contacted if your child has been selected for the program or if there are any questions about your application or qualifications. Please complete and return the application at your earliest convenience. We hope to make decisions for the 2023-2024 school year in approximately mid-April so that the selected families have time to plan for the upcoming school year.

You can mail your completed application to: Upper Dauphin Area Elementary School, 5668 State Route 209, Lykens PA 17048 (Attn: Jessica Megonnell), scan it to email address megonnellj@udasd.org or drop it off at the elementary school office.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jessica Megonnell
Principal - UDAES
Supervisor of PKC Program
megonnellj@udasd.org
(717) 362-6615

Our mission is to empower our students to be lifelong learners in order to reach their greatest potential.

2023 PA Pre-K Counts Enrollment Form

(This information is confidential to the PA Pre-K Counts program)

Date Form Completed: ____ / ____ / ____
MM DD YY

Last Name (Child)	First Name (Child)	Middle Initial
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Street Address	County	
City	State PA	Zip Code
School District of Residence		
Home Phone	Work Phone	Email Address

Child's Date of Birth	Age <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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Race (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	
Ethnicity (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	Primary Language <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (please specify)

Name of Parent or Guardian completing this application	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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Relationship to Child <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (please specify)	(Select) <input type="checkbox"/> Biological <input type="checkbox"/> Foster <input type="checkbox"/> Adoptive <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (please specify)
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Role

- ☐ Primary Guardian
☐ Secondary Guardian

- ☐ Legal Guardian
☐ Other _____

(please specify)

List Household Members below for determination of family size (required):

	Relationship to Child	Age
1	ENROLLING CHILD	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		

Per PKC Statute, Regulations, and Guidance, the following members of the household are included in family size:

- Parent of the child (biological or adoptive mother or father, stepmother or stepfather, caretaker or spouse)
- A biological, adoptive, unrelated or foster child or stepchild of the parent or caretaker who is under 18 years of age and not emancipated.
- A child who is 18 years of age or older but under 22 years of age who is enrolled in high school, a general educational development program, or a post-secondary program leading to a degree, diploma or certificate and who is wholly or partially dependent on the income of the parent or caretaker or spouse of the parent or caretaker.
- Others supported by the income of the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child enrolling or participating in the program. ***If counted toward family size, any applicable income of these persons must also be counted for eligibility purposes.***

Note: A family size value of one (1) with an income of \$0 is entered when a foster child is applying for Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts.

DETERMINED FAMILY SIZE =**Employment Status of parent/guardian**

- ☐ Employed Full-Time
☐ Employed Part-Time
☐ Unemployed
☐ Other _____

Employment Status of 2nd parent/guardian (if applicable)

- ☐ Employed Full-Time
☐ Employed Part-Time
☐ Unemployed
☐ Other _____

Household Income Sources (Must check all that apply):

- ☐ Employment ☐ Self-Employment ☐ Unemployment Compensation ☐ Worker's Compensation ☐ TANF Cash payments
☐ Social Security ☐ SSI ☐ Child Support ☐ Alimony ☐ Other

Other Child Eligibility Risk Factor Criterion (Must check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Behavioral Supports: A child who was referred to PA Pre-K Counts from an appropriately credentialed health or mental health practitioner who is not employed by the PA Pre-K Counts program; a child who is receiving mental health treatment. Additional verification beyond the interview is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Child Protective Services: A child who is a foster child, a kinship care child or receiving Children and Youth services.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level of Guardian: Does not have high school diploma or GED or post-secondary degree.
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Language Learner: A child whose first language is not English and who is in the process of learning English is considered an English Language Learner.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individualized Education Plan (IEP): A child who is currently enrolled in the Preschool Early Intervention program with an active IEP. Verification would be a copy of the IEP or other source of documentation from the parent or Early Intervention provider.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incarcerated Parent: A child for whom one of the child's parents is currently in prison.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Homeless: A child who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence due to one of the following: A. Children who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, or camping grounds due to lack of alternate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement; B. Children who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; C. Children who are living in cars, parks, public places, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Migrant (Non-Immigrant)/Seasonal Student: A migrant child has moved from one school district to another in order to accompany or to join a migrant parent or guardian, who is a migratory worker or migratory fisher, within the preceding 36 months, in order to obtain temporary or seasonal employment in qualifying agricultural or fishing work including agri-related businesses such as meat or vegetable processing, working in nurseries such as Christmas and evergreen trees farming.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Teen Mother: A child whose mother was under the age of 18 when the child was born.

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this application and the associated income documentation is accurate. I understand that I may be asked to verify or substantiate information provided.

Parent/Guardian (Signature)

Date

Parent/Guardian Name (Print Name)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Income Verification

2023 Federal Poverty Level Guidelines

Family Size	100% (Head Start Eligible)	300% (PreK Counts Eligible)
1	\$14,580	\$43,740
2	\$19,720	\$59,160
3	\$24,860	\$74,580
4	\$30,000	\$90,000
5	\$35,140	\$105,420
6	\$40,280	\$120,840
7	\$45,420	\$136,260
8	\$50,560	\$151,680
Each Additional	+ \$5,140	+ \$15,420 for each additional family member

Actual Annual Verified Gross Household (Family) Income: \$ _____

*Attach copies of documents used to verify income prior to enrollment

Family Size (per PKC guidelines): _____

☐ Family income is at or below 300% of federal poverty level relative to family size (required risk factor). Consider all sources of income. Must be verified prior to enrollment.

Staff Verifying Income and Risk Factors Signature

Date

For Head Start Eligible families (100% of FPL or below)

☐ Check if not applicable

I have been informed of my child's eligibility for Head Start and given the following:

- ☐ Contact information for the following Head Start location _____
- ☐ Application and/or assistance with referral
- ☐ Brochure or website with information about Head Start

My signature below indicates that I have been informed about my options but may still choose to enroll in the Pre-K Counts program.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Staff Signature

Date



**QUALITY HALF-DAY & FULL
DAY PRE-KINDERGARTEN
FOR 3 & 4 YEAR OLDS
IN PENNSYLVANIA**



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



pennsylvania
OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT
AND EARLY LEARNING



**EARLY LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTER**
OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING

**CONTACT YOUR
EARLY LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER
FOR MORE INFORMATION.
1-877-4-PA-KIDS
WWW.RAISEYOURSTAR.ORG**

**PENNSYLVANIA
PRE-K COUNTS**





WHAT IS PRE-K COUNTS?

Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts, established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, is bringing quality half-day and full day pre-kindergarten to 3 and 4 year olds in Pennsylvania.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Children who are between age 3 and until the entry age of kindergarten; and live in families earning up to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Each program offering Pre-K Counts classrooms has their own guidelines. If your child falls into these categories, you may be eligible to apply.

WHY DOES MY CHILD NEED TO ATTEND A HIGH QUALITY PRE-K PROGRAM?

Quality pre-kindergarten prepares children for reading and math, but also for paying attention, following directions, and getting along with others.

Enrolling your child in quality pre-k means your child has a better chance of being ready for kindergarten. With a strong early start in pre-k, they have a better chance doing well in school, going to college or career training, and getting a good job. All of this can start by enrolling your child in PA Pre-K Counts!

WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM A PRE-K COUNTS CLASSROOM?

PA Pre-K Counts classrooms will:

- Have teachers with the education & expertise to teach young children.
- Use a curriculum that will help your child grow academically and socially.
- Regularly review your child's progress & choose teaching & learning activities that are best for your child.
- Help you & your child adjust to pre-k and smoothly move on to kindergarten.
- Offer a small class size so your child can have plenty of one-on-one time with the teachers.



HOW MUCH DOES PRE-K COUNTS COST?

The portion of the day that is funded through Pre-K Counts is free to families. The program may charge for additional portions of the day (wraparound childcare, etc.)

HOW CAN I ENROLL MY CHILD IN PRE-K COUNTS?

Contact the PA Pre-K Counts program directly for enrollment information. There are PA Pre-K Counts classrooms in most of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

To find one near you, visit www.findchildcare.pa.gov and search for your city and child's age.