

PREKINDERGARTEN

Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District

2019-2020 Pre-kindergarten Lottery Application and Information



Applications due March 29, 2019



The Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District offers a full day prekindergarten. Prekindergarten classes are enrolled through a lottery designed to provide equal access for all children eligible in Port Chester. To have the best chance of getting a seat in the program, you must enter your child in this lottery. This booklet includes an application for the lottery and other important information to help you decide what is best for your child.

Prekindergarten in Port Chester

Prekindergarten is more than simply a doorway into your child's formal education experience.

Research shows that high-quality prekindergarten increases a child's chances of succeeding in school and in life. In Port Chester, we offer full-day prekindergarten that is "developmentally appropriate," meaning it respects the age and individual needs of each child. Our caring and responsive prekindergarten teachers work to create a welcoming environment for both parents and children that allows learning to flourish.

Look into a pre-k classroom and it may look like all fun and games. However, there's an intense amount of brainwork going on. This meaningful playing and learning takes place throughout the school day.

Our prekindergarten program is located at one of our community-based partners' site. All of our pre-k classrooms follow the same curriculum that provides a combination of both structure and flexibility. Structure takes the form of helping your child develop a routine and good learning habits. At the same time, your child is given the opportunity to investigate new things and make choices about the activities he or she wants to take part in.

Finally, we recognize the role parents and guardians play as teachers and advocates before and after their children begin attending school. We look forward to working with you to give your child a solid foundation for school success.



How the prekindergarten lottery works

All prekindergarten students are enrolled in a random lottery designed to provide access for all eligible children in Port Chester. To have the best chance of getting a seat in the program, you must enter your child in the lottery.

The lottery drawing date will be announced on the school district website www.portchesterschools.org. If your child is awarded a seat, you will be contacted. The district will send you official notification of acceptance along with additional registration that is required.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will transportation be provided to prekindergarten?

A: No. Families are responsible for transporting their child to and from prekindergarten.

Q: How are twins and other siblings handled in the lottery?

A: If you have twins (triplets, multiples) and one receives a seat in the program, the other(s) would automatically receive a seat in the program as well. Step/half siblings of the same eligible age will enter the lottery as individuals and each will go through the lottery and be assigned individually.

Q: If my child does not get in, is there a waitlist kept?

A: Yes. If your child does not get in through the lottery, he or she will be placed on a waitlist.

After the lottery

Once lottery seats are assigned, the district will mail you one of two letters: an acceptance letter or a waiting-list letter.

If your child receives an acceptance letter

You **MUST** register your child at Central Office, located at 113 Bowman Avenue. If you do not register your child by the deadline indicated in the letter, his or her spot will be given to another child.

If your child receives a waiting-list letter

Your child's name will be put on a waiting-list for the prekindergarten program. Families will be notified of their number on the wait-list. Any applications received after **March 29, 2019** will be placed on the waiting list in the order they are received as dictated by date and time stamp.

Applying for the lottery

Complete the application. Please print legibly so that all information can be entered accurately. Review your application carefully to make sure the information is accurate.

Mail or hand-deliver your application to: Elsy Gonzalez, Pre K Administrator
113 Bowman Avenue
Port Chester, NY 10573

Application deadline: March 29, 2019

Remember:

1. To be eligible for prekindergarten, your child must be 4 years old by December 1, 2019 (born Dec. 2, 2014 through Dec. 1, 2015)
2. **ONLY** Port Chester residents can participate in our prekindergarten program.



Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District

2019-2020 Prekindergarten Lottery Application

Application deadline **3-29-2019**

Lottery drawing date to be announced on school district website www.portchesterschools.org

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND COMPLETE ALL AREAS.
INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

Child's name _____
Last First

Parent/Guardian Name _____
Last First

Parent/Guardian Address _____
Number and street Apt.# City

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Date of Birth _____ Child's Gender Female Male

Does the child speak English? Yes No If no, please indicate primary language _____

Does the child receive ANY special education services? Yes No

If yes, please list services received:

(Placement of students into integrated classrooms will be determined by the Committee on Preschool Special Education.)

Will you enter more than one child in the Pre-K lottery for 2019-2020? Yes No

The following information is necessary to assist in state and federal monitoring efforts and will not affect a student's assignment.

Ethnic Origin (check one): Hispanic/Latino NOT Hispanic/Latino

Race (check all that apply): Asian Black or African-American American Indian or Alaskan
 White Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

I affirm that the information included in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that completing this application does not guarantee my child admission. Upon acceptance into a prekindergarten program, I, as parent or guardian, agree to attend any meetings or orientations that may be required by the school.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____