

UNIFORMS

Pre-K for All providers can request that pre-K students wear uniforms.

What You Need to Know

UNIFORM POLICY

Pre-K for All programs may request that students wear a uniform during program hours. If you request that Pre-K for All students wear a uniform, you must adhere to the following policies and procedures:

- You may ask families to purchase uniforms for their child.
- You may not exclude or penalize a child whose family would prefer that their child not wear a uniform.
- No student may be denied a uniform because of economic hardship.
 - You must develop a plan to obtain uniforms for families who demonstrate that they are unable to purchase them.
 - For any student whose family cannot afford to pay for a uniform, you must purchase the uniforms for them directly from the vendor.
 - You must purchase a sufficient number of uniforms for that child.
 - Costs for these uniforms may not be charged to the Pre-K for All budget and will not be reimbursed by the NYCDOE.
- You cannot collect fees for uniforms directly from parents; parents must purchase uniforms directly from the vendor.
- You must inform families about the uniform policy when describing your program (e.g. at outreach events and Pre-Registration) and ensure families receive written notice about this policy with enough time to purchase the uniform or request that you either provide the uniform or grant an exemption. The written notice must:
 - Describe and/or enclose a photograph of the uniform and explain the purpose, expectations, and benefits of the uniform policy.
 - List the range of costs for each item of clothing.
 - Advise families that:
 - They must purchase uniforms directly from the vendor.
 - They can purchase clothing that satisfies the uniform requirement at any vendor or store of their choice.
 - If they cannot afford to buy a uniform, they can request that you provide a uniform for their child.
 - They can request an exemption from the uniform requirement.

*Students may not be sent home, excluded, disciplined, or penalized in any way if they fail to wear a uniform to the Pre-k for All program.

UNIFORM WEAR

You must select a developmentally appropriate uniform that aligns with the intended goals of your uniform policy. You should select a uniform that is durable, easy to care for, and cost-effective.

In addition, uniforms **must NOT**:

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- Consist of clothing that poses a health and safety hazard (that is disruptive to the education process).
 - Require girls to wear skirts. You must offer the option of wearing pants.
 - Contain offensive slogans or pictures.
 - Contain religious symbols or text.
 - Except if the name of your program has religious text references, which may be displayed as text only, absent any religious symbol.
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