

IT'S ELEMENTARY!

Start Your Child's Journey in NYC Public Schools

IN THE LOBBY

- Sign up to test for Gifted & Talented.
- Find your zoned school.
- Sign up for admissions email updates.
- Learn about services for your child.
- Pick up an It's Elementary workbook.



Bill de Blasio
Mayor

Carmen Fariña
Chancellor



Elementary education
prepares your child for
success in school and life.

Apply to Elementary School

There are three Elementary School admissions processes.

- Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K): Apply the year your child turns 4.
- Kindergarten: Apply the year your child turns 5.
- Gifted & Talented (G&T): Apply when your child is in pre-K, kindergarten, first grade, or second grade.

All Families Are Welcome

Everyone can participate in Pre-K and Kindergarten Admissions and sign up to test for Gifted & Talented including:

- Students with disabilities
- Students learning English
- Students with limited mobility and accessibility needs
- Students in temporary housing

All schools:

- Are expected to serve the majority of students in their community.
- Have special education programs and provide English language support.

Understand Your Choices

There are nearly 800 elementary schools and over 1,000 additional pre-K options throughout NYC.

Zoned District School

- A school that has specific home addresses assigned to it.
- Most often, these addresses are in the area around the school.

Non-Zoned District School

- A school that does not have home addresses assigned to it.

Pre-K Center

- Programs run by NYCDOE staff.
- Only pre-K is offered.

NYCEEC (Only Pre-K)

- Programs run by community-based organizations.
- These organizations have a contract with the NYCDOE.

Gifted & Talented

- There are Citywide and District G&T programs.
- Eligibility to apply is based on your child's G&T exam score.

Narrow Down Your Choices

Find out what district you live in—there are 32 school districts in NYC.

Find out what your zoned school is.

- Most schools have an area called their zone.
- All addresses in this zone are assigned to the school.
- If you live in this zone, the school is your “zoned school.”

Your zoned school is the school where your child is most likely to attend Kindergarten.



How to Find Your Zoned School

- In the lobby tonight
- Call 311
- Use School Search
(schools.nyc.gov/SchoolSearch)

Your Child's Admissions Timeline

Age 4

Children start pre-K the year they turn 4. Apply to pre-K in the winter to secure your seat for September.

Age 5

Children start kindergarten the year they turn 5. Apply to kindergarten in the winter to secure your seat for September.

Age 5

Children can also test for Gifted & Talented the year they turn 5.

My Child Is Turning 4—How Do I Apply to Pre-K?

Children born in 2013 enter pre-K in September 2017.

Fall

Explore your options. Use **Pre-K Finder** (maps.nyc.gov/prek) to search for pre-K programs near your home.

Winter

Submit your application online, by phone, or in person. List up to 12 programs on your application.

Spring

Get your offer letter. All families that apply by the deadline get one offer. Pre-register at a program to accept your offer.

Summer

Receive waitlist offer from programs, if applicable.



Apply to Pre-K

JANUARY 17-FEBRUARY 24

- Pre-K: nyc.gov/preK

- Pre-K Admissions

Updates:

schools.nyc.gov/Subscribe

My Child Is Turning 5—How Do I Apply to Kindergarten?

Children born in 2012 enter kindergarten in September 2017.

Fall

Explore your options. Use **School Search** (schools.nyc.gov/SchoolSearch) to find your zoned school.

Winter

Submit your application online, by phone, or in person. List up to 12 programs on your application.

Spring

Get your offer letter. All families that apply by the deadline get one offer. Pre-register at a school to accept your offer.

Summer

Receive waitlist offer from schools, if applicable.

All children—including current pre-K students—should apply.



Apply to Kindergarten

NOVEMBER 30-JANUARY 13

Kindergarten:

schools.nyc.gov/Kindergarten

■ Kindergarten Admissions

Updates:

schools.nyc.gov/Subscribe

How Do I Apply to Gifted & Talented?

Children applying to Kindergarten can also test for Gifted & Talented.

Fall

Submit a Request for Testing (RFT) form. All NYC residents in pre-K, Kindergarten, first grade, and second grade can test for Gifted & Talented, including students with IEPs and English Language Learners (ELLs).

Winter

Take the Gifted & Talented test in January.

Spring

Receive your score. If your child scores 90 or above on the Gifted & Talented test, you can apply to a Gifted & Talented program.

Spring

Apply for placement. If your child is eligible, your child's Gifted & Talented test score report will list all the programs you can put on your child's application.



Submit G&T RFT

OCTOBER 11-NOVEMBER 14

- In the lobby tonight
- Online:
schools.nyc.gov/ApplyOnline
- In person at a Family Welcome Center or your child's NYCDOE School



Be in the Know

- Gifted & Talented:
schools.nyc.gov/GiftedandTalented
- Gifted & Talented
Admissions Updates:
schools.nyc.gov/Subscribe

Learn About Additional Services

Enrolling in school is the first step—learn about other DOE services available to help your child succeed in school.

- Transportation (www.optnyc.org)
- Health (schools.nyc.gov/offices/Health)
- School Food (www.schoolfoodnyc.org)
- Special Education (schools.nyc.gov/academics/SpecialEducation)
- English Language Learners (schools.nyc.gov/academics/ELL)



Learn about additional
services for your child in
the lobby.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I apply to programs outside of my zone or district?

Yes—but be sure to understand how we make offers to each program. Learn which groups of students got offers last year.

I am planning to move—should I still apply?

Even if you do not know where you are living next September, you should still participate in elementary admissions processes. You can list schools from anywhere in the city on your application; if you move, we can update your child's application.

If I apply, am I guaranteed an offer?

All families that apply to pre-K and kindergarten will get an offer. Only some families that apply to Gifted & Talented will get an offer because seats are limited.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will my child get yellow bus service?

- Some kindergarten and Gifted & Talented students will get school bus transportation to school. If bussing is not available, your child will get a MetroCard.
- If transportation is on your child's IEP, yellow bus service is guaranteed.

My child has limited mobility—should I still apply?

- If your child receives an offer to a school or pre-K program that is not accessible, we will make sure your child receives an offer to an accessible one.
- Kindergarten: If your child's IEP states an accessibility need, he or she will receive an accessible school placement through the Turning 5 process.

Frequently Asked Questions

I live in temporary housing—what do I need to bring to pre-register?

Families living in temporary housing do not need to bring proof of address to register.

My child has an IEP—should I still apply?

- Yes—all families are encouraged to apply. Some pre-K students may receive placement through the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE).
- All schools are expected to serve the majority of students in their community. All families are encouraged to apply to their zoned school and other schools they are interested in.

What if my child is still learning English?

All schools and programs provide English language support through English as a New Language, Transitional Bilingual Education, or Dual Language programs.



Pick up an

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workbook in the lobby.