



FY 2020 Preschool Funding Overview and Application Process Voluntary Prekindergarten

Presented January 3, 2019

Today's Goals

1. Discuss Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 voluntary prekindergarten funding and application.
2. Quick review of current voluntary prekindergarten requirements.
3. Demonstrate the application.
4. Demonstrate the prekindergarten site worksheet.

Voluntary Prekindergarten

Purpose of Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK)

- **Purpose of VPK:** Prepare children for success as they enter kindergarten the following year.
- **Goals of VPK Align with World's Best Work Force Legislation:**
 - Meet school readiness goals
 - Reduce educational achievement gaps
 - Achieve grade level literacy by third grade

Voluntary Prekindergarten Funding Overview

Current Status of Voluntary Prekindergarten Funding for 2020

1. Funding for voluntary prekindergarten programs initially funded in 2016-17 will be renewed for their original number of seats at the original sites (74 districts and charter schools at 104 sites for 3,160 seats).
2. Funding for voluntary prekindergarten or school readiness plus programs initially funded in 2017-18 or 2018-19 is scheduled to sunset at the end of the current school year.
3. The application period for 2019-20 voluntary prekindergarten programming opened on January 2, 2019, and will close at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, January 30, 2019.
4. District and charter schools must file an application to be considered for funding should funds become available during the spring legislative session.

Voluntary Prekindergarten Program Requirements

Program Requirements—Eligibility

- All children who are 4 years of age as of September 1, are eligible to participate in a VPK program free of charge.
- May develop district or charter school criteria for VPK enrollment priority such as:
 - Qualifies for free or reduced-price meals
 - Is an English learner
 - Is homeless
 - Has an individualized education program or interagency intervention plan
 - Is identified through health and developmental screening with a potential risk factor that may influence learning
 - Is in foster care

Program Requirements—Health and Instruction

- Each eligible child must complete a health and developmental screening within 90 days of program enrollment under section 121A.16.
- Provide documentation of required immunizations (section 121A.15).
- The VPK program must provide a minimum of 350 hours of instruction.

Program Requirements—Curriculum and Assessment

- Provide instruction through play-based learning to foster children's development.
- Provide instructional content and activities that are of sufficient length and intensity to address learning needs.
- Provide comprehensive program content aligned with state early learning standards and K through grade three academic standards.
- Measure each child's cognitive and social skills when the child enters and again before the child leaves the program.

Program Requirements—Coordination and Alignment

- Coordinate with all relevant school district programs and services as well as community-based services.
- Provide high-quality coordinated professional development both for school district and community-based early learning providers.
- Implement strategies that support the alignment of professional development, instruction, assessments and prekindergarten (pre-K) through grade three curricula.

Program Requirements—Transition and Parent Involvement

- Coordinate an appropriate kindergarten transition.
- Involve parents in program planning and transition planning.

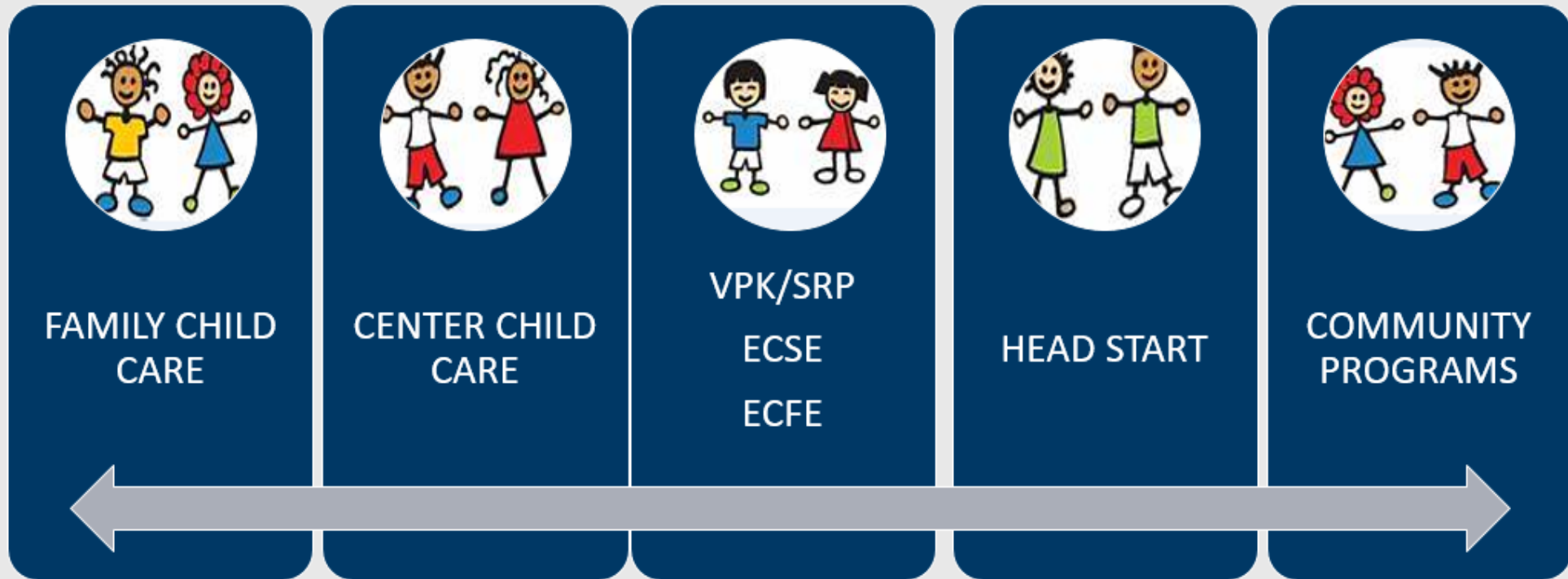
Program Requirements—Class Size and Teacher

- Ensure one-to-ten staff-child ratios and a maximum group size of 20 children.
- Teachers must be knowledgeable in early childhood curriculum content, assessment, native and English language learner programs and instruction.
- Provide instructional staff salaries comparable to the salaries of local K-12 instructional staff.

Program Requirements—Teacher and Program Evaluation

- Inform professional development, training, and coaching by a measure of adult-child interactions.
 - Class
 - TPOT (for districts or charter schools trained in the Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool (TPOT) Model)
 - Danielson
 - Marzano
- Implement and measure the impact of voluntary prekindergarten. Districts may choose to use either a self-designed or the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) designed tool. If using a self-designed tool, a copy of the plan should be filed with MDE by the start of the school year.

Implementing a Mixed Delivery System Model



Mixed Delivery Systems assure alignment across communities assuring that each child has a strong start.

Mixed Delivery System Key Attributes

- Assures parent choice of high-quality early learning and care programs
- Coordinates transitions between program types
- Encourages joint professional development between program types
- Aligns curriculum, assessment, and instruction practices between program types
- Supports continuous data-driven improvement

Implementing Mixed Delivery Systems

- A mixed delivery system is defined as a district or charter school contracting with a Head Start, child care center, family child care program or community-based organization for delivery of a voluntary prekindergarten program.
- The district/charter school must have a signed *Statement of Assurances* from each partner mixed delivery site uploaded with the application.
- The district must have a signed contract with their partner site before the first date of program implementation.
- The district or charter school is responsible to make sure that all program requirements are met by the mixed delivery partner.

Application and Allocation Process

Understanding the Application Process

- All districts and charter schools funded for VPK in FY 17 (2016-17) must submit an application to remain funded.
- District and charter schools initially funded in FY 18 or FY 19 must complete an application and will indicate previous funding status (VPK or school readiness plus (SRP)) and willingness to accept preschool funding should it become available.
- District and charter schools interested in new programs or expanding existing programs must submit an application.
- All applications are due by Wednesday, January 30, at 4 p.m.

Funding Allocation

- The number of participant seats for each group is determined as follows based on state kindergarten enrollment:

Funding Allocation	Minneapolis-St. Paul	Metro Suburbs	Non-Metro	Charter	Total
% of FY 17 K	9.56%	39.59%	42.97%	7.88%	100.00%
FY 17 Renewals	240	1,280	1,464	248	3,160

Application Ranking

- All applications meeting program requirements will be rank-ordered based on three criteria:
 1. Free and reduced-price meal concentration of students in kindergarten at the site* as of October 1 of the previous fiscal year;
 2. Proximity of three- or four-star Parent Aware rated programs; and
 3. Whether the district has implemented a mixed delivery program.

*However, a school site may contract to partner with a community based provider or Head Start, or establish an early childhood center, and use the free and reduced lunch concentration of students in kindergarten at the school site as long as those eligible children are prioritized and guaranteed services at the mixed-delivery site or early education center.

Application Ranking, Continued

- Concentration (not the same as Compensatory) =
$$\frac{\text{FY 19 Free K} + \text{FY 19 Reduced K}}{\text{FY 19 K Enrollment}} \times 100$$
- Priority = Highest total of
Concentration + 5 (no 3 / 4 star within district and 10 miles) + 5
(no 3 / 4 star within district and 20 miles) + 5 (mixed delivery site)

Funding Overview

- No aid entitlement cap.
- Enrollment generated by VPK will be added to the district/charter existing student data for calculating revenues and aids, including general education, Q Comp (starting FY 20), school breakfast, school lunch, charter school lease, and achievement and integration aids.
- FY 20 Compensatory will be recalculated to include current year VPK enrollment for first year sites.
- FY 20 Q-Comp will not be adjusted to include current year VPK enrollment.

Application Ranking, continued

- MDE must notify applicants by March 1, 2019, to verify that the application is in good standing and is eligible for funds as they are available.
- For sites first qualifying in FY 2018 or 2019 under VPK or SRP, the new funding must be used to supplement not supplant existing spending for prekindergarten activities.

Average Daily Membership (ADM)

- Participating students will be included in district/charter school enrollment, average daily membership (ADM) and pupil units.
- ADM = ratio of program hours to 850, with a maximum of 0.6 ADM.
- Pupil weighting factor = 1.0, so the pupil units will be the same as the average daily membership.
 - Students enrolled in programs that provide the minimum of 350 hours of instruction will be counted as 0.41 pupil unit.
 - Students in programs that provide 425 hours will be counted as 0.5 pupil unit.
 - Students in programs that provide 510 or more hours will be counted as 0.6 pupil unit.

Review of Application Process and Timelines

Application Process

- For FY 2020, there is a single application process for renewal, new or expansion applications allowing one application per district or charter school with outlined attachments.
- The FY 2020 application also includes the opportunity for voluntary prekindergarten programs to opt into an automatic rating for Parent Aware should the program be funded.
- All applications are due on January 30, 2019, by 4 p.m. to be considered for funding in the 2019-20 school year.

Demonstrate Application and Prekindergarten Site Worksheet Process

Confirmation Email



Minnesota Department of Education <noreply@surveygizmo.com>

Fiscal Year 2020 Voluntary Prekindergarten Application for MDE TEST

To MDE, Voluntary PreK (MDE); Varley, Amanda (MDE)

i This item will expire in 29 days. To keep this item longer apply a different Retention Policy.



Dear Amanda Varley,

Thank you for completing the Voluntary Prekindergarten Application. After review of applications, your program will be notified of eligibility by March 1, 2019. .

Please keep a copy of this application for your records.

As needed, please use the individualized link to provide any edits to your application prior to 4:00pm January 30, 2019. Your individual link is here: http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/4729217/FY2020-Voluntary-Pre-kindergarten-Application/?snc=1545404729_5c1d0139c96835.23937208_test&sg_navigate=start

If you have any questions on your Implementation Plan, please email mde.vpk@state.mn.us.

Thank you,

June Reineke
Early Childhood Collaboration Specialist
651-582-8755 | mde.vpk@state.mn.us

Minnesota Department of Education
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Recap—Automatic Four Star Parent Aware Rating

Districts and charters funded with voluntary prekindergarten are eligible for an automatic Four Star Parent Aware Rating.

- Eligible for all sites within your district meeting voluntary prekindergarten or school readiness requirements (as outlined in the Accelerated Process to Rating (APR) process)—this opportunity increases connections across all rated programs .

Within the application you'll opt into the automatic rating and provide:

- Signed *Statement of Assurances* with Parent Aware section initialed
- Participation Agreement for Parent Aware
- Additionally MDE, will contact schools for a list of sites to be included within the rating

Recap—Application Components for Renewal, New or Expansion Sites

1. Fill out online application
2. Complete Preschool Site Worksheet for each site request (upload)
3. Initial and sign one FY 20 Statement of Assurances (upload)
4. Optional: Complete Parent Aware Auto Rating Participation Agreement (upload)
5. Edit until January 30
6. Submit by January 30, 2019, at 4 p.m.

Recap—Renewal Sites Application Process

Renewal Guidelines:

- May reduce the number of participants
- If you increase the number of participants/seats it will appear as an expansion
- May change the calendar hours/days to reach the maximum .6 ADM allowed per pupil unit

- Application period opens: Tuesday, January 2, 2019
- Open Office Hours Webinars:
 - Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
 - Wednesday, January 16, 2019, 3-4 p.m.
 - Thursday, January 24, 2018, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- **Applications due: Wednesday, January 30, 2019, at 4 p.m.**
- Notification of eligibility: Friday, March 1, 2019

Contact Information

- Send questions to:

mde.vpk@state.mn.us

- Contact for *Prekindergarten Site Worksheet* technical assistance questions:

[Paul Pedtke](mailto:paul.pedtke@state.mn.us) (paul.pedtke@state.mn.us)

- For additional resources:

[Voluntary Prekindergarten website](https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/early/vpk/)

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