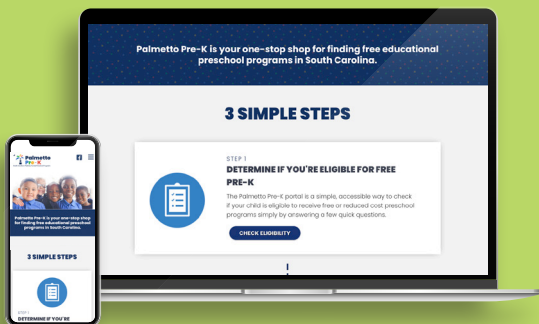




PARENTS KNOW BEST

Choose the preschool program that best suits the needs of your family.
Search Palmetto Pre-K for free programs in your neighborhood.



700+ locations statewide



High-quality curriculum



Full-day and summer programs

Visit PalmettoPreK.org and answer a few quick questions.



PalmettoPreK.org

South Carolina's publicly funded Pre-K programs for 3- & 4-year-olds



First Steps 4K+ provides free, full-day four-year-old kindergarten, plus child care scholarships for the whole family. With First Steps 4K, your child can attend preschool in a licensed child care center, private school, or charter school of your choice. When you enroll, your family also qualifies for child care scholarships through the DSS Child Care Scholarship program. These scholarships cover extended care for the 4K student, as well as child care and afterschool programs for siblings up to age 12.

Eligibility and Enrollment: To qualify for First Steps 4K, a child must turn 4 years old on or before September 1 and meet at least one of the following conditions: eligible for Medicaid or TANF, family income below 185% of federal poverty level, experiencing homelessness, or in foster care.



Head Start is a federally-funded program that provides comprehensive early childhood education, health, nutrition and parent-family-community engagement services to low-income children and their families. Head Start centers are operated by non-federal entities across the state. Many Head Start programs offer traditional school-day programs. Extended-day programs may be available in your area. Transportation is not a universal offer, so please check with your local Head Start programs regarding availability of transportation.

Eligibility and Enrollment: Children must be 3 or 4 years old and below 100% poverty. Local programs offer priority enrollment to children with disabilities, children in foster care, children experiencing homelessness or families in emergency situations. Please check with your local Head Start program for specifics about eligibility. For more information, contact the South Carolina Head Start Collaboration Office at (803) 898-2550 or visit sc-headstart.org or scacap.org.



South Carolina Public School 4K is funded from federal, state and local sources with varying eligibility criteria. These educational programs housed in elementary schools as well as early childhood development centers include full-day, half-day and summer options. Public schools offer bus transportation.

Eligibility and Enrollment: Children must be 4 years old before September 1, and other eligibility varies based on the program. The SC Child Early Reading Development and Education Program (CERDEP) is a full-day 4K program for at-risk children based on income (185% poverty), Medicaid eligibility or developmental readiness. Interested applicants should check with their local school or school district office.



The Child Care Scholarship Program makes child care more affordable for families by making all or a portion of provider payments to child care providers so parents can work or attend school or training. More than 1,900 child care providers across the state are enrolled to accept scholarships. The primary scholarship program at this time is known as COVID-300.

Eligibility and Enrollment: To qualify for a COVID-300 child care scholarship, parent(s) or guardian(s) must have a child or children up to 12 years of age, work at least 15 hours per week or attend school or job training, and have a gross income below 300% of the federal poverty level. For a family of four, this would be up to \$122,500 annually.

For help finding a child care program that meets your family's needs, contact South Carolina Child Care Resource & Referral at **(888) 335-1002** or sc-crr.org

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